

# WOODNEWTON NEWS

## AUGUST 2021



# Woodnewton Parish Council

## Parish Council Report – July 2021

The Parish Council met on Monday 12th July.

### Public Time

Two members of the public attended to express their views on the planning application submitted for 31 Main Street.

One member of the public attended to give an update on the churchyard wildlife enhancement project.

### Playing Field

The recent ROSPA play equipment safety inspection report was considered and any remediation work highlighted was noted. The Council discussed the condition of the safety surfaces and resolved to investigate replacement in the longer term and repair in the short term.

### Planning

- a) NE/21/00994/FUL – change of use, returned No Objection.
- b) NE/21/00970/FUL – new dwelling house 31 Main Street. Returned with Objections.

The Council agreed to lodge an Objection to the application on a number of grounds including,

- The size and scale of the proposal in comparison to neighbouring properties
- The appearance and building materials proposed to be used in a conservation area
- Traffic and access for vehicles
- Potential development beyond the building line

The Council also noted their concern about several inaccuracies in the Design & Access Statement

### Rural Co-ordination Group

The Chairman reported back on the last meeting of the Group (a group of local parishes and Oundle Town Council). The meeting was primarily concerned with the scale of development in Oundle, currently approximately 300 houses in the pipeline, and the knock-on effects on transport, parking, and access to services. It was agreed to meet with representatives of North Northamptonshire Council to express the concerns expressed by the group and to encourage the development of a 'Rural Charter' that could be adopted by the Council for future reference.

### Residents Survey.

So far, the survey has had 96 responses which is fantastic. Many thanks to everyone who took the time to respond. The Council considered a summary of the results and discussed some of the issues raised and how they could be addressed in the short term. A round-up of the results will be published in the next newsletter. The survey is still available to complete and can be found at:

<https://forms.office.com/r/8jJCjx5kGn>

Or use the QR code to the right on your phone or tablet.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on **Monday 23rd August** at 8.00pm

**Andrew Hansford - Parish Council Chairman**





# St Mary's Church News

## **Services at St. Mary's Church, Woodnewton - August 2021**

1st August – 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion (Modern Language)

8th August – 3.00 p.m. Outdoor Churchyard Celebration Service

15th August – 9.30 am Holy Communion (Modern Language)

22nd August – 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion BCP (Traditional Language)

29th August – 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Modern Language) for all the parishes in the Benefice at Woodnewton

Every Sunday 5.00 p.m. A Service at Home by ZOOM. Log-in details from Rev. Jane

Services in our other churches in our Benefice are listed in the church porch, or add your name to the weekly email list from Rev. Jane: [jdtailby@aol.com](mailto:jdtailby@aol.com)

As I mentioned last month, we are celebrating our churchyards this summer with special services to highlight what these special places can mean to us and what hidden wildlife treasures they contain. Woodnewton's service was postponed from July and will take place on 8th August at 3.00 p.m. Do come and join us as we explore our churchyard and praise God for the many blessings we find there. The service will be for everyone, and there will be activities for children.

It will be good to gather for this service, and indeed our other services in August, without (hopefully!) quite so many covid restrictions. As we know, the situation with the pandemic in our country, and in our area, changes rapidly and what is happening now as I write in mid-July will probably be very different from what it is when you read your magazine. However, as I write, we are being quite cautious in the church about making too many changes to our covid precautions too quickly, even when the official regulations are lifted. As in wider society, some people are keen to leave behind all precautions as quickly as possible and return to "normal", others are feeling very anxious and still vulnerable and others just want things to go more steadily.

All this is very tiring for so many, whether with concerns about the well-being of themselves or those they love, the sense of frustration at not having been able to do what they want, or in the responsibilities they carry in their work or home life. Rest has never seemed more important, and perhaps so elusive. Holiday plans may be different this year, but I hope everyone will be able to find a way of taking a break in some shape or form, whether at home or away. The line of a hymn reminds us of God's intention for us to rest: "O Sabbath rest by Galilee".... We are designed for rest as well as work; created in God's image who himself rested on the seventh day of Creation. May this holiday month of August hold a time of rest and refreshment for us all, maybe even by just pausing for a moment and finding peace in our lovely churchyard.

With every blessing,

Rev. Jane





# Church Flowers

A big thank you to Peggy Berton who has organised St Mary's church flowers for over 28 years, since taking over from Dorothy Harris! Peggy has enthusiastically organised the annual altar flower rota and supervised plans for special occasions such as Easter, Harvest and Christmas. She made many a visit to Oundle market to purchase flowers. She has also participated in our flower festivals creating lovely arrangements. We are very grateful to Peggy for everything she has done and continues to do to help the Church look beautiful.

I have been asked to take over the rota list. If there is anyone who would like to have their name added to the rota for altar flowers, usually just once a year, or would like to help with flower arranging in the church or if anyone would like to donate flowers or foliage particularly, at Easter, Harvest or Christmas time I would be very pleased to hear from you.

**-Please contact me, Sue Goodall, 01780 470979 .**

## Wansford & Kings Cliffe Surgery - Communicare

A joint meeting of the officials and the Practice Manager, Mrs Kirstie Lawes, was held last month. A whole range of matters was discussed at length including the current low level of funds – it is hoped that as Covid restrictions are eased various ideas for fund raising can be instigated. Monies held by the Group that have been 'ring fenced' for certain projects are yet to be utilized – in particular the proposed creation of a community garden at the Kings Cliffe Active site – discussions are ongoing with all parties concerned but it is hoped that a positive outcome will be achieved in the not too distant future.

In addition to the new doctors who have recently joined the practice, Catherine Ofiaeli and Catherine Parnell, Mrs Lawes informed the meeting that a male doctor, Rob Houghton, would also now be working at the surgery one day a week.

The national Covid vaccination programme continues at local centres – anyone who has not yet taken up the offer of a jab is strongly encouraged to do so without delay, particularly with the current 'third wave' engulfing the country. Mrs Lawes confirmed that plans are now in hand for the role out of the annual flu injections commencing early autumn – however it is not yet known how and when the proposed Covid booster jab will become available – this information will of course be circulated as soon as possible.

A matter which is cause for concern is the proposed NHS Digital Data Sharing. It was agreed by the meeting that this subject has not been widely promoted in the media and the majority of the population are probably unaware of it and its possible implications. The original deadline for patients to 'opt-out' of the scheme has now been extended to 1st September but with this date fast approaching, it is important that individuals take the opportunity to read up on the proposals and make an informed decision about the sharing of their own personal medical details. A quick and easy channel is via Google – NHS Digital Data Sharing – which offers a whole range of options including a direct online method to opt out through the official NHS website – alternatively this can be done by letter to your GP.

It is hoped that a back-to-normal general patients meeting can be held in late September – this will be our AGM and although there will be a small amount of business matters, we plan to have guest speakers – full details will be published in the September issues of local magazines and on the surgery website.

Wendy Spencer

# WOODNEWTON HISTORY GROUP

Following the appearance of our editorial in the May issue of Oundle Life, two leads were received from Oundle Museum and from a lady who used to live in Woodnewton. A photograph of the cart display board belonging to Thomas Wells can be seen on the website <http://woodnewtonhistory.co.uk/trades/conrad-wells>. How many of you knew that the old ivy clad stone building aside number 11 Orchard Lane was the old slaughter house? Another piece of information which came from the Museum has yet to be copied, but will be on the website as soon as possible.

Fiona Preston's childhood memories can also be seen on: <http://woodnewtonhistory.co.uk/village-people/memories/childhood-memories-of-fiona-preston>.

Robert Bellairs has also provided us with his memoirs and this is available on: <http://woodnewtonhistory.co.uk/people/robert-bellairs-woodnewton-born-and-bred>.

Did you know that Woodnewton had its own time capsule? Well, read all about it on: <http://woodnewtonhistory.co.uk/home/events/y2k-time-capsule>.

As you can see the group has been very busy during lockdown, but will be very pleased to be able to return to 'face to face' meetings from September

## Mr Woo

For those of you who remember Woodnewton Clownfest events in the early 1990s, will remember a custard clown by the name of Mr Woo, alias Bernard Moore from Peterborough. Unfortunately, Bernard passed away in June at the age of 81 years.

*Photo taken of Mr Woo with Ron Moody to his right (Clowns International President at the time of Clownfest) at the Annual Church Service in Holy Trinity Church, Dalston.*

Mr Woo had worked with Coco the Clown and knew from Helen Rowland (Coco's daughter late of 7 Orchard Crescent) that the village was trying to raise money to build a village hall. Mr Woo very kindly offered the assistance of the Clowns who belonged to Clowns International to help with the fundraising. So together with the Clownfest committee and Mr Woo, Clownfest number one was held on 23rd September 1990, and the village turned into Clownsville for the day.

This event was such a huge success for the village that it was repeated again in 1992 and 1994.



## TREASURER VACANCY

The Village Hall Committee needs a new Treasurer. It's not a time consuming role but it's important for the Village Hall and the village. If you would like to volunteer to help please contact Dillon Danks or Alex Neville. If you would like to join the committee and take on this role please contact:

Dillon Danks [dillon91166@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:dillon91166@hotmail.co.uk) or  
Alex Neville [alexneville007@gmail.com](mailto:alexneville007@gmail.com) 07787 510354.

# Farming: That's Entertainment

The wonderful countryside that surrounds us has been shaped over many centuries by farming. For most of its history many of the inhabitants of our village would have had a direct or indirect dependence on farming for their livelihoods. I remember doing some research on the village as part of the village plan project back in 2006 and discovered that there were a number of businesses in the village in the 19<sup>th</sup> century that were agriculture related. Today I know that a number of you that are reading this are still engaged in one way or another with agriculture but I would be surprised if more than 1 in 10 of the current villagers have such a connection. I have no connection with farming, other than occasionally visiting a farm shop but over the last 18 months or so I have learned more about modern farming than I ever expected to.



I have admitted in the past that I watch far too many YouTube videos, mostly about subjects related to cars, motorbikes and technology, but starting sometime in 2019 I started to follow a YouTube channel called Harry's Farm. To ageing petrolheads like me, Harry Metcalfe may be a familiar figure. He founded and ran the excellent EVO car magazine in the 1990s and built up an interesting and eclectic collection of cars and motorcycles. He sold his interest in the magazine some time ago but not before he and some of his journalists had started posting EVO diaries videos on YouTube. Subsequently Harry started his own Harry's Garage YouTube channel where he covers his own collection of cars and also does personalised road tests on new models and other people's classic cars. It has become a popular channel, but what has this to do with farming?

Harry has always been a farmer - even before starting EVO - and as a spin off from his Garage channel he started his Harry's Farm YouTube channel. Every couple of weeks he posts a 10-15 minute video explaining what's been going on down on his farm in the Cotswolds. He has explained why he plants which crops, the ins and outs of EU and government regulations and all manner of other interesting stuff. I have found out how amazingly accurate those enormous spraying machines with the 18 meter booms have to be, how they use GPS during planting and harvesting, learned about seed-dressing, cabbage stem flea beetles, agronomists and that there is a wheat variety called Skyfall. I mentioned the Harry's Farm video to a fellow member of my car club and I discovered he worked for a company that makes the complex machinery that dresses the seeds.

It's made my dog walks more interesting. I take notice of the crops, the tramlines in the fields and think about the impact the weather is having. It has also given me an appreciation of how peaky the work load is and why during harvest time you see the lights in the fields in the middle of the night as the combines do their work.

One of Mr Metcalfe's farming neighbours is someone else that made their name and fortune in motoring journalism. That will be a certain Mr Clarkson. I am not sure if Jeremy was prompted by Harry's YouTube success to jump on the farming as entertainment bandwagon, but with support from Jeff Bezos's billions he has started his own farming series on Amazon Prime. It's a much more polished production with full camera crews and high production values but it's worth a watch. Unlike Harry who comes across as a

thoughtful and pragmatic lifelong farmer, Clarkson has to be Clarkson and do stupid things. It's show business, after all. But there is a delight in watching the reality of farming dawn on him. He is helped by a cast of real Oxfordshire folks who work with him on the farm.



Cheerful Charlie, his land agent is the voice of reason and calm; Caleb, his tractor driver, could go on to become a global star; Gerald, his incomprehensible dry-stone waller, seems to have a constant expression of patronising bemusement at Clarkson's missteps and his Irish girlfriend Lisa's putdowns are hilarious.

I am sure the real farmers amongst you will probably watch Jeremy and call out the inaccuracies but if you want to find out a bit more about the sorts of things that are going on all around you, year in, year out I can recommend both. If you have time to only follow one, I would choose Harry.



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## The Annual Woodnewton Tallest Sunflower Competition

Raising funds for PARKINSON'S DISEASE research.

With more warmth in June, sunflowers have been reaching for the sky around the allotments. I believe there are also some great specimens hidden in gardens and no doubt their owners will reveal all when they think they have potential competition winners to show off.

Don't forget, measuring is not until 2nd October though who can have thought of that date when most flowers will probably have keeled over!! We'll see as the date gets closer.

Meanwhile, we have sneaked past £1100 in donations to PARKINSONS DISEASE research.

If you have Parkinson's, or you know someone who has, you probably have a lot of questions and some worries.

For information the Parkinson's Support Line is 0808 800 0303

hello@parkinsons.org.uk The free, confidential helpline is available for anyone affected by Parkinson's across the UK.

Thank you

Phil and Jennie Wood,

7 Wades Close. Tel 470462

e-mail [philhwood@hotmail.com](mailto:philhwood@hotmail.com) **Phil and Jennie Wood,**

**7 Wades Close. Tel 470462**



The Village Hall has re-opened. Government restrictions are in place regarding legal gatherings and mandatory precautions. It is the responsibility of Hirers to ensure that any activity that takes place adheres to the government restrictions.

Provisional bookings may be made with Marilyn Jenner on 01780 470758 or [villagehallwoodnewton@gmail.com](mailto:villagehallwoodnewton@gmail.com), but are subject to change if the regulations change.

Under the current circumstances we may refuse bookings.

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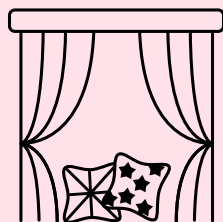
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## WOODNEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Overgrown Hedges & Trees

Please check around your property that any bushes, hedges or trees are not encroaching onto, or blocking footpaths.

**This is a polite request to trim back any overgrowth.**

**Your cooperation is greatly appreciated**

To raise any issues please contact the Parish Council: [woodnewtonpc@gmail.com](mailto:woodnewtonpc@gmail.com)



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<b>Village Hall Booking</b>	Marilyn Jenner 01780 470758 <a href="mailto:villagehallwoodnewton@gmail.com">villagehallwoodnewton@gmail.com</a>	
<b>Neighbourhood Watch</b>	<a href="mailto:woodnewtonnw@googlemail.com">woodnewtonnw@googlemail.com</a>	
<b>Police</b>	101 Ext 345306 for PCSO Artur Pereira <a href="mailto:artur.pereira@northants.pnn.police.uk">artur.pereira@northants.pnn.police.uk</a>	
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	Wansford	01780 782342
<b>Veterinary Surgeries</b>	Oundle	01832 273521
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## Newsletter & Website Contacts

### Newsletter Team:

Grant Neville, Ann Galloway, Janet Gibson, Grant McLeod, Jane Martin, June Moore, Ivan Walker.

**Advertising:** Ivan Walker, Tel 01780 470438

**Contributions:** We are always happy to receive articles for publication. Please send articles by email whenever possible to [newswoodnewton@gmail.com](mailto:newswoodnewton@gmail.com).

We prefer pictures in jpg format and hi resolution whenever possible.

Handwritten / non-electronic contributions can be delivered or sent to:

June Moore, 5 Lindsey Close.

Closing date for all copy **14th** of previous month.

Recent issues available here: <http://woodnewtonhub.co.uk/village-newsletter/>

The Newsletter is edited and published by Grant Neville, 20 Orchard Lane, Woodnewton.

Any views expressed in the Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Parish Council unless otherwise stated.

**Website :** <http://woodnewtonhub.co.uk>

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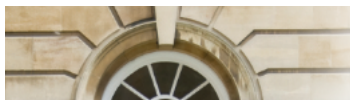
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