

# WIGTOFT

## VILLAGE NEWS & VIEWS

**THANK YOU!**



**August / September 2020**

# Wigtoft Village Contact Details

## Parish Council Members

Peter Craven (*Chairman*)      Graeme Wright (*Vice Chairman*)  
B. Leggott   S. Baxter   S. Collingwood   Sally Smith   Sandra Brigham  
Clerk - A Fletcher 07383 276892   email: wigtoftpc@gmail.com  
Parish Council Website : [parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/wigtoft](http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/wigtoft)  
Follow us on Facebook (Wigtoft Parish Council)

## Village Hall Committee

Wendy McCombie .....01205 461005      Virna Atkinson .....01205 460259  
Sally Smith.....01205 460117      Allison Goad .....01205 461522  
Janet Sargeant.....01205 460017      Maurice Cowling ....01205 460789

## St Peter & St Paul Parish Church

**Priest in Charge**      Rev. Charles Robertson..... 01205 820223  
**PCC Contact**      Jane Barkham..... 01205 460714

## Sutterton Methodist Church

**Minister**      Rev. Alan Barker..... 01406 423270

## Police

Boston Police Station ..... 01205 366222  
Kirton Police Station ..... 01205 722002  
Constable John Thornton ..... 07973 847073  
Community Liaison Officer ..... 01205 312735

**Police Non Emergency**..... **101**

**Medical Non Emergency** ..... **111**

## General Contacts

Sutterton Doctor's Surgery ..... 01205 460254  
Boston Pilgrim Hospital..... 01205 364801  
Boston Borough Council..... 01205 314200  
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, here we are again after a few months of absence. It has been a most unusual time to say the least! We hope you are all safe and well and just beginning, with care, to enjoy a little more freedom.

Our magazine this month is a little different as our village amenities are continuing in lockdown, therefore, we have temporarily removed the main, Church and Village Hall calendars. The Church and the Village Hall, after much thought and discussion, are delaying all events for the foreseeable future. It would not be practical or wise to open either venue at this time.

You will find reports from both St Peter and St Paul's Church PCC and the Village Hall committee on the following pages. Our community is still very much in our thoughts and we hope to make up for lost worship and social events when the time is right. We look forward to seeing you then.

So, in the mean time, please keep safe and continue to look after yourselves and each other.

*By the way, I've still been enjoying a bacon butty every Saturday since the virus lockdown started.*

### **Newsletter Adverts**

As a thank you to the advertisers who have stuck with us over this difficult time the newsletter team have decided to extend their current advertising period.

Normally our adverts are paid for in March to cover the following year (6 editions). This year we will extend the period that the advertisers have paid for until the October/November 2021 issue, meaning they will get 4 issues free of charge.

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# St. Peter & St. Paul

## WIGTOFT PARISH CHURCH NEWS

### Why is our Church still closed

Even though the government has said Churches can reopen for some services the PCC at Wigtoft thought it was too soon for us. We took into account the age of the congregation and also how we can make the Church safe for everyone.

We will look at things again in August or September and if we think it is safe to open we will do so. A notice will be put up on the church noticeboard.

### Public Notice

There is a public notice on the Church noticeboard for a Faculty to reserve a grave space. All the details are on it to say where you can object if you wish to do so. Please do go and have a look.

### PCC Meeting

At a PCC meeting held on 16th July 2020 the committee felt it needed more help at the church. These are a few of the positions that we would like help with.

- 1 Churchyard Maintenance :- This would include cutting the hedges, keeping the flower borders weeded, keeping the trees tidy and helping with the grass cutting. The grass cutting can take up to 6 hours every two weeks, so you can see why we need help!
- 2 Fund Raising :- This position is mainly to apply for grants and help with organizing fund raising events. We are looking to update the Church heating. We have had a quote for about £20,000 but by the time we get to having it done next year it could have gone up to about £25,000. So you can see we will need grants to enable us to do this work.
- 3 Building Maintenance :- This would involve some small maintenance jobs in the Church and possibly organising some larger jobs. You would also be looking after the clock, being at the church to let the roof alarm company in to test the roof alarm as well as arranging the electrical PAT testing and fire extinguisher testing.

The PCC also thought that some younger members of the parish might like to be on the PCC. You do not need to be a regular Church goer, or confirmed, to do any of the above, we welcome everyone that wishes to help at the church, because the Church benefits the whole community

Could you be the one to fill any of the positions above. If so please contact myself or any member of the PCC.

**Jane Barkham**  
**PCC Secretary**

# Church Heating Fund

*Please can you help?*

We are to update St. Peter and St. Paul's heating system, to make it more comfortable for services and events. Do you work for a company who provide 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**

## The Members of the Wigtoft Parochial Church Council are:

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

## Your Village Needs You

Please support your village organisations, activities, businesses and advertisers in your Wigtoft News & Views especially in these very strange times



## Wigtoft Church Lottery Winners

**April 2020**

**May 2020**

**June 2020**

**July 2020**

1 <sup>st</sup> .....	Sandra Smith	Claire Tunnard	Ann Mulgbregt	Roleen Stone
2 <sup>nd</sup> .....	Norman Banfield	Molly Berrisford	Pete Smith	Malcolm Franklin
3 <sup>rd</sup> .....	Malc Armstrong	Avis Padley	Daisy Sketchley	Margaret Holland

*Drawn at the Magazine meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> July*

## Blisbury Charity Student Grants

Every year the Blisbury Charity has a small sum of money which is available to help students to buy books, equipment, travel etc. Students eligible to apply for this grant must be continuing in Further Education, eg Sixth Form, College or University and residing in Wigtoft. If successful the grants will be paid towards the end of September.

Please apply by letter giving full particulars by the 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020 to:

**Blisbury Charity, Five Bell Lodge,  
Five Bell Lane, Wigtoft, Boston Lincs. PE20 2PX**

# Village Hall News

Firstly the committee would like to send our condolences to Wendy following the sudden passing of her husband Jeff. Jeff was a valuable member of the committee who went above and beyond the role of a committee member and who will be missed.

Due to the strange times we are living in at the moment due to Covid 19 the village hall committee came to the difficult decision not to open the hall for the remainder of the year. We will hold a meeting at the end of the year and make a decision for next year. We hope you all understand. It was a hard decision to make but we feel it is the correct one. Although things are starting to get back to some kind of normal we do not know what's round the corner, and we must put everyone's wellbeing first. There is also a long list of procedures that we would have to put into place and we feel we are not able to do so at the moment.

All events we did have planned for this year will be postponed until the new year. We will keep you informed via the newsletter.

The committee hope you all stay well and safe.

## Booking Wigtoft Village Hall

To book the Village Hall or to get further information, 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.*

## Litter Picking in Wigtoft

Once again four Wigtoft Wombles set out to Litter Pick! The weather wasn't very kind to us but we succeeded in gathering much litter. We will endeavour to do this again, weather permitting, on the following Wednesdays -- 29<sup>th</sup> July, 26<sup>th</sup> August and 23<sup>rd</sup> September. If you wish to join us then we meet at the Village Hall car park at 10am, we allow ourselves approximately one and a half hours. If you can spare the time we would love you to join us.



# Scraps R Us

## Scraps Update

Hello everyone! We hope you are all keeping safe and well.

Just to let you know there will be no more meetings until further notice. We have a good stock of items, so if anyone needs anything please give me a ring on, Tel: 01205 460546.

**Jean**

## Wigtoft Bowls Club

We were looking forward to the 2020 season but, like everyone else, went into lockdown! When we believe that it is safe to play club games again we will be happy to welcome people new to the game.



If you are interested in joining us please ring Dorothy on 01205 820022 as we will need to arrange the format.

This year we have been fortunate recipients of a grant from Boston Borough Council. This means that we can make some much needed improvements to the club in readiness for the 2021 season.



## WIGTOFT and DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

***DO YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN GARDENING?***

**YES. THEN WHY NOT JOIN LIKE MINDED PEOPLE AT THE  
MONTHLY MEETING OF OUR CLUB.**

Due to present circumstances our meetings for  
the rest of 2020 have been cancelled.

We hope to get back to normal in the New Year and  
will inform members once we have a clear idea on  
guidelines and procedures.

**ANY QUERIES PLEASE CONTACT:**

**Jean - 01205 460546 or Rosemary - 01205 460902**

# Readers Letters & Comments



## Thank you

I would like to say a big thank you to all my Friends who have phoned to see if I am OK and if I need any shopping. It means so much at this difficult time. Please take care and look after yourselves. I am lucky to have lovely Friends.

Thank you all  
**Jean Knight**

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## Thank you to the Parish Council.

I would like to say how kind it was of the members of the Parish Council who delivered letters offering help to the villagers of Wigtoft. These letters were thoughtful during such difficult times and gratefully received. Well done!

**Name supplied to the Editor**



## **Susanna's Hair Fashions & Beauty**



### ***We're back!***

Thank you so much to all our lovely customers for your ongoing support during this strange time. It is wonderful to be back working again maybe different to what we thought was normal but just great to see you all again.

We are open 7 days a week until the middle of August, that includes 2 evenings. Only 2 members of staff work at any one time so we can social distance. That means we can only fit in half the amount of people hence the longer opening times. All staff will be wearing a face shield and taking all the necessary precautions required. It is up to the customer if they want to wear a face covering as well it is not compulsory.

We still don't know when beauty treatments will be allowed to commence we are waiting for confirmation on that.

Look forward to seeing you soon  
**The Susanna's Team**



We are fervently hoping the worst is over. Is this a vain hope? Most of us have been keeping the rules and living in isolation, apart from essential journeys. How can the mobs seen on our TV screens justify their behaviour?

Our experiences have changed drastically over the last three months. Neighbours who had not spoken for some time found time to talk and listen.

Many people have been unable to leave home or have visitors. This has left its mark on the elderly and vulnerable. Others have continued to work as usual in hospitals, care homes or supermarkets. Many have suffered the loss of a loved one through the Coronavirus. The lack of traditional funerals and services have caused many to suffer in silence.

A very big THANK YOU to all those who kept going for us during the lockdown. We have clapped the NHS but must not forget social workers and shop assistants. Our refuse collectors have continued their valuable task and teachers have worked in amazing ways. So many, otherwise unrecognised volunteers, have made life easier for the hungry and those in other kinds of need. Well done!

In the early days we pulled down the shutters and hid away but time has made this increasingly difficult. We are all in this together. So many changes have to take place because supplies and cash flow will be affected for many months to come. Can we make the effort to survive and recover?

Sincere good wishes for a speedy return to happier days.

## Sutterton Methodist Church



For details of services at Sutterton Methodist Church please contact

Rev. Alan Barker Tel:- 01406 423270

*“Let us be thankful for those who continue to spread faith and friendship through various means whilst Churches remain closed.”*

## Topical Talk

I suppose the most topical thing at the moment is the coronavirus, which seems to be affecting everyone in many ways – from simple things like being unable to get a hair cut or being unable to visit friends and loved ones in hospital and care homes; lets hope that things will soon improve and that we can get back to normality.

If you are thinking of buying or selling a house at this time you should be aware that you may not be able to refer to the main bedroom as the “master bedroom” any more. This is all due to the recent demonstrations and parades over racial problems and the slavery question. By using the term “master bedroom” some people claim that it can be associated with the slavery problem – some of our ancestors may have been involved in this awful trade which, at the time did not affect people’s conscience like it does at the present time. My personal opinion is that that is history, and we cannot alter what happened in the past and that, learning from our mistakes, we should make sure that it is not repeated.

There is a lot of talk about a possible trade deal with the US as we leave the EU and one of the subjects that keep cropping up is the possibility that, should a free trade deal be agreed, we could be swamped with “cheap” food from the States.

The regulations regarding food production in the US are not as strict as those in the UK, where our system of food production is strictly monitored. In America, when it comes to animal welfare, the system is much more lax – a lot of antibiotics are included in animal feed there to combat disease; this has been necessary because of the huge “factory farms”, where hundreds of thousands of chickens, pigs and cattle are housed in huge factory sheds where disease, if not treated with these antibiotics, would be a huge problem. According to the experts this “over use” of antibiotics can lead to their ineffectiveness in treating many present day illnesses being impaired as our bodies can become immune to many of these “wonder” antibiotics.

Some letters which were written by soldiers during World War Two and never delivered, have come to light: they were written, it would appear, during the retreat from Dunkirk in 1940 by men of the Suffolk Regiment. The letters were originally found in a postal van that was abandoned in the heat of battle by a German officer and taken home as souvenirs; they lay in his attic gathering dust for the next 30 years. It was in 1968 that he decided to hand them over to the British Embassy in Bonn and they were returned to the Suffolk Regiment Association: some were passed to the soldier’s families but others remained in a council archive until earlier this year.

The letters are a mixture of fascinating detail from the front line in the weeks

leading up to Dunkirk and heartbreaking descriptions of love lives and family ties broken by war.

One of these letters was written by George Whayman of A Company 1<sup>st</sup> Batt Suffolk. He wrote it to his wife Ethel and days later he was among 338,000 British and Allied troops rescued from the beaches at Dunkirk by the fleet of "little ships". When he had recovered he was sent East to fight the Japanese and was fatally wounded by a mortar bomb in Singapore – he is buried in Kranji war cemetery.

Another letter was from Private Eddie Garnham, also of the Suffolk Reg, to his wife Mabel. At the time they had a new born daughter who now lives in Swindon and she says that he became a POW and that she was seven years old when he returned home. They went on to have a son; Eddie died in 1980 at the age of 69.

In his letter to his wife Eddie included a poem but his daughter thinks that her mother never got to see it; possibly Eddie never told her.

## **Eddie's Poem**

### **My loved one**

*Oh Mabe my darling I love you  
More than these words can say  
And I'm always thinking of you  
As each dreary day wens its way.*

*But the day will come oh my angel  
And this war will come to an end  
For each cloud has a silver lining  
And the long road back has its bend.*

*Each day my love it grows stronger  
And I know that yours is the same  
For I worship the ground that you walk on  
From the first day I knew your sweet name.*

*You and I have always shared troubles together  
And never once have looked back  
So my sweet keep those brown eyes smiling  
Then our sorrows we' ll so have to hack.*

**Colin Scrupps**

# Grimsthorpe Castle - Part 1

Grimsthorpe Castle is not a castle in the true sense of the word; it was not built to be a defensible structure but more as a home. The oldest part of the building is known as King John's Tower. This was originally a small castle which stood on the crest of a ridge, inland from the edge of the Fens and was on the road that led to the Great North Road. This first building was begun by Gilbert de Gant, Earl of Lincoln, around 1140 – he died in 1156. It was intended to be a lookout point for nearby Folkingham castle.

As you would expect with a building of this type, it has been modified and added to over the centuries and what you have today is one of the great stately homes of England.

The present house (castle) lies in 3,000 acres of pasture, lakes and woodland which was landscaped by Capability Brown; it has been the home of the de Eresby family since 1516.

Prior to 1516 the property was owned by a succession of the de Gant and de Meaumont families and on several occasions by the Crown. In 1516 the property, then in Crown hands, was granted, along with 90,000 acres of prime Lincolnshire land that stretched as far as Boston and the Wash, to William Willoughby by King Henry V111: there are several reminders of the Willoughby family in the Boston area – there is Willoughby Farm at Frampton Fen, an area known as Willoughby Hills near the Ball House Inn on the Skegness road and a Willoughby road in the town itself.

On the death of William Willoughby in 1526 his title and lands were inherited by his daughter Katherine; as she was only 7 years old at the time the Duke of Suffolk, Charles Brandon became her ward. It was intended that Katherine would eventually marry Brandon's son Henry who was Earl of Lincoln. However, when Brandon's wife died he by-passed his son and married the girl himself – even in that age, when it was not uncommon for older men to take young wives, it caused tongues to wag: Katherine was only 14 years old at the marriage and she was Brandon's fourth wife.

Katherine had two sons by Charles Brandon but both died at a young age; it appears that they both died on the same day of “sweating sickness”, at Cambridge.

After she became widowed she married Richard Bertie, who was a member of her household. This caused a scandal at the time because of the difference in their “rank”: they had two children – Peregrine and Susan.

In the 17<sup>th</sup> century Katherine's grandson, the 14<sup>th</sup> Baron Willoughby de Eresby was instrumental in draining parts of the fens around Boston.

In 1660 the north front of the castle was rebuilt by Robert Bertie in the classical style; the architect is believed to have been William Winde who worked on nearby Belton House.



In 1715 more work was done on the north front of the building: another Robert Bertie, the 1<sup>st</sup> Duke of Ancaster and Kesteven embarked on the new scheme; he called in Sir John Vanbrogh who designed Blenheim Palace; he designed the north front and erected a new facade similar to his work at Blenheim.

In 1778 the famous composer Thomas Linles, the “English Mozart” lost his life here in a boating accident on the lake aged just 22. He was buried in the churchyard at nearby Edenham.

To be continued.

**Colin Scrapps**

## Swans

## Avis M Padley

*I am always fascinated by the bird world around me and I am still learning at the age of 96. I am moved by my feathered friends, which survive against hardship and even persecution.*



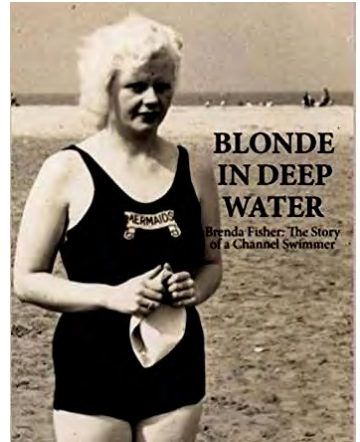
*Swans are graceful and beautiful. Young cygnets are dull and brown until they get their adult plumage.*

*They were once considered the food of the rich, but now killing a swan is against the law.*

*Swans are counted and recorded on the river Thames each year. They mate for life and are faithful to their partners. They easily adapt to life on the water as their bones are hollow, so their bodies do not sink too deeply into river or lake. They seem to have great power in their wings so we must avoid contact. The eyes which are placed on either side of the birds' head give them a wide view so don't go near a sitting swan. The male bird helps to rear the cygnets which hatch from some of the largest eggs in the bird world.*

Brenda was a long distance English swimmer; she was born at Scartho near Grimsby.

One of her best known swims was in 1951 when she swam the English Channel and broke the women's world record for the crossing from France to England – her time was 12 hrs 42 mins. She swam the Channel again in 1954. Another of her notable swims was the River Nile swim in Egypt: this took place in 1956 and she won the 29 mile swim but was badly sunburnt in the process. Also in 1956 (September) she took part in the Lake Ontario swim; this was from Niagara to Toronto, which she completed in 18 hrs 50 mins, 2 hrs 6 mins faster than the previous record. At that point she was only the third person in history to complete the swim.



When she was preparing for her first Channel swim the idea was for her and her sister to swim together in the race, which was organised by the Daily Mail – however, her sister fell ill with appendicitis and had to drop out, so Brenda decided to continue alone. She had a hard training schedule, training in the pool every morning and in the Alexandra Dock in the evening. At the weekend she regularly completed 6 hour swims under the direction of her coach, a Mr McNally.

When race day arrived she began her swim but competitors became separated from each other, but she was accompanied by her support craft, a rowing boat – she was thankful for this as the fumes from the diesel engines made her sick. For nutrition she only had chocolate, bananas and hot tea with sugar, even though she hated tea with sugar. She eventually hit the English coast to the east of Dover but at that stage had no idea that she had won – the time of her swim was a new woman's world record – 12 hours 42 minutes.

A crowd of around 20,000 turned out to welcome her back to Grimsby when she appeared on the Grimsby Town Hall balcony after her epic swim.

She retired from distance swimming in 1956 and became a swimming instructor. She was awarded the Freedom of the Borough of Grimsby in 2016.

She was also awarded the British Empire Medal in the Queen's New Year's Honours List in 2018. She has also been awarded a Blue Plaque in her home town.

Her biography, written by Lucy Wood and called “Blond In Deep Water, the story of a Channel swimmer” makes good reading. According to her biography, her fame as a swimmer led to her appearance on the Ed Sullivan Show in the US and also to a meeting with Elvis Presley.

Brenda learnt to swim when she was nine years old and initially became a speed swimmer.

She married Paddy Johnson who was a footballer with Grimsby Town FC; she has lived all her life in the same house, the one she was born in.

Her brother, a pilot, was killed in the late 1940's. Her father was a Grimsby trawler skipper.

*Colin Scrapps*



## Sam Snail's Jobs In The Garden

Well here we are, having had a good load of rain to help the parched plants to revive. Although it also means that the weeds have been re-energised as well, so that they can carry on with trying to dominate our borders. They do this by seeding themselves in between and behind the plants we have put in so, by the time that they can be seen, they have woven themselves into the roots and foliage of our plants and they are a pain to extract!

The drawback with having had the rain is also that the slugs and snails have come out to feed, as can be clearly seen on the leaves of my Hostas! As they mainly come out at night the only option is to get out with your torch and hope that you don't scare the hedgehog away who's after the same thing!

I have had some success with a semi buried container with beer in it, at least the slugs drown happy, although you have to make sure that there is enough of a cover over the container so that the rain doesn't cause it to overflow!

Don't forget to keep dead-heading the roses so that you get repeat flowering, I find it best to use secateurs and cut just above the next leaf node down rather than just snap the old head off which can sometimes cause problems.

Any new plants that you have recently purchased from the latest trip to the nearby garden centre should be watered and if possible mulched after planting and watered regularly for a time after, even if it does rain, as newly planted will need to have their roots moist to ensure growth.

Don't forget that any plants that have already flowered and are setting seed could be cut back if seeds are not required. Like Delphiniums and Lupins, if cut to nearly ground level, will often give you a second show of slightly flowers later in the year.

## **Jeff McCombie 1947 - 2020 by Wendy and Stuart**

My Jeff, kind, loving, gentle and there for everyone, most of all his family.

He was born in Hackney Hospital September 1947, he lived in Leytonstone till he was 5 and then moved to Buckhurst Hill in Essex, in the posh part. He went to school locally just across the road from his house so never had any reason for being late. He would play in Epping Forest with his mates, building dens, climbing trees and cooking sausages on the bonfires they would build, never caring if they were cooked properly, eating them anyway.

He stayed at the local school until he took his 11 plus, as did I but in my case not a hope. Despite passing his he chose to attend the local secondary school with his friends, this was great for me as then he would help with my spelling and maths and of course meant we met and got to know one another, without this we would never have met so I guess it was meant to be.

He did a paper round when he was 14 as well as helping the local milkman, this was until he fell off the milk float and cut his head open so his dad would not let him do it anymore. Even at school where there was a group of us, I always felt a bit different about him, but after leaving school in 1963 we lost touch for about a year. One day he saw me walking by with a boy (my cousin but he didn't know that), he wrote to me to ask me out worried I was already taken. I'm not sure what made me take the chance and turn up but one look at the once chubby nice boy from school I saw him now as a 6ft 3 handsome young man I knew my life was set forever.

When we married in 1969 my dad said "You have a keeper there" and how right he was. We moved to Colchester in 1970, he would commute to London for a while until he got a job locally, this meant we could spend more time together. We spent the next few years doing up our house and garden, all with our parent's help. In 1971 my dad died suddenly and my quiet man became my rock, supporting me and my mum through it all.

A few years on in 1975 came one of the best days of our lives, our son Stuart was born, perfect in every way and still is !!!!

In 1979 our family was complete as our daughter Danielle came into the world, life was at its best. We spent years teaching them to ride bikes, climb trees, have picnics and watching their school plays. Neither one could sing or act but this is what made it so special. We were as poor as church mice but this never bothered us, the simple things of visiting grandparents and playing dress up made us all so happy.

When in 1988 our darling daughter left this world after just 5 days of being ill Jeff then became, my superhero, he took over completely as Stuart and I fell to pieces, he helped us all pull together and get through the worst possible times,



changed forever but still together.

Our son then married in 2004 and gave us 4 wonderful grandchildren, the lights of Jeff's life.

When he retired we moved to Wigtoft to be closer to them and this was one of the best things we ever did. With wonderful neighbours and family we enjoyed everyday to the full. Jeff would make friends wherever he would go with his caring smile and endless support. Even when I worried about things which were not important he would smile sweetly and tell me everything would be ok, and he was always right.

He is not gone now, he is here around me in everything I see and do. Forever guiding me with his love. He gave me everything I have to be grateful for, my son and grandchildren and his memory reminds me everyday to be kind and thankful, carrying on until we meet again.

Jeff you are my love, my life, my rock and most of all just my Jeff.

Now may start a new chapter but you will forever be in our hearts helping us along the way

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*My dad is my hero the best man of all,  
Picking me up with every stumble or fall.  
His guidance has made me the man that I am,  
Losing him now was not part of the plan.  
The memories we made are happy and strong,  
The world without you feels lonely and wrong.  
Things never said or feelings shown,  
My heart is heavy and has turned to stone.  
My heart breaks each time I realize you're not here,  
Championing me on with a grin and a cheer.  
Now I'm the grown up having to stand tall,  
Taking your place as the best man of all.  
But now my dad has earned his angel wings,  
so try not to worry I will take care of things.  
Fly up high there dad but always know,  
Our love for you will continue to grow.  
But its time now for you to be with our beloved Danielle,  
Just remember me and mum love you and wish you both well.  
Until the day comes where we all meet again,  
Rest easy now dad, I love you, Amen.*

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WIGTOFT PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 11<sup>th</sup> May 2020

This meeting was held by a video link conference call due to the restrictions in force in relation to the Corona virus pandemic.

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

**Also Present:** Two members of the public.

**Public forum:** The Chairman asked if any members of the public wished to speak and received a negative response.

**Chairman's remarks** – The Chairman, Cllr P Craven, welcomed everyone to the 2<sup>nd</sup> video conference call. He thanked the clerk for the work undertaken to set up the facility.

## **Apologies for absence and reasons given**

County Councillor M Brookes sent his apologies and offered his support if required from anything raised during the meeting.

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

Cllr SC declared an interest in planning item B/20/0156. Cllr PC declared an interest in planning item B/20/0123.

**Police report** - none received.

## **Notes of the meeting held on 30.3.20 to be confirmed and signed as minutes.**

The notes of the above meeting were not able to be signed as minutes due to the meeting being held by video link. In accordance with the requirements of the Transparency Code, the minutes will be published on the website as draft minutes. It was resolved to accept the notes as minutes. All notes will be signed as minutes at the next face to face meeting.

## **Financial matters: Accounts for payment for March; budget figures and financial report**

### **Finance report:**

VAT refund of £456.41 has been received

Precept payment of £4557.50 has been received

A date for the internal audit has not yet been agreed.

It was resolved to agree the payment schedules and the up to date budget figures. Due to the meeting being held by a video call, it was not possible to sign the payments sheet to confirm the above resolution. This action will be completed at the next face to face meeting.

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

<b><u>Date of invoice</u></b>	<b>Details of payment</b>	<b>Amount ex vat</b>	<b>Vat reclaimable</b>	<b>Overall total</b>
15.4.20	Pay	208.00		
15.4.20	PAYE	52.00		
15.4.20	Clerk use of home as office	20.00		
30.4.20	Payroll services	18.00		
5.4.20	Printer Ink	6.66	1.33	
24.1.20	Footway lighting - maintenance	182.00	36.40	
24.1.20	Footway lighting - electricity	353.99	70.80	
14.4.20	Grass cutting	280.00		
24.4.20	Ink cartridges (spares)	27.49	5.50	
30.3.20	Lives	30.00		
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1178.14</b>	<b>114.03</b>	<b>1292.17</b>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
<b>1.4.20</b>	Precept 1.4.20 to 30.9.20	4557.50		
16.4.20	VAT rebate	456.41		
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>5013.91</b>		

### **Planning Applications**

#### **B/20/0120, Biomass boiler at the Conifers, Golden Grove, Wigtoft:**

Councillors discussed 2 queries on the portal which have already been raised - where is the straw to be stored e.g. on site and under cover and the proposed height of the flue. They ask if they can be kept informed of the answers to the above questions. Cllr PC left the meeting at 19.57.

#### **B/20/0123, outline planning permission for up to 5 dwellings at U HAUL, The Old Vicarage, Wigtoft - several comments on this one**

- a) Is the proposed development in keeping with the rest of the street - 5 properties are too many. Proposed garage with accommodation above is not in keeping with the rest of the street. The development is surrounded with older properties, is putting new builds in close proximity considered appropriate?
- b) One proposed property appears to be quite close to the front of the road.
- c) Potential loss of privacy for neighbour due to existing window being overlooked.
- d) Increased traffic entering and exiting the site will create a busy access/exit situation. Parking on the development could be an issue. There could be potentially be 8 cars needing to park on the proposed site. Possibly insufficient parking planned for. Potential extra noise for existing residents and occupiers of proposed 1st floor accommodation from increased traffic movement and access to garages below 1st floor accommodation.
- e) Development is in centre of a conservation zone. Is this the highest priority for the location of a development in Wigtoft at this stage?
- f) It would be useful to know outcome of contaminated land report before commenting further.

Cllr PC rejoined the meeting at 20.07. Cllr SC left the meeting at 20.08.

**B/20/0156, replacement porch and single storey flat roof extension at Dove Cottage, Spion Kop Lane, Wigtoft.**

no comments or objections.

Cllr SC rejoined the meeting at 20.12.

**ACTION: Clerk to submit comments and questions to planning department.**

**Correspondence received since the March 30th 2020 meeting**

LALC e news w/c 20.4.20	e mailed to Councillors 23.4.20
E mail re authority to hold Parish Council meetings remotely (video call etc)	e mailed to Councillors 6.4.20
Rural news bulletin 7.4.20	e mailed to Councillors 7.4.20
Highways re temporary road closure 9.4.20	e mailed to Councillors, posted on Facebook and website 9.4.20
E mail from Boston Borough Council re business loans	e mailed to Councillors 15.4.20, posted on website and FB
Parishes update 3 from Boston Borough Council	e mailed to Councillors 5.5.20
Letter to Town and Parish Councils from the Secretary of State	e mailed to Councillors 5.5.20
NALC update re Coronavirus re impact on Parish Councils	e mailed to Councillors as received

**Councillor's reports**

Cllr GW – suggested we wait for government guidelines before reopening the park; Suggested Parish Council should consider how we could support any vulnerable people in the village. He would not want anyone to be without support and asked Councillors to consider delivering a letter from the Parish Council to each household as soon as possible. All Councillors in agreement to help and to have their contact numbers included on the letter. Cllr GW to co-ordinate.

Cllr SB – there is some fly tipping on Burtoft Lane North. **ACTION: Clerk to report.**

Cllr SS – has received a telephone call about the state of the wildlife garden. Cllr PC said he will be mowing the footpath and garden tomorrow and it will be done every other week. Also, will tidy hedge up and fill in ruts in the path where necessary. The landowner near the footpath has agreed to use the other entrance to his field wherever possible. Cllr SS to call the resident with an update on proposed actions.

Cllr SC – suggest look a cost of using a contractor for grass cutting at wildlife garden/ footpath when Parish Council is budget planning late in the year.

**ACTION: Clerk to add to budget planning for October/November.**

**Clerk's report**

Appleby Services – the grass in the playing field was cut on: 7/3; 20/3; 28/3; 10/4; 17/4; 24/4; 1/5. An invoice for £280 to cover the dates 7/3 to 10/4 has been received.

This is a quarterly reminder for Councillors to make sure that you review your

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests and Local Choice Interests and check that you are not using a shared personal e mail address or retaining any parish council papers/info/e mails.

HP Instant Ink have advised me that they cannot guarantee delivery of the replacement ink cartridges during the present situation. They will not be charging the usual £6.66 per month for the next 3 months. I have ordered and received a spare set of cartridges from Curry's at a cost of £27.49.

I have not obtained quotes for replacing the Christmas lights or for the "Keep our village tidy" signs due the increased workload regarding the new legislation in respect of the Coronavirus pandemic. These actions will be completed as soon as possible.

**To retrospectively agree to conduct meetings using Zoom Pro at a cost of £11.99 per month.**

It was resolved to use Zoom Pro for meetings until face to face meetings can resume. The clerk advised Council that a communication from Lincs Association of Local Councils (LALC) has been received today, 11.5.20, advising that they can now offer a discounted Zoom package at an annual cost of £78.40. It was resolved to migrate to this package.

**ACTION: Clerk to arrange annual package with LALC.**

**An update on moving the existing litter bin by the post box to a more suitable location**

The clerk updated Council with news that Boston Borough Council cannot confirm if the proposed site for the litter bin would be able to be added to the existing collection round as the person who deals with this is not at work due to the current situation. The clerk suggested another option would be to leave the existing bin in situ and source the type of bin which has a frame and a lid to hold a black plastic sack. The sack could then be removed and placed either in or near the existing bin for collection. **ACTION: Clerk to obtain quotes and to speak to the voluntary litter picking group for their opinion.**

**To decide on which virus protection package to use following expiry of the existing package on the 7.6.20.**

The clerk had obtained further quotes for a suitable package which were: McAfee (existing) £69.99 for 1 year, £119.99 for 2 years; AVG Business edition £47.24 for 1 year with the possibility of a 10% discount); AV £39 for 1 year (this is not such a comprehensive package as the other two. It was resolved to switch to AVG on expiry of the MacAfee package. **ACTION: Clerk to set up new package to start on the 8.6.20.**

**To review and agree the renewal of the Parish Council's Insurance Policy**

The renewal date is 1.6.20. The renewal schedule has been received at a cost of £432.19 including insurance premium tax and a broker fee. Last year's premium was £421.06. The sums insured are indexed linked at a current increased rate of 4% which accounts for the increase. The clerk suggested it might be worth investigating if a more bespoke policy could be found as the current policy covers buildings insurance which does not apply to the Council's circumstances. It was resolved to renew the policy at a maximum cost of £432.19 and for the clerk to investigate a more bespoke policy.

**ACTION: Clerk to renew policy on 1.6.20 and contact insurers about a bespoke policy.**

**To decide whether to hold an Annual Parish Council Meeting this year or defer until next year (permitted by legislation).**

It was resolved not to hold an Annual Parish Council meeting this year. The Chairman and Vice Chairman will remain in situ until next year.

**To discuss the request arising from the Annual Parish Meeting held on 2.3.20 regarding Councillors attending coffee mornings etc in the parish and to discuss having a suggestion box for the Parish Council in the Church.**


It was resolved that a rota would be set up by Cllr SS for a Councillor to attend a coffee morning at the Village Hall from October to March and at the Church from April to September. A suggestion box will be placed in the Village Hall and the Church and these boxes will be emptied prior to each Parish Council meeting. Cllr SS volunteered to empty the box in the Village Hall. **ACTION: Agenda item for the August meeting.**

**To discuss the request for a donation from Citizens Advice Mid Lincs.**

It was resolved to make a donation of £30. **ACTION: Clerk to make payment.**

**Meeting closed at 20.33**

**The next meeting is on the 1.6.20 at 19:30 in the format of a video conference call.**



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Wigtoft Parish Council

## Wigtoft Parish Council

You can find details from Wigtoft Parish Council, including members, meeting agendas, meeting minutes etc on the internet by going to [parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/Wigtoft](http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/Wigtoft)

There is lots of information there including previous meeting minutes going back to 2018 and details of how to contact the parish council.

## Boston Borough Council

### Bin Collection Dates for August/September



Friday August 7<sup>th</sup> -----Green Bin  
Friday August 14<sup>th</sup> -----Blue Bin & Brown Bin  
Friday August 21<sup>st</sup> -----Green Bin  
Friday August 28<sup>th</sup> -----Blue Bin & Brown Bin  
Friday September 4<sup>th</sup> -----Green Bin  
Friday September 11<sup>th</sup> ----Blue Bin & Brown Bin  
Friday September 18<sup>th</sup> ----Green Bin  
Friday September 25<sup>th</sup> ----Blue Bin & Brown Bin



# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WIGTOFT PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020

This meeting was held by a video link conference call due to the restrictions in force in relation to the Corona virus pandemic.

**Present:** Cllr P Craven; Cllr S Collingwood; Cllr S Brigham;  
Cllr S Smith; Cllr B Leggott; Cllr S Baxter.

**Also Present:** County Councillor M Brookes

**Public forum:** None

**Chairman's remarks** – The Chairman, Cllr P Craven, welcomed County Councillor M Brookes.

## **Apologies for absence and reasons given**

Cllr G. Wright sent his apologies. He was unable to attend due to work commitments. 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 received.

## **Notes of the meeting held on 11.5.20 to be confirmed and signed as minutes.**

The notes of the above meeting were not able to be signed as minutes due to the meeting being held by video link. In accordance with the requirements of the Transparency Code, the minutes will be published on the website as draft minutes. It was resolved to accept the notes as minutes. All notes will be signed as minutes at the next face to face meeting.

## **Financial matters: Accounts for payment for May; budget figures and financial report**

### **Finance report:**

The half yearly land rent of £345 has been received.

There was an error made by the Clerk when paying the invoices agreed at the meeting on the 30.3.20. The second payment list was due to be paid on or after the 1.4.20. The April meeting was brought forward to 30.3.20 and the payments mentioned above were made in error the day after the meeting (the usual payment date) on the 31.3.20. This came to light when the end of year bank reconciliation was completed. There has been no alternative but to include these payments in the financial year 1.4.19 to 31.3.20 which has impacted on the budget figures negatively for the year ending 31.3.20 and positively for the current financial year. This does not affect the cash account balance.

Date of invoice	Details of payment	Amount ex vat	Vat reclaimable	Overall total
15.5.20	Pay	208.00		
15.5.20	PAYE	52.00		
15.5.20	Clerk use of home as office	20.00		
31.5.20	Payroll services	18.00		
8.5.20	Zoom 1 month's video conference call	11.99	2.40	
22.5.20	Zoom annual conference calls	65.33	13.07	
23.3.20	Land Drainage	57.73		
22.5.20	Internal Audit	112.50		
10.5.20	Grass cutting	280.00		
23.3.20	Citizens Advice donation	30.00		
1.6.20	Annual Insurance premium	432.19		
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1287.74</b>	<b>15.47</b>	<b>1303.21</b>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
18.5.20	Land rent	345.00		
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>345.00</b>		

**Planning: To discuss the reply received from planning about the questions raised at the last meeting in respect of planning application B/20/0120, proposed Biomass boiler with flue. The Conifers, Golden Grove, Wigtoft.**

Boston Borough Council planning department advised that the boiler will only use locally sourced straw, the flue will be 6m above the appliance making a flue height of 8.8m above ground level and 2.5m above the building height and the applicants are planning to buy straw as needed. Each load will be stored in sheds adjacent to the boiler in steel framed and steel/brick clad buildings enclosed from the weather. It was resolved that these comments answered Councillors questions sufficiently and no further comments need to be submitted. **ACTION: Clerk to advise planning.**

**Correspondence received since the May 11th 2020 meeting**

LALC e news 22.5.20 e mailed to Councillors 26.5.20

Letter from LIVES charity thanking for the donation of £30, hard copy brought to the meeting 1.6.20

**Councillor's reports**

**Cllr PC** confirmed that he has cut the grass in the Wildlife Garden. He has made the adjacent landowners aware of what is going on and what is trying to be achieved and they will make their employees aware. Regarding the recent letter drop offering support to residents, one resident asked about food parcel drop off at Sutterton Church. Councillors decided it would be best for her to contact the clerk at Sutterton Parish Council.



Cllrs SB and BL mentioned that the fly tipping on Burtoft Road North was still there,  
**ACTION: Clerk to follow up.**

Cllr SC commented that the village sign might need repainting.

**ACTION: Clerk to add to budget planning notes for later in the year.**

Cllr SS advised that it was hopeful that the newsletter for August and September will be published. It was resolved to advise the editor that it will only be necessary to publish the last set of minutes and ask if a note could be added to remind readers that all minutes are published on the Parish Council's website.

**ACTION: Clerk to advise editor.**

The Chairman asked County Councillor MB if he wished to speak. Cllr MB reminded Councillors that he still had some funding left for voluntary groups supporting residents during the current pandemic to apply for. He also advised that from 7.12.20 to 22.1.21, there will be a Community Maintenance team from Lincs County Council Highways team working in Boston Rural division to undertake tasks such as: clearing overhanging vegetation; cleaning signs; weeding; cleaning moss off paths; repairs to sign posts and fencing. He asked that all issues are reported via the "fix my street" facility on the County Council's website as usual and any tasks not undertaken in the normal day to day business will be added to a list for the above dates.

**ACTION: Clerk to re-send the e mail about funding to Councillors and to ensure all issues are reported to LCC via "fix my street" as soon as they arise.**

**To receive and accept the report of the Internal Auditor and to discuss and agree the increase in cost from £100 to £112.50.**

The clerk advised Councillors that the cost increase was due to extra travelling incurred collecting and returning the accounts. It was resolved to accept the Internal Auditor's report and the increase in cost. **ACTION: Clerk to publish report on website and pay the invoice for £112.50.**

**To approve the Certificate of Exemption to certify Wigtoft Parish Council as exempt from a limited assurance review for 1.4.19 to 31.3.20 under Section 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015.**

The clerk confirmed the reasons the Parish Council could claim exemption. It was resolved to approve the signing of the Exemption Certificate.

**To complete, confirm and sign Section 1 (the Annual Governance Statement) of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019/20.**

Each line of Section 1 was reviewed and completed. It was resolved to confirm and sign this document.

**To confirm and sign Section 2 (the Accounting Statements) of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019/20.**

The clerk had completed Section 2 and confirmed to the Council that the figures balanced. It was resolved to confirm and sign this document.

**ACTION: The above 3 documents needs physically signing by the Chairman. It**

was resolved that the documents would either be collected from the clerk or posted out by the clerk, depending on how long it will take for the documents to be collected.

**To confirm who will check the bank reconciliation and agree how hand over of the relevant paperwork will work.**

Cllr SB volunteered to check the bank reconciliation. He offered to collect the paperwork from the Clerk and also the Audit paperwork.

**To decide if any action is needed about the playing field/play area.**

The clerk confirmed that there had been no change to the current guidance from the Government that play areas must remain closed.

**ACTION: Clerk to monitor for changes to the guidance.**

**An update on moving the existing litter bin by the post box to a more suitable location.**

There have not been any changes at Boston Borough Council to enable this to be moved forward. The clerk had sourced a price for a different type of bin which could facilitate the removal of a plastic waste bag by the volunteer litter collectors. The clerk had consulted with 2 of the litter pickers who confirmed they did not have any objection to changing the plastic bags but felt that as the bag was exposed, it could be ripped open by animals. Councillors felt that the proposed purchase of an extra dog waste bin and moving an existing bin had been going on for too long (15 months in total) and resolved that the clerk should contact Boston Borough Councillor Mike Cooper for advice. **ACTION: Clerk to e mail Councillor Cooper for advice.**

**To discuss a request received from the Lincolnshire branch of the Marie Curie charity for a donation.**

Councillors discussed the request but decided that, due to the likelihood of multiple requests during the current situation, they could not agree a donation.

Cllr SB proposed a donation to the Lincs Air Ambulance as there had been a recent incident in the village where the Air Ambulance had attended. Councillors felt this was an appropriate way to show thanks and it was resolved to make a donation of £50. **ACTION: Clerk to make the donation.**

**To discuss a request received for a small memorial brass plaque to be added to an existing bench outside the house of a resident who died recently.**

It was resolved to agree to this request,

**ACTION: Clerk to contact the family member who made the request to confirm that they can add a plaque to the bench.**

**Meeting closed at 20.33**

**The next meeting is on the 6.7.20 at 19:30 in the format of a video conference call.**

# WIGTOFT NEWS AND VIEWS NEWSLETTER

**The Wigtoft News and Views Newsletter team are:**

Editorial Team    Ann Mulbregt, Sally Smith, Colin Scrupps,  
Liz Leonard, Virna Atkinson, John Craggs

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Tuesday to Saturday

Late Night Friday

8.30am - 4.30pm

8.30am - 6.00pm

*OAP days are Tuesday and Wednesday,  
lower rates on these days, hairdressing only.*

Blow dries, wet cuts, dry cuts, set, perms,  
colours, hi-lights, plaits and put-ups!!

A wide range of services available.

We have a Nail Bar offering Express, Normal and Luxury  
Manicures and Pedicures with normal or gel nail polish.

Our beauty room offers warm waxing for face and body.

*Anna, Debbie, Amy, Kerri and Claire will  
be only too pleased to help and advise you*

Call us today on 01205 460443

