

WIGTOFT

VILLAGE NEWS & VIEWS



April / May 2020

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BBC - Out Of Hours Emergencies..... 01205 360300

BBC - Refuse Department 01205 311112

Anglian Water Emergencies 03457 145145

Western Power Distribution 0800 6783105 or just 105

(to report a power cut)

Well, Brexit is finally completely out of the news, unfortunately it has been replaced with the Coronavirus 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

Things are obviously very serious and many actions are being taken to reduce the risks, I think that the current situation is going to be with us for a few months yet. People are reacting in different ways, some panicking and some just trying to get on with their lives as normally as they can.

Following government advice all public meetings and events are being cancelled and, in general, how this effects things in Wigtoft is detailed on page 5.

Following the meeting we held in January looking for new ideas for the magazine we had planned some changes and new items, some of these are included in this issue, but with most events in the village being cancelled we have also left out the Village Hall dates and the middle page calendar.

With all the panic buying and stockpiling going on, leading to shortages in the shops, you might want to follow one of my household rules.

The use of toilet paper has always been restricted in our house to 1 sheet per person per visit. Now with the shortages of toilet paper in the shops this rule has been changed to 1 sheet per person per day, I have provided a hook to hang it on to dry between visits. If things do not improve soon the rule will change to 1 sheet per household per day.....

Hopefully we will still be able to produce our next magazine if the situation has improved and there are signs of things getting back to normal.

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St. Peter & St. Paul WIGTOFT PARISH CHURCH NEWS

Wigtoft PCC

The PCC were due to hold their annual general meeting on May 5th, but due to the current Coronavirus situation, and on advice from the Church of England, this has been postponed until further notice. It is a legal requirement that these meetings take place but the rules have been relaxed for now until it is possible for these meetings to take place safely.

All services and meetings of any kind in the Church are also cancelled until further notice, again on the advice of the Government and Church Of England.

Just as we went to print the advice from the Church of England changed. We were planning to keep the Church open from 10am until 3pm as usual so that people could visit, have a quiet time there or borrow from the supply of books and jigsaws. But we have now been told to keep the Church locked until further notice.

As soon as it is possible we will get back to normal.

Church Heating Fund.

Please can you help?

We are to update Saint Peter and Saint Paul's heating system, to make it more comfortable for services and events. Do you work for a company who provides grants for community charities or do you know of a business that would help? By supporting our coffee mornings and church festivals you are helping the church and village to be a community that thrives. Heating in the church would encourage more people to attend all our functions. It would mean we are able to open the church for more activities and make it even more inclusive.

On behalf of Wigtoft PCC.

Wigtoft Church Lottery Winners

January 2020

February 2020

March 2020

1st (£20)..... John Craggs

Sue Franklin

James Batterham

2nd (£10)..... Mrs M Holland

Pete Smith

Louise Atkinson

3rd (£5)..... Pat Robinson

Norman Banfield

Jean Knight

Drawn at the Bacon Butty Morning on 22nd February and the magazine meeting on March 23rd

Church Services for April & May

Please note that following advice from the Government and the Church Of England all services have been cancelled until further notice



Wigtoft Church Coffee Mornings



Coffee Mornings were due to start again to raise funds for the Church were due to start again for the summer months in April.

However following advice from the government and the Church of England they have been cancelled until further notice.

As soon as there is any update on this we will let you know.

The Members of the Wigtoft Parochial Church Council are:

Rev. Charles Robertson
Jane Barkham ----- Secretary
John Craggs ----- Treasurer
Virna Atkinson
Jackie Core
Colin Scrapps
Malcolm Franklin

Wigtoft Church Cleaning

There will be no cleaning
of the Church until
further notice

Effects Of Current Restrictions On Village Events

Due to recent advice from the Government and other authorities, events, meetings and other gatherings in Wigtoft and the surrounding area have had to change or be cancelled.

Wigtoft Church

All services and other meetings are cancelled until further notice, this includes all Sunday services both in Wigtoft Church and all Churches in the surrounding area. Coffee mornings planned both in the Village Hall and the Church are also cancelled.

Further details are available on page 3, but for now the Church will be closed until further notice following advice from the Government and the Church Of England.

Village Hall

The Village Hall will remain closed until further notice. This means that all events or meetings that were planned there will not go ahead.

For further information please call Wendy on 01205 461005.

Flower Festival

The Flower Festivals in the local Churches planned for April/May have been cancelled, some may be rescheduled for later in the year depending on how things go over the coming months.

Scraps R Us

The group's meetings will not continue for now. They were planning an open meeting in May but this has now been postponed.

Wigtoft Bowls Club

The Bowls Club had planned an open afternoon on Sunday 19th April, this has now been postponed.

Wigtoft Parish Council

The Parish Council meetings are normally open to the public, but for now they will be closed meetings - if they go ahead at all. If you have any concerns or items that you would like to put to the Parish Council you can email details to the Clerk on wigtoftpc@gmail.com

Village Hall News

The Village Hall AGM was held on Tuesday 11th February at the hall. Mrs Virna Atkinson was voted onto the committee to take over the role of chairperson and Mr Maurice Crowley is taking on the role of treasurer.

All policies have been updated with the help of Mrs Libby Craggs, a big thank you to her.

A list of all committee members and policy representatives will be put up in the hall notice board for all to view.

The Saturday coffee mornings came to an end on the 28th March. The magazine went to print before the last one so we are unable to give you a total of money raised. We will let you know final total in the next newsletter. It was decided at the meeting that money raised from the coffee mornings will be spent on new chairs and tidying the hall up.

The hall will be celebrating its 50th anniversary at the end of the year and it was decided that this could not pass without a celebration, so there will be an afternoon tea party in the hall in October. Definite date and time to follow.

The committee would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to all who have helped, supported and volunteered at the hall. Without all you generous people the hall would not survive.

Booking Wigtoft Village Hall

To book the Village Hall, please contact Wendy on 01205 461005

The hire charge is £9 per hour, which includes heating, lighting and the use of the kitchen and all crockery.

Spring Has Come (A seventeenth century song)

*Hark! The tiny Cowslip bell In the breeze is ringing;
Birds in every woodland dell Songs of joy are singing.
Winter is o'er. Spring once more. Spreads abroad her golden store
Hark! The tiny Cowslip bell In the breeze is ringing.*

*Spring has come to make us glad, Let us give her greeting;
Winter days were cold and sad, Winter's reign is fleeting
Hearts are gay, blithe as May, Dance and sport the lifelong day;
Spring has come to make us glad. Let us give her greeting.*

A Young Author In The Making

Scarlett Danielle McCombie, aged fourteen, the Granddaughter of Wendy and Jeff McCombie, who live in the village, has just won an award! Scarlett entered the prestigious "Waterstone Short Story" competition and received a "Highly Commended" with her murder mystery story. The award ceremony was hosted by Blackfriars. Over eighty young writers entered so Scarlett did exceptionally well.

If that isn't enough, our budding author who is now a Prefect at Giles Academy, has recently won the award for not having time off school since she started at age five for any reason, including sickness!

We offer her our hearty congratulations. Well done Scarlett!

Wigtoft Bowls Club

We had a somewhat difficult summer in 2019. Mainly due to health problems within the membership. Now with the loss of several players, who have relocated or found themselves unable to continue playing, we are actively recruiting new members, especially any with experience.

We currently intend to play in the Boston League on Mondays and Wednesdays and in the Coningsby League on Fridays, having dropped our Tuesday commitment for this season.

Our pretty little green is in good condition with better facilities than ever before, and those who do not know it; it is behind the houses opposite the village car park. Accessed by an alley alongside Stanhope Cottage.

Anybody wishing to be involved with this very friendly club please contact me on Te:- 01775 840894 . You will be very welcome.

Nigel Smith.

The Four Crossroads

A few friends went along to the Four Crossroads on Swineshead Road to celebrate Valentine's Day on February 14th It was a lovely occasion. Our time was made all the better by the delicious food we received combined with the warm and excellent service and hospitality. The Ship, at Fosdyke, run by the same people, has long since been one of our favourites. If you wish for a pleasant evening out at a reasonable price then we can highly recommend you visit both.

Bon appétit.

Seeing Through The Eyes Of A Child

How times have changed. Our children grew up around Wigtoft, so you might say were used to country sights and sounds.

How times have changed. We had our 5 year old Grandson here over the weekend. He was born and lives in Burnham. Bucks .. He visits a few times a year. Winter time, visiting Santa at Bay Tree. Easter when the surrounding fields have new crops in them and the trees and bushes have their new clothes on. Summer time when all around is green and growing.

As said earlier he was here this last weekend mid January. He was sat at the table next to me having his breakfast, looking out of the window at the recently ploughed field opposite. He stopped eating, looked up again out of the window and said "Nanny, is this the desert" I laughed and thought, he had probably never noticed or even seen a ploughed field before, living where he lives. It got me thinking how wonderful it is to see and notice things around you for the first time especially through the eyes of a child.

Sandra Smith.

Recipe Of The Month

QUICK AND EASY PASTA BAKE

Serves 2.

150g. Penne or other Pasta shapes
400g. can Chopped Tomatoes
40g. Cheddar or Mozzarella, grated
Salt and freshly ground Black Pepper.

1 tablesp. Olive Oil
Butter- to grease

(Extras like Ham, Peas or Peppers, etc. may be added, if liked.)

Preheat the oven to 220c /425f. Cook the Pasta in a pan of boiling, salted water, according to the pack instructions until just tender. Drain, add the oil and toss to mix. Season with salt and pepper.

Grease a baking dish with Butter. Tip in the pasta, pour over the tomatoes and top with grated cheese. Bake for 15 - 20 mins., until golden and bubbling.

Calling all Jam/Pickle/Chutney Makers

I have a large collection of glass jars, all with lids and in all shapes and sizes. They all need new homes.

Please call Liz on 01205 460939

Readers Letters & Comments



I feel that I must write and reply to the article regarding my late wife Barbara, in the February/March issue of Wigtoft Village News.

Barbara was my wife, best friend and soul mate for the last 57 years. Her passing has been a great loss to me, a lovely lady who was admired and liked. She is missed by many.

I know Barbara would have appreciated all the lovely comments, but would have felt a little embarrassed, she was not someone with a “look at me” personality. She was “Just Barbara”.

Barbara and I moved into Wigtoft in December 1995, I remember that winter, weeks of a bitter frost and ground like concrete! Unlike the wet weather we have been having. On our move she requested a bigger garden, which many of you have visited. It was a lot of hard work in the beginning but she got there, giving me orders to dig this, move that. She was most happy when working in the garden or her little plant nursery potting on and so forth. Her love of gardening led her into becoming the anonymous writer of “Sam Snail”, for which a handwritten copy would be handed to me for typing and sending on to the magazine editor. There was much checking of plant names, it had to be correct!

Also she has left me to look after and deal with “her garden” which I hope to be able to keep it as she planned. I still have much to learn, not just cutting the grass and hedges.

On a happier note it is nice to inform you that the collection held at her funeral has raised the sum of £1,030 for the Tulip Suite hospice at the Welland Hospital Spalding. I presented a cheque on the 18th February to the ward manager.



I can only thank those of you who donated such a sum in her name, which I know the hospice will use to purchase “Put you up beds” to enable relatives to stay in the rooms with their loved ones.

Thank you all once again,

Norman.



I would like to express my thanks to Wigtoft Parish Council. They have achieved in one week what I have tried to do in two months. This is to have the paths and gutters cleaned on Wigtoft Road from the windmill to Burtoft Lane. I was told repeatedly that it was not their responsibility by Lincoln County Council and Boston Borough Council. I have now had a letter saying that the work would be done within 28 days, so by the time you read this the paths should be clear.

Thank you again, especially to Councillor Mike Brookes.

Jackie Core

Dear Parish Councillors

I have lived in the Parish of Wigtoft for 39 years and over the past few years have been disappointed to see the increasing amount of rubbish which I am picking up when either walking in the village or around the fields with my dogs. The volume can be as much as 1 or 2 carrier bags full each time. Because of this, I asked a few friends if they would like to join me on a village litter picking morning. Our first outing, from the village hall to Clover Lane, managed to fill 5 refuse sacks, the majority of which was at the layby at the Clover Lane end of the village. The rubbish we collected was very varied but also extremely unpleasant. It included both faeces and fluid filled plastic bottles. Apparently this is not at all unusual according to the resident whose garden runs alongside the layby. This week we have had another litter picking morning and I am pleased to report that our number has grown to 4. We are now armed with high visibility jackets, protective gloves, 'Litterpickers' and red refuse bags all supplied by Boston Borough Council (BBC). We collected 3 large bags on the same route as our first organized litter pick, clearly showing that keeping litter from this area alone will, of necessity, be an ongoing and demanding task.

I have a few points to make. Firstly, it is a shame that the initiative for the litter picking had to come from the residents and not the Parish Council (PC) whose responsibilities must surely include an oversight of the cleanliness of the Village. It is even more of a shame that one of the team had to go to the BBC offices to collect the refuse collection items rather than them being available within the Village, sourced by the PC. Furthermore, A local resident, one of the volunteers, was told at your open meeting in March that a rubbish bin would not be considered for the layby even though it is the source of so much discarded litter and clearing it is such a significant task for us volunteers.

In summary I would like to make 3 points:

1. As you are the Wigtoft residents' advocates and representatives to the BBC, surely you should be pushing for the provision of a bin in the layby. Our task as volunteer litter pickers can be onerous and a risk assessment of what we are doing would be likely to suggest the necessity of the provision of a bin.
2. The PC should provide the refuse sacks, jackets and grabbers and I would suggest that they could be held at the village hall, for collection by the volunteers as this task is going to have to be ongoing as there are still many areas of the Village, and its approach roads, that are yet to be tackled. As demonstrated by our latest pick, once cleared it is not long before significant quantities of litter accumulate in the previously cleared areas.
3. Finally, there are a number of motor tyres dumped on the approach roads to the Village and we are unable to collect these due to their weight etc. It would be helpful if you could arrange for their collection and disposal.

K I BLANCHARD-SMITH



Not long until Easter! So here is a lovely Easter egg for you to colour over the coming weeks.

Times have changed in so many ways for those of us who remember WW2. Growing up in difficult times caused us to lead a sometimes frugal existence, and old habits die hard.

Do you save your brown paper? We used to iron out the creases using a flat iron. A second parcel could be wrapped using good as new paper.

I still have a string bag hanging by the garage. Second hand string is just as useful in the garden as an expensive new ball.

My mother bought her salt in huge blocks. These were cut into smaller chunks and we used a wooden rolling pin to make fine crystals. These were stored in a giant jar with a stopper top.

Old clothes were cut into inch wide strips, three to four inches long. These were pegged into sacking canvas to make hearth rugs. We had great fun laying out the colours to make attractive designs. We didn't enjoy folding the strips and handing them to the peggers. Rags not usable for rugs were used to clean cutlery, wipe up spillages or dust the furniture and ornaments.

Can you imagine life without Sellotape™? How could we seal our letters safely or make a large parcel secure?

We were taught not to spend two pennies if one would do and this has given rise to savings for life.

Apologies from the queen of clichés.

Litter Picking In Wigtoft

Three ladies decided to clear Wigtoft village of litter, where does it all come from? So, armed with bags and litter pickers they retrieved five bags, full of rubbish!! An inordinate amount considering this is from the Village Hall down to the lay-by leading onto the A17! We are pleased to say that three helpers have now increased to four. If anyone would like to join them then please do so.

After an appeal to the Parish Council they were directed to Boston Borough Council. They were supplied with the necessary equipment. They also requested two litter bins, which we understand are supplied by BBC. However, at present, although much needed, bins are unavailable, perhaps in the future!

Litter Pickers will meet next on Tuesday April 20th and Wednesday May 20th at 10am outside the Village Hall. We look forward to seeing you if you are able to help. Thank you!

Topical Talk

Another hoard of Iron Age coins has been unearthed in the UK – this time in Jersey. The hoard, consisting of 69,347 gold and silver coins is worth an estimated £10 million. It was found by metal detectorists Reg Mead and Richard Miles: they found the coins after a 30 year search in a field on the island. Although the discovery was made in 2012 it has only just been officially recognised as the largest of its kind found in the UK and sets a new Guinness World Record. The find surpasses the previous record for the largest collection of Iron Age coins of 54,951 which was found in Wiltshire more than 40 years ago.

Some of the treasure is now on display at La Hongue Bie Museum in the Jersey parish of Grouville. The two finders said they had received a tip off in the 1980's from a woman who said she had spotted something that looked like silver buttons, and they spent the next 30 years looking for them.

The hoard is thought to date from about 50 BC and was discovered at a depth of only 3 feet. The Roman and Celtic silver and gold coins were entombed under a hedge in a large mound of clay weighing three quarters of a ton. It has been declared treasure as defined by the Treasure Act 1996 which means it officially belongs to the Queen, although the finders are entitled to a reward.

The world's largest hoard of coins yet found was in Brussels in 1908 when 150,000 silver medieval pennies dating from the 13th century were discovered.

A Downing Street advisor has recently caused a storm of protest when he announced that the UK does not need farmers. This suggestion came from Tim Leunig and came to light when some internal emails were leaked. He suggested that we should be like Singapore and import all our food. He went on to suggest that the UK's agricultural and fishing sections made a negligible contribution to the economy and pointed out that Singapore was rich without having its own agricultural sector: he also suggested that farmers should not be given tax breaks denied to other industries. Tim Leunig went on in his email saying "The food sector is not critically important to the UK and agricultural and fish production certainly is not". When he was challenged by fellow members of this advisory panel it appears he started to "wriggle". A government spokesman said that his comments were "not policy".

On a personal note, having lived through the last war with all its rationing and shortages and "grow it yourself" policy I think he is talking a load of "cobblers".

The recent storms threw up a surprise on the Irish coast. A ship, the MV Acta, was washed up on the coast near Ballycotton in Cork: she was a ghost ship that had been abandoned by her crew when she had been badly damaged.

The ship was sailing from Greece to Haiti in September 2018 when she was damaged beyond repair about 1380 miles south east of Bermuda. The crew were rescued by the US coastguard and taken to Puerto Rico. The 40 year old vessel was then towed to Guyana only to be hijacked: her fate was unclear until August last year when she was spotted in the middle of the Atlantic. She was then thought to have drifted up from Africa to Ireland, where she was washed up during storm Dennis.

I have just been reading about a vehicle called Curiosity. This is a driverless vehicle, but not as we know it. It is based on the planet Mars – 140 million miles from earth!

This vehicle, or rover, has been on Mars since 2012 – it was launched in November 2011 and reached Mars nine months later. It is about the size of an average car and is remotely controlled from a desk at Oxford University by Professor Scott McLennan.

The rover is conducting experiments to determine if life ever existed on the planet and it is sending large amounts of data back to Earth each day. There is evidence that, at one time, there was water on the surface.

There are plans afoot to send another rover to Mars next year called Perseverance, with the possibility, in a few years, to be able to send samples back to Earth for analysis.

Colin Scrapps

Walking For St Peter & St Paul Church

On July 18th a group of Wigtoft Walkers will meet at Boston Stump at 7.30am to walk back to Saint Peter and Saint Pauls church Wigtoft. The distance is approximately seven and a half miles! When we arrive back at the village Friends of the Church will welcome us with a well deserved Bacon Butty.

We hope to arrange three, if not four “stop offs and pick-ups” en-route for those who wish to walk a shorter distance. We are looking for three or four people with cars to assist with this. All walkers are most welcome and can walk at their own pace.

It is a sponsored walk for the Saint Peter and Saint Pauls refurbished heating. If you don't wish to walk then please, if you can, sponsor someone. We will hold a meeting at the church closer to the event to go over details. In the meantime sponsorship forms will be available from Libby (01205 460430) from April 18th for all those who are interested to walk. *So walkers, get in training!!!*

We live in hope that the present crisis will have passed by then!

- 1st The humans are talking of making New Year's resolutions. I have made a resolution not to make any resolutions. Mum has resolved to be tidier. She removed the Christmas decorations and changed my smelly sofa covers. I am not happy with the new fragrant aroma
- 3rd Uncle Andy arrived for a short stay. I have slightly unpleasant memories of his huge dog we occasionally visit
- 9th An exciting windy day. I gave Mum a real fright by running in the opposite direction to our walk
- 12th Mum was feeling poorly so wore her jim-jams all day long. No walkies so I curled up under my blanket and had a long snooze
- 13th Mum still sulking. I exercised Auntie Dee to convince her of my importance
- 17th Gale force winds again but took Mum walkies although she has cancelled other engagements
- 20th Bitterly cold again so allowed the boss to fasten me into my coat
- 28th Back to Scrabble™ as normal. Inspected the old one's garden. Neighbour's cat disappeared I wish I could climb the fencing as he does
- 29th My harness was removed for laundering. I hate the smell of detergent so used my teeth. After several bickies were offered and accepted I calmed down. A similar battle ensued when my red smelly overcoat was exchanged for the ultra-clean black one
- 4th Scrabble™ again! A strange man was weeding on the old one's field headland so I barked my disapproval. He has a large dog and dared to say "Small dogs make the most noise!"
- 11th I wonder why the old one has so many doggie photos? I noticed one of a giant golden Labrador. I barked and barked but he refused to go away
- 18th I enjoyed the comfy settee while the ladies played Scrabble™. When it was time to go home an icy wind met us as the owner opened the door, so I dashed back into the lounge. A spiteful owner picked me up and carried me onto the pavement. Some inhumans!

A Cuppa In The Garden

Scones, cakes and a cuppa are to be served on Sunday June 21st in one of Wigtoft's gardens from 3pm—6pm. Tickets to attend are £1. per person, refreshments are free! It will be a restful time and hopefully a time to enjoy some sunshine. A basket for any donations will be available if you wish to give towards Saint Peter and Saint Paul's heating fund.

This may now be on hold because of the Coronavirus outbreak.

Book Review - The Humans by Matt Haig

I started reading this book waiting in the doctor's surgery for an appointment and couldn't stop giggling like a mad woman - you are following an alien sent to stop human mathematical progress.

I found this book fascinating. It is written from an alien's perspective who arrives on earth naked to inhabit the body of a Cambridge science professor who has proved the Reimrnan hypophysis (a higher math's equation which could eventually lead to time travel which his race doesn't think we are ready for)

Professor Andrew Martin was an arrogant, unfeeling human whose relationship with his wife and son has completely broken down.

The alien has to adapt to human life so as not to draw attention and soon finds out that taking your clothes off in public is not the way to do this. There is a strong comic element throughout this novel and the alien is constantly baffled by human behaviour, his discovery of peanut butter sandwiches, Australian wine, Talking Heads, human relationships and sex are hilarious. He learns to be human with all our idiosyncrasies and failings.

Taken from another perspective I thought the 'alien' could be the tale of someone who had had a breakdown and was now experiencing the world as an outsider, seeing things as they really are, gaining a huge dose of perspective whilst learning to live and love.

The story is about kindness and caring about those around you, and to find joy and appreciate this wonderful planet we inhabit where there are so many misconceptions and manipulative people. It encourages you to believe in yourself in mankind and that we are all important.

I found this book heart-warming, extremely funny and enjoyable, uplifting, and an honest mostly optimistic view of humanity, showing that hope and greatness can be found in our imperfections.

Trish



WIGTOFT and DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

Do to the current Coronavirus epidemic our meetings over the next couple of months have been cancelled in line with Government and Health advice.

As soon as the situation improves we hope to get back to normal

FOR FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT: Jean - 01205 460546

WIPEOUT



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Start a new toilet roll	2 Clean the bathroom	3 Blue/Brown Bin Go for a walk on your own	4 Read a book
5 Phone some friends	6 Clean the kitchen	7 Cut the lawn	8 Wash the car	9 Go for a walk on your own	10 Bank Holiday Green Bin Collection Good Friday Phone some friends	11 Day of rest Watch TV
12	13 Bank Holiday	14	15	16	17 Blue/Brown Bin	18 Clean the windows
Easter Sunday Do a jigsaw and phone a friend	Easter Monday Run around the garden	Do the washing and ironing	Clean the sitting room	Go for a walk on your own	Phone some friends	
19	20	21	22	23	24 Green Bin Collection	25 Phone some friends
Do some indoor exercises	Clear out the cupboards and draws	Go for a walk on your own	Phone some friends	Clean the bathroom	Read a book	
25	27	28	29	30		
Day of rest Watch TV	Run around the garden	Cut the lawn	Do a jigsaw and phone a friend	Go for a walk on your own		

Age Calendar

May 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 Read a book					1 Blue/Brown Bin Clean the sitting room	2 Phone some friends
3 Day of rest Watch TV	4 Go for a walk on your own	5 Do the washing and ironing	6 Run around the garden	7 Phone some friends	8 Bank Holiday Green Bin Collection Read a book	9 Wash the magazine editor's car
10 Do a jigsaw and phone a friend	11 Clean the kitchen	12 Go for a walk on your own	13 Read a book	14 Phone some friends	15 Blue/Brown Bin Do a jigsaw and phone a friend	16 Do some indoor exercises
17 Phone some friends	18 Yoga	19 Day of rest Watch TV	20 Cut the lawn	21 Go for a walk on your own	22 Green Bin Collection Do the washing and ironing	23 Read a book
24 Read a book	25 Bank Holiday 3pm Newsletter Meeting (Hopefully)	26 Phone some friends	27 Do some indoor exercises	28 Day of rest Watch TV	29 Blue/Brown Bin Clean the bathroom	30 Start a new toilet roll

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James Roe was born in Kirkby on Bain: his father was the Rev Thomas Roe, the local rector. Nothing is known of his early life; in June 1836 he began his studies at Oxford – he graduated with a BA in 1841 and shortly afterwards took holy orders (became a priest). In 1843 he married Susannah Moore and they went on to have 14 children, of which 9 survived to reach adulthood.

In 1841 Roe was convicted at the Old Bailey of forging a money order. It appears that he had expected to be left money by an uncle, but a cousin had persuaded the uncle to make a will in the cousin's favour just a week before the uncle's death. After the uncle's death Roe had produced a money order for £6,000, apparently made out to him from the uncle. The cousin challenged the order and Roe was charged with forgery; he was eventually found guilty and sentenced to 10 years penal labour. He was transported to what was the penal colony of Western Australia, arriving in December 1862. After serving a portion of his time he received what was known as a "ticket of leave" in August 1864 and took work as a schoolmaster at York. Four months later his family arrived in Western Australia and he met them at Freemantle. They struggled financially and they both had to work to support themselves and their family: Susannah found work in the town, teaching, and Roe himself carried on teaching some distance away.

Although Roe was highly qualified his convict status would normally have prevented him taking an official teaching post, however, Bishop Hale (of Freemantle) had sympathy for the family and helped them in his capacity as the Chairman of the Board of Education. Roe started a teaching post at Greenough in 1867 and his wife was transferred to the same school eventually and the couple were able, finally, to live under the same roof.

Because of his strong educational and religious views Roe was eventually at odds with the local Education Board and, following an incident where he was late to school, he was dismissed.

His wife continued teaching but Roe himself leased a small farm and cut sandalwood – he also acted as an agent, auctioneer and clerk: he also took on work as a local correspondent for the Freemantle Herald: in 1873 this resulted in an offer of full time work as a reporter on the newspaper. At the end of that year his wife resigned from her teaching post and the family moved to Perth where Roe took up his position with the Herald. Shortly after this he joined with two others as co-editors and he worked on the paper for the rest of his life.

Susannah his wife died in 1887 and Roe found it increasingly difficult to live on his salary from the Herald, so in 1890 he also worked on his daughter's market garden. He died in May 1897.

James Roe's daughter Helen married Patrick Stone, who later became a Member of the Western Australian Legislative Assembly.

Colin Scrupps



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Sutterton Methodist Church Services for April/May



The Methodist church will suspend all church services, events and coffee mornings until the present crisis of Coronavirus is over.

Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone at this challenging time.

Spanby

Spanby is a small hamlet close to Threekingham and is part of that civil parish. This has only ever been a small settlement – the Domesday Book of 1088 lists the village as containing just twelve households. The parish church here is dedicated to St Nicholas, but it was declared redundant in 1973 and was sold to a local resident – it is now described as being used as a “garden shed”. The building we see today is a brick built one, erected in 1882 and was built on the site of an earlier church from the 13th century. There are a number of graves in the churchyard belonging to the Cragg family.

Stow Green

This is another hamlet that is part of the parish of Threekingham: it was at one time quite a large settlement, with its own church, but today all that remains is a field at the side of the old Roman road, with a few scattered farms. Its church was dedicated to St John the Baptist and the village had very strong ties to the nearby Sempringham Abbey. The village that stood on this site has now vanished, but the site is perhaps best known for it's famous fair which was first established in 1268 and ran for almost 700 years; it was formally ended in 1915, the war being blamed, but managed to struggle on for about another 20 years before it finally ceased to exist, it consisted of many booths, erected by traders for the sale of all kinds of goods and was also well known as a horse fair and for the sale of all kinds of livestock, particularly sheep. It also had a reputation for the hard drinking that took place here. The fair appears to have taken place over a number of days in June.

In 1826 there is a report of a serious fight or scuffle taking place at the fair resulting in someone being killed – there was a subsequent hanging related to the crime.

The Cragg Family

The Cragg family were a prominent family in the village for many years. They had a large estate which appears to have consisted of tenanted farms. This estate was broken up and sold off in the early 1950's, allowing many of the tenant farmers to buy their farms.

The family residence was Threekingham House in the village (now called Laundon Hall) and the family lived here from the late 18th century to the mid 20th century. There are memorials to the family in the village church. The entrance to Laundon Hall is dominated by a whalebone arch. This jawbone was erected in the 19th century by the Cragg family and was a reminder of a whaling expedition that a member of the family took part in.

There is mention of a John Cragg as having lived in the village in 1705.

Two family deaths are recorded during the first world war. Lieut Noel Henry

Cragg RN was killed in action on September 20th 1915 aged 22 years and Lieut John Francis Cragg of the 8th Batt Lincs Regt killed in action on July 1st 1916 aged 28 years.

The Church

The church at Threekingham is dedicated to St Peter ad Vincula (St Peter in Chains). The present church was built on the site of a previous one, which was possibly erected to commemorate the battle fought here in 869 between the Vikings and the Saxons.

The present large church would have been made possible because of the profitable wool trade in the 12th to 14th century. In the churchyard (south east) is an ivy covered stump – this is all that is left of the village's Holy Cross.

As you enter the church you can see a number of floor memorials to prominent village families – these names include Hough, Quincey, Hyde and Cragg. In the late 1950's and early 1960's there was a member of the Cragg family who was vicar at Swineshead.

There are three 14th century tombs, probably of the Trykingham family – originally these were outside but at some stage were brought inside the church; near these are the village stocks, complete with whipping post and irons.

The oldest part of the church is the tower; this was built around 1170. In the belfry are three large bells, one of which was cast in 1660. At the entrance to the vestry lie the recumbent figures of a knight in tunic and chain mail and a lady in flowing dress and veil: these are believed to represent Sir Lambert de Trikingham and his wife, who was a member of the Spayne family and from the Manor at Spanby. The ancient stone font dates back to about 1200; it is very deep and relates back to the time when children would be fully immersed at baptism. The angels depicted over the altar were carved by Belgian refugees during world war one.

The present altar came from Winchester Cathedral and was dedicated in 1962. Some of the windows show traces of colour and patterns in the window jambs; up to around 1270 the church would have been richly decorated throughout.

The carved panels at the end of the benches are 400 years old, as is the timbered roof.

To sum up Threekingham:- As with most of our seemingly small and insignificant villages, once you start digging around it is amazing what comes to light and even if you have little interest in them you do have to stop sometimes and think about what has happened in these small places in the past 2,000 years.



Colin Scrapps

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WIGTOFT PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 2nd December 2019

Present: Cllr P Craven; Cllr S Collingwood; Cllr S Baxter; Cllr G Wright;
Cllr S Bringham; Cllr S Smith; Cllr B. Leggott.

Also Present: County Councillor M Brookes; Borough Councillor M Cooper

Public forum – none.

Chairman’s remarks – none.

Apologies for absence and reasons given

None

To receive any declarations of interest in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

None

Police report

PCSO E Smyth attended. 3 reports have been received about mud on the road. If mud is seen on roads, please report to Highways. There was a theft of a gas bottle from a property on Main Road in October. The Chairman thanked PCSO Smyth for attending.

Notes from the monthly meeting held on 4.11.19 to be approved and signed as minutes.

It was resolved to accept the above notes. The notes were confirmed and signed as minutes by the Chairman, Cllr PC.

Accounts for payment, budget figures and financial report.

Date of invoice	Details of payment	Amount ex vat	Vat reclaimable	Overall total
15.11.19	Pay	208.00		
15.11.19	HMRC	52.00		
15.11.19	Clerk use of home as office	20.00		
30.11.19	Payroll Services	18.00		
5.11.19	Printer Ink	6.66	1.33	
12.11.19	Mouse for laptop	11.16	2.23	
13.11.19	Half year internal audit	69.25		
3.10.19	Repair and repaint benches in village	310.00		
26.11.19	Printer paper	2.95		
TOTAL		698.02	3.56	701.58
RECEIPTS				
	NIL			
TOTAL				

Finance Report

A wireless mouse has been purchased for £11.16.

The VAT refund of £190.58 has not yet been received.

It was resolved to accept the monthly payments and updated budget figures.

ACTION: Clerk to make payments and add updated budget figures to the website.

Planning

B/19/0447, Listed Building Consent for the erection of a single storey extension following relevant demolition of existing extension at Stanhope Cottage, Main Road, Wigtoft, PE20 2NX.

Following a discussion, it was resolved that there were no comments or objections about the above planning application.

ACTION: Clerk to advise Boston Borough Council.

Correspondence

1.11.19 Boston Borough Council Parish Newsletter for October
emailed to Councillors 1.11.19

5.11.19 Response from Highways following report about road surface breaking
up on Green Lane. No further action.
emailed to Councillors 25.11.19

18.11.19 LALC e news w/c 18.11.19
emailed to Councillors 19.11.19

19.11.19 Response from Highways following report about overgrown trees on
Wigtoft Bank. No further action.
emailed to Councillors 19.11.19

22.11.19 Environment agency flood warning service
emailed to Councillors 25.11.19

Councillors Reports.

Cllr S Smith – overgrown hedge reported at the last meeting has now been cut.

Cllr BL – there is one road sign missing at the Green Lane junction with Burtoft Lane South and one damaged sign at the Burtoft Lane North junction with the A17,

ACTION: Clerk to report to Boston Borough Council.

Cllr PC – the previously reported overgrown hedge by the playing field has been cut. The track will be dealt with during the winter months.

Clerk's Report.

The Clerk advises Council that the Clerk's hours are currently standing at 3.5 more than the hours claimed of 4 per week. This figure is reducing. Please note however that there are 5.8 hours holiday outstanding from last year and 16.8 for the current year. The Clerk has annual leave planned between the December meeting and the February meeting and will endeavor to use as much outstanding holiday as possible.

Notification has been received from Highways that there will be no further action taken regarding the overgrown trees on Wigtoft Bank or regarding the road breaking up on Green Lane.

The two replacement street lights have been ordered.

The jet washing of the equipment has been ordered. The clerk received a telephone call to say that due to the heavy rainfall, the jet washing has not yet been completed.

To discuss the quote of £600 for pruning trees in the playing field

Following the annual inspection of the trees in the playing field, it was resolved to accept the quote of £600 to undertake the necessary work to ensure the trees in the playing field are safe. **ACTION: Clerk to place the order for the work.**

To review the November monthly play area inspection undertaken by Cllr SB

Cllr SB advised that he had undertaken the play area monthly visual inspection but had not brought it to the meeting. He reported that there were no new issues to report. He will forward the report by email to the Clerk. The Clerk reminded Cllr PC that the next quarterly detailed inspection is due in December and Cllr PC agreed to complete this. **ACTION: Clerk to monitor for receipt of November inspection.**

The Chairman moved agenda item 17 to discuss prior to the budget planning agenda item below

To decide whether to pay for copies of planning applications or to continue with the present arrangement of Councillors viewing the plans online prior to plans being discussed at meetings.

The Clerk had received details of costs of obtaining paper copies of planning applications. It was resolved to continue with the present arrangement.

To complete the annual budget planning process

Forecast for electricity cost for street lights is £542.10. It was resolved to budget an additional £700 to replace two further old type lanterns with ECO LED lights. Councillors asked the Clerk to check the Parish Council insurance policy to ascertain if the policy would cover replacing street light columns if one were damaged by a car/lorry etc.

ACTION: Clerk to contact insurers and add the replacement street lamps to the April agenda.

The clerk currently has unpaid outstanding hours and holiday entitlement. It was resolved to pay any outstanding amount before the year end and increase the budget by £500.

The internal auditor has advised that the audit process is likely to be standardised by LALC in 2020 which will increase the cost. Councillors resolved that it is not necessary to have two internal audits per year and from 2020 an internal audit will be requested to be completed in April. It was resolved to budget £130 for the next financial year.

The clerk had only been able to obtain one quote from T A Blackamore Ltd for the grass cutting. It was suggested that the clerk ask for a quote from Aaron Appleby and SMV Contractors. It was resolved that the clerk e mail out the quotes for a decision to be made as the next meeting falls after the deadline for submission of the precept request.

It was resolved to budget £150 for general maintenance, £700 for tree work and £300 for capital expenditure.

Council had previously asked the clerk to contact Wigtoft News and Views to find out the cost of printing the minutes over the year. It was resolved to budget £200 for this. The clerk had also been asked to contact the Parochial Church Council to see if there were any projects being undertaken in the next year. They are fund raising to replace the heating and also remove a tree from the churchyard. It was resolved to budget for a donation of £300 toward the expenditure. It was resolved that the total donations budget should be £560.

It was resolved to join the LALC annual training scheme at a cost of £75.

ACTION: Clerk to update the proposed budget with the above figures and submit the precept request in January.

To sign the tenancy agreement for the 4.6 acres of land adjacent to the A17

The tenant had already signed the tenancy agreement. The agreement was signed and dated by the Clerk on behalf of the Parish Council.

ACTION: Clerk to forward copy to the tenant.

To review the internal auditor's report

The internal audit was carried out by Victoria Clark who confirmed that all paperwork was in order. The clerk had circulated a copy to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

To discuss the Clerk's review held earlier this evening

The Chairman and Vice Chairman had met with the Clerk. It was resolved that the Parish Council are happy with all aspects of the Clerk's work. The hourly rate of pay and the allowance for use of home as office is to remain the same as the Clerk did not expect or want an increase. The Clerk asked if Councillors could reply to any emails marked urgent. Councillors gave the clerk details of their preferred e mail address to use.

Meeting closed at 20:17

Next meeting is on the 3.2.20 at 19:00

Garden Waste Collection Service 2020

Brown bin collections

for April are on the 3rd & 17th

for May 1st 15th and 29th

Subject to the Coronavirus restrictions



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WIGTOFT PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 3rd February 2019

Present: Cllr S Collingwood; Cllr S Baxter; Cllr G Wright; Cllr S Brigham; Cllr S Smith; Cllr B Leggott

Also Present: One member of the public

Public forum Vice-Chairman, Cllr Graeme Wright who was standing in for the Chairman Cllr Peter Craven, welcomed the member of the public and introduced himself. The member of the public addressed the Council to ask for help in getting some footpaths cleared. Boston Borough Council and Lincs County Council have been approached many times. The footpath and gutters in question run from Mill Lane to Burtoft Lane (excluding the area in front of the Council houses. The footpath in front of the chicken farm is covered in green slime which can be slippery when wet. County Councillor M. Brookes offered to speak with LCC and BBC direct. Clerk to log onto the LCC data base and keep the member of the public informed.

Chairman's remarks - none.

Apologies for absence and reasons given

Cllr PC sent his apologies. It was resolved to accept his apology and reason for absence.

To receive any declarations of interest in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

None.

Police report

None

Notes of the meeting held on 2.12.19 and 9.12.19 to be confirmed and signed as minutes.

It was resolved to accept the above notes. The notes were confirmed and signed as minutes by the Chairman.

Financial matters: Accounts for payment for December and January; budget figures and financial report

There were two lists of payments as there was no meeting in January.

Date of invoice	Details of payment	Amount ex vat	Vat reclaimable	Overall total
15.12.19	Pay	208.00		
15.12.19	HMRC	52.00		
15.12.19	Clerk use of home as office	20.00		
30.12.19	Payroll Services	18.00		
5.12.19	Printer Ink	6.66	1.33	
TOTAL		304.66	1.33	305.99

Date of invoice	Details of payment	Amount ex vat	Vat reclaimable	Overall total
15.1.20	Pay	208.00		
15.1.20	HMRC	52.00		
15.1.20	Clerk use of home as office	20.00		
31.1.20	Payroll Services	18.00		
5.1.20	Printer Ink	6.66	1.33	
31.1.20	Grass Cutting 2019	596.00	119.20	
20.1.20	2 new LED lanterns for street lights	700.00	140.00	
9.12.19	Mole control in playing field 1.12.19 to 30.11.20	450.00		
TOTAL		2050.66	260.53	2311.19
RECEIPTS				
20.1.20	VAT refund	190.58		
TOTAL		190.58		190.58

Finance report

The VAT refund of £190.58 has finally been received.

It was resolved to agree the payment schedules and the up to date budget figures.

ACTION: Clerk to make payments and add budget to the website.

Correspondence received since the December 2019 meeting

22.12.19	Email from LALC asking for nomination for Buckingham Palace Garden Party	emailed to Councillors 31.12.19
6.1.20	LALC enews w/c 6.1.20	emailed to Councillors 14.1.20
20.1.20	LALC enews w/c 20.1.20	emailed to Councillors 22.1.20
28.1.20	LALC enews w/c 27.1.20	emailed to Councillors 29.1.20

Councillor's reports

Cllr SB – commented on the state of the footpaths and agreed with the comments made in the public forum.

Cllr SS – A resident has raised the need for the wildlife garden to be tidied up. The Clerk advised that Cllr PC is to attend to this when the weather permits. A resident has asked if she can plant a tree in the wildlife garden in her name. It was resolved that this should be an agenda item for the next meeting. There is a pothole on the edge of the road just at the entry to the village hall car park. **ACTION: Clerk to report to LCC.**

A mattress has been fly tipped at the junction of Golden Grove/Clover Lane.

ACTION: Clerk to report to Boston Borough Council.

Cllr BL – requested that the poor surface on Green Lane be re-reported to LCC. **ACTION: Clerk to report.** He also requested that the clerk chase for an update on the request for the repair to the 2 road signs. **ACTION: Clerk to chase.**

Clerk's report

The Clerk advises Council that the hours worked and not yet paid now stand at 0. There are 14.6 hours holiday entitlement outstanding up to 31.3.20. In line with the decision made at the last meeting, any outstanding unpaid hours will be paid prior to the end of the current financial year.

The two replacement street lights have been fitted.

The work on the trees in the playing field will be completed when the ground has dried up.

Notification has been received from LCC that a new website for Parish Councils has been set up and the existing websites will be closed down on 30.4.20. LCC are providing training which is likely to be at the LALC offices in Dunston. I have asked if there will be any on line training and have been told there will not be. I have also e-mailed Boston Borough Council to ask if they would have meeting facilities to hold a more local training session. A reply has been received confirming that they are liaising with LALC.

The broken road signs on Green Lane/Burtoft Lane South and Burtoft Lane North/A17 have been reported to Boston Borough Council.

No interest has been shown in entering the annual Best Kept Village competition following the request in Wigtoft News & Views asking for residents' opinions about entering and asking for volunteers.

To review and decide on the quotes for the grass cutting

Quotes had been received from 3 contractors. Councillors considered the quotes and decided that flexibility around the number of cuts was as important as the cost as they like to keep the grass cut quite short. It was resolved to award the work to Appleby Services at a cost of £70 per cut. It was resolved that the budget figure for grass cutting that had been set for 20/21 is to remain the same and surplus funds will be used to cover the additional cost. It was also resolved to review this course of action at the end of this year.

To agree the dates for the meetings June 20 to May 21

The Clerk had prepared a list of dates and forwarded it to the Councillors prior to the meeting. It was resolved to accept the dates. **ACTION: Clerk to publish dates on the website and on the noticeboard. Clerk to forward list to book the dates with the village hall.**

To discuss the plans for the Annual Parish Meeting to be held prior to the March meeting on 2.3.20

It had previously been decided to hold the above meeting at 6.30 pm on the 2nd March 2020 prior to the usual monthly meeting at 7 pm. The meeting had been advertised in Wigtoft News and Views to ensure residents are aware of the meeting. It was resolved to invite representatives from the Village Hall Committee, the Bowls Club, the Gardening Club, the Parochial Church Council and Wigtoft News and Views

To receive and review the November play area inspection undertaken by Cllr SB and the quarterly inspection undertaken by Cllr PC in December.

The December quarterly inspection report had not been received. The November play

area report was undertaken by Cllr SB. The only finding was that there is concrete showing around the top of the small embankment slide.

ACTION: This area to be checked at the next inspection. Clerk to chase tree cutting and jet washing of play equipment.

To decide who will complete the Bank Reconciliation check for the period 1.11.19 to 31.12.19

Cllr SB volunteered to undertake this check. It was resolved to accept his offer.

ACTION: Clerk to forward paperwork to Cllr SB.

To decide what action is needed in respect of the Christmas Lights following a report received by a member of the PCC and to review the amount of the donation agreed to the PCC for the electricity used to power the Christmas Lights.

It was resolved that Cllrs GW and SB will have a look at the lights and report back at the next meeting. The clerk had received an email advising that the cost of the electricity used to power the Christmas Lights was £73. It was resolved that a donation of £100 would still be made as previously agreed. **ACTION: Agenda item for the next meeting.**

To discuss and agree the increase in the annual training scheme cost from £75 to £85 notified on the 17th December 2019.

It was resolved to agree the increase to £85.

To decide what action to take regarding the email received about taking part in the Great British Spring Clean.

It was resolved to investigate the possibility of setting up a regular village litter pick, rather than a one-off clean under the above umbrella.

ACTION: Agenda item for the next meeting.

To review the membership of the Lincolnshire Association of Local Councils.

It was resolved to renew the membership from the 1st April 2020 at a cost of £158.36.

To review any regular payments

There are 3 regular payments made each month: Clerk Use of Home as Office, £20; HP Instant Ink, £6.66 and Abbey Payroll Services, £18 per month. It was resolved to continue with these regular payments for the next financial year.

To review the guidelines for Councillors' use of personal email.

Councillors were reminded that they must not use a shared email address, that all Council correspondence received must be treated as confidential and that they must not store any data which includes personal information. The clerk advised Councillors that it is not the practice of this Council to send out any personal information by email.

ACTION: Clerk to remind Councillors again at the May meeting.

Meeting closed at 20:07

Next meeting is the Annual Parish Meeting on the 2nd March 2020 at 18:30 followed by the March monthly meeting at 19:00

WIGTOFT NEWS AND VIEWS NEWSLETTER

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