

Old Parish Council



Community Centre
Townson Close
Northamptonshire
NN6 9RR

Telephone: 07856 640 045
Email: oldparishcouncil@gmail.com
Website: <http://www.villageofold.org>

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting

Friday 28 May 2021 - 7:30pm

Old Village Hall

Councillors Present: Ed Green Chairman Cllr Rosemary Bury
Cllr Barrie Grant Cllr Julian Glover
Cllr Ruth Greenfield Cllr Alex Hocking
Cllr Mariah Hocking

Old Parish Charities: Joan Barratt Chair of Trustees:

Members of the public, village groups or village organisation representatives
Present: 13

Members of the public, village groups or village organisation representatives:
Apologies: 2

Apologies received from Cllr Dan Cribben West Northamptonshire Council Moulton Ward

1. That the Minutes of 30th April 2019 be accepted

2. That the Report from the Parish Council Chairman be received

Parish Council Chair's Update Lynn Pilley

Hello everyone, by the time you read this we, as a nation, will be heading towards Step 4 of the lockdown restrictions being lifted and a return to a cautious normality.

Some things will have changed, you will have a new parish council for one thing. More of that later.

The LED lighting has started to show a good reduction in the energy bill, the balance sheet shows a 42% decrease so far.

The village website is almost ready to launch, with just a little fine-tuning to go. You can find it at www.villageofold.org it has all sorts of village information on there, have a look and give your feedback.

Update on the two grants on Action on Climate Change we won from the previous Daventry District Council, now West Northants Council. For the snowdrops and wildflower verges, this has been a bit slow as the weather froze the ground solid followed by dried out concrete. With the rain it's hoped to get the rest of the plan finished and we should see some colour in the summer with the snowdrops next Spring. The first round of shrubs have been distributed and the second wave will have been completed by the time you read this.

I am sad to report there was a fire to a large ash tree in the woods surrounding the playing field, this brought two fire tenders from Brixworth to put the fire out and the tree has had to be removed as it was unsafe.

There is an ongoing problem with oil contamination in the stream that runs around the boundary of the playing field. A dog walker had highlighted the problem and Anglian Water and the Environment Agency were called out to investigate. An Agency technician placed soak up mats and boom into the stream to hold back the oily sludge. They were unable to find the cause, so the signs to keep out of the pocket park remain until the sludge has been dispersed and the stream cleared of sticks and debris.

Local elections had been deferred for the last two years, 2019 deferred due to the new unitary authorities and last year due to Covid. This year they went ahead and this led to five of the parish councillors deciding not to stand for a further four years. Therefore, there was an uncontested 'election' of three remaining councillors. By the time you read this there will be new councillors joining the council and I will leave the incoming chairman to introduce them.

So from me, as outgoing chair, I would like to say thank you to the outgoing councillors for their support over the past 18 months and I am sure they will join me in wishing the new council well for the future.

Lynn Pilley

2021 2022 Parish Council Chairman Ed Green:

Now that I have been voted in as Chair to the Parish Council I would firstly like to say a fond farewell to our previous Chair Lynn Pilley who put in a lot of work, and to Stephen Bocking, Sonal Dearden, Dominick O'Connell and Alan Withers who have now stood down, but are still a valued part of our community.

New councillors have been co-opted in (not needed to be voted in) to join Ruth Greenfield, Rosemary Bury and myself, those being Barrie Grant, Julian Glover, Mariah and Alex Hocking, this will leave space for one more councillor to complete the council, so please come forward to join the team (1st come 1st served).

The future plans have not changed. We all want to make our village as good as it can be, so welcome any suggestions to help our community. I look forward to working with you all. The best way to make contact is through the Parish Clerk on email, contact details are on the new village web page www.villageofold.org along with a lot of other interesting information.

3. That the Report from Cllr Dan Cribben be received

**West Northamptonshire Council
Moulton Ward**

To: The clerks, parish councils in the Moulton Ward
From: Councillors Dan Cribbin, John Shephard and Mike Warren

Saturday 8th May 2021

Dear Clerk,

We write to you following our recent election to the new West Northamptonshire Council.

Together, we represent the Moulton Ward of the Council, which comprises the 12 parish councils listed below. We write to you to suggest the means by which we will best communicate with parish councils in our ward.

We are all of course very familiar with the issues facing parish councils in the ward through our lengthy service with Daventry District Council. There are some discrete issues previously dealt with by the former county councillor, Judy Shephard, which we will now be required to cover. We have considered working arrangements with councils and propose the following:

1. Whilst it is open to all parish councils and indeed residents to call upon any of us on any issue of concern, we suggest that it would be helpful for parish councils to have a *"first point of contact"*. The nominated councillor would take up the issue as normal and report back, as necessary briefing the other two. This would remove potential confusion and duplication. The first point of contact for parishes we propose is as follows:

a. Boughton	John Shephard
b. Church with Chapel Brampton	John Shephard
c. Hannington	Dan Cribbin
d. Harlestone	John Shephard
e. Harlestone Manor	John Shephard
f. Holcot	Mike Warren
g. Moulton	Mike Warren
h. Old	Dan Cribbin
i. Overstone	Dan Cribbin
j. Pitsford	John Shephard
k. Spratton	John Shephard
l. Walgrave	Dan Cribbin

2. Apart from Moulton (where there is exceptional activity) we will not attend parish council meetings as a matter of course. We will undertake to attend any parish council meeting at the request of the clerk where a specific issue of concern is to be discussed. If possible the first point of contact member will attend; if that is not possible a substitute will be sent. In this way you can be sure of the attendance of one of us whenever required.
3. We will arrange an annual meeting to which we will invite all 12 parish council chairmen (or substitute) in the ward. There will be opportunity to review all aspects of the parish/unitary council relationship.
4. Planning issues come up for discussion regularly. Where parishes seek support from us in relation to planning applications it is helpful to open discussion early. Time will usually be running for statutory consultation. Please flag any planning issue with the first point of contact as soon as it becomes apparent.

5. Please add all of us to your circulation list when you publish full council meeting agendas and draft minutes. This will help us keeping up to date with issues you are considering.
6. We will provide written reports to annual parish meetings and attend as many as we can.

No longer will residents or parish councils have to think, *"Is this a District or County matter?"* We feel confident that we will all benefit from this change and look forward to working with you all for the next four years.

With best wishes.

Dan John & Mike

Dan Cribbin
11 Ashby Court
Moulton
NN3 7AH
07986 240144

John Shephard
Windbreck
Butchers Lane
Boughton
NN2 8SL
07802 246660

Mike Warren
4 Moulton Road
Holcot
NN6 9SH
07702 188693

Daniel.Cribbin@ewstnorthants.gov.uk
John.Shephard@westnorthants.gov.uk
Mike.Warren@westnorthants.gov.uk

Questions arising:

- will Cllr Cribben attend at least one full council meeting in the next few months?
- will Cllr Cribben attend the next Old Annual Parish Meeting?

4. That the Report from the Trustees of Old Parish Charities be received from Old Parish Charities Trust Joan Barrett Chair

Thank you to the Village Hall Committee for use of the village hall this evening, this is the first time the Parish Meeting has been held in the village hall.

2020 has been a strange year, as we attempted to keep in touch with everyone, especially our senior residents. For the Easter celebrations, Elaine Chilton, dressed as the Easter Bunny gave Easter eggs and Clair Parton delivered Easter baskets. The beginning of lockdown saw a combined effort of a huge number of volunteers, coordinated by Ruth Greenfield, to provide support for the village.

The weather was good for our VE day celebrations as the whole village entered into the spirit of the day. Flags were displayed all around and the painting competition displays were everywhere.

As June cautiously arrived, we all discovered the lawn in front of the Centre. The Trustees coaxed everyone out with coffee on the lawn and we went on to spend many happy coffee mornings sitting in the sun.

During August we held the safari supper that had previously been cancelled in March. Following the guidelines, the safari supper was held in a marquee on the Centre lawn. There was enormous goodwill as we asked for donations that raised £1,000 for St Andrew's church.

We crept quietly through September and October as the Covid tier system strengthened the lockdown situation.

With Christmas approaching a group of residents from most of the organisations in the village met to discuss Christmas 2020 in Old. There was a lot of inventiveness shown by the Advent committee as a huge number of Christmas events gave the village a wonderful variety of events to visit - all Covid friendly. Houses were lit up with Christmas stories, the church Christmas Farye was held at the Community Centre and the enchanted garden on the Centre lawn was a tremendous site.

December also saw the vice chair up the Jubilee Tree installing fairy lights as a police car came by, siren blasting out and blue lights flashing! As the police car stopped and officers asked for directions, residents that were waiting for the fairy light display, duly disappeared into the night not to be seen while the vice-chair also tried to conceal his position! It was later discovered that there was a police emergency elsewhere.

As we move out of lockdown, the Trustees have many plans for moving the Centre forward to ensure it becomes the hub of the village.

There have been a few changes in the last couple years as we said goodbye to Andy Hutchinson, Colin smart, Mark Knight, Annette Bardin, and very recently David Parton our vice-chair who has left due to increased work commitments. I will miss his sensible, wise advice and his ability to keep my feet on the ground. We welcome Martin Thornton, Steve Bocking, Paul Dicks and Peter Patton who re-joined the Board after a short sabbatical last year. We are now up to strength and very lucky to have a Board with many good ideas.

A year has been lost for the Youth club that has not met since the first lockdown and the children now a year older. We hope to welcome Elaine and the club back in September 2021.

I finish this Report by saying that Rebecca Moore, our clerk for the past seven years, has tendered her resignation and will be leaving us at the end of June. We thank Rebecca for her input and involvement with the Charity and wish her well for the future.

I wish to thank all the Trustees for their continued backing and help and support they give to me as we go about our Charity business.

5. That the Reports be received from the following groups:

OLD CRICKET CLUB REPORT TO THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, 27/5/21

- Last season was seriously truncated by the effect of the pandemic, and only a reduced number of games were played over July and August, with no promotion or relegation, followed by a knockout competition for the top 6 teams during September. Only our 2nd XI made it to the knockout stage, but they were eliminated in the first round. And as only senior cricket was played last year our juniors sadly missed out on a whole season of involvement and development.
- This season we expect a full season of cricket - for both seniors and juniors. The 1st XI have got off to a patchy start. They were well beaten at home on the first Saturday by Peterborough, were rained off in the second week, managed a winning draw in the third and lost again away at Thrapston last week. They currently lie in 8th place in Division 2, and, I suspect, will do well to survive in this division this year, because of some strange rule-changes that effect this division only.
- First of all, we now have to play according to the rules that apply in the Premier and 1st Divisions, ie : "the leg-side-wide" rule, in which our bowlers are not well practiced, and, for the second season running, we have decided not to employ an overseas player, so our bowling attack is "thin" to say the least. Thirdly, the Northants Cricket League Committee have decided that only 6 out of the 12 clubs in our division can stay up, as some major restructuring of the league is planned for 2022. We shall have to do very well indeed over the rest of the season in order to get into that top 6.
- The 2nd XI is doing much better, having won both of their games to be played and lie in 3rd position in Division 7. The 3rd XI, who also won their opening fixture, lie in 5th position in Division 11.
- Both our junior sides opened their seasons with victories, which, given their lack of games last season is a really promising start. The club would like to record its warm thanks to Old Parish Charities for their continued sponsorship of the juniors' playing kit. (We should also like to thank them - and the Village Hall - for agreeing to the siting of two more memorial benches on the bank in front of the hall. When finished we shall have two banks of two benches each, a sort of "mini-Grandstand".)
- And I am really happy to announce that we have a sizeable group of youngsters coming up through our pipeline for future years. On the evening of Weds 19th May I

witnessed a wonderful scene as over 20 youngsters aged from 4 to 8, all decked out in their sky blue and tangerine "All Stars" kit went through their paces in three separate groups. Not only that : there were two other groups of junior players involved in more advanced coaching - and this on a night when our Under-11 team were playing in a match down at Walgrave. That means that we had over 40 youngsters involved either in coaching or in a match, with at least 10 of the senior members of the club turned out to either coach or supervise. If that's not a sign of a healthy club, then I don't know what is.

- And finally, as many of you will know, this year is the club's 150th anniversary year. We plan to celebrate this momentous achievement with a gala 3-day weekend of cricket culminating on August Bank Holiday Monday (weather - and Covid-permitting, of course.) We are hoping to involve everyone in the club - and a few dads and mums and spouses if possible - on what we hope to be a fitting and memorable event. Additionally, we shall hold a celebratory dinner in the village hall on the Saturday night, to which we are hoping to invite as many of our ex-players, including some of the surviving "veterans", as we can locate.
- Here's to an historic season, in more ways than one.

Frank Keightley

Neighbourhood Watch

Hopefully you've all seen the shiny new signs put up last year, thanks to funding from the Parish Council. To be economical some of the signs are overlays on the old signs! Our "official membership" is low – but information goes out in the quarterly village magazine and Facebook and the charities email list. If you become a member you get emails direct (and are eligible for certain discounts on security items).

Linked to NHW (Parish Council and church) I was entrusted with the Emergency Support Co-ordination for the pandemic! Although not planning a big party to celebrate NHW week next month I hope to meet the many people I "met" during the pandemic and I'd like to thank all volunteers for their support. Villagers have been sensible and kind and we got through relatively unscathed.

A police officer couldn't attend this evening but the following is a message from the sergeant:
"A new Neighbourhood structure is being put in place and is work in progress This is a Force-wide model. Up until now the establishment has been 5 PC`s + 11 PCSO`s (5 sponsored) throughout the area. We are increasing the number of PC`s to 9. Presently we have 5 PC`s + 1 student who was recently recruited. 2 further PC`s have been recruited but I am awaiting a start date as they have to be released from their departments. This gives 7 + 1 student. We will be identifying another 1 which will give us 9 in total. The number of PCSO`s will remain at 11.

This will give 20 staff – the aim is to split the 20 into 4 teams of 5 covering;

- Daventry Town (sub-divided into East / West)
- Long Buckby (sub-divided into Long Buckby / Braunston & Crick)
- Weedon (sub-divided into Weedon / Woodford Halse)
- Brixworth (sub divided into Brixworth / Moulton)

In terms of Brixworth the aim is to have 2 x PC + 2 X PCSO + 1 x sponsored PCSO (Paul MILLER). The PCSO`s are Kev LUMBIS, Jo WRIGHT and Paul MILLER. The PC`s for Brixworth have yet to be identified, but coverage is being provided from Daventry in the interim. Once we have the 9 then named Officers will be assigned.

Once everything is confirmed then you will have names, contact details and a map showing areas of responsibility. This should then appear on the Northants Police website."

Police are asking for our local priorities – The county wide ones are: serious and organised crime, domestic abuse, knife crime and anti social behaviour. Please let me know what your concerns are. Old is apparently the very centre of Northamptonshire and where addresses are not on the existing police map the crimes show up against Old! Specifically very high antisocial behaviour in Barnes Close! I am told the new IT system should stop this from happening and monthly reports are now checked for accuracy and Old remains a safe place!

NHW warnings continue for various scams and there has been concern over dog theft – a Campaign has been launched called "Protect your Pooch" – keep them Secure, In Sight and Searchable. Posters have been put up in the village.

Please continue to report scam emails and texts.

If anyone wants a "no cold calling sticker" for by their front door please let me know.

Ruth Greenfield (NHW co-ordinator/PC Police Liaison Representative)

ROAR

In June ROAR will have been running for 2 years. Looking back over the last year we have continued to collect and send waste for recycling and publicising ideas to “Reduce Reuse Recycle”. Thank you to many of you for your support.

Perhaps our most exciting event was the summer visit for a group sort from Tom Percival of Radio Northampton and we now have over 235 members on our Facebook page.

In addition to £300 paid out last December (half to Walgrave school and half to Home-start Kettering) we’ve collected a further £385 already, and some of this will go to the animal charity NANNA next December.

Shipments of Terracycle recycling are sent at least monthly. This month we were able to send a shipment for all our schemes and the crisp and snack packets weighed 20kg! (I’ve packed over 80,000 crisp packets in the last 2 years!) Lynn Pilley neatly packs large quantities of bread bags among other things.

In March Richard Garbutt set up our website www.ROAR.org.uk. This is still being developed but sorting and packing has taken priority. There’s a link from the Old Village website.

We became a fully constituted organisation this February for the purpose but weren’t lucky enough to get a Climate Action Grant for a notice board, but thanks to Tony Dearden of Serenco who sponsored it we now have one by the Village Hall bins – for any eco notices, but also to show what CAN and CAN’T be recycled. (There are 3 bins around Cherry Hill and 2 by the side of the VH and a small box by the Community Centre which can be used but not for pet food pouches).

Simone Barratt of Old liaised with us over the useful Old Bits and Bobs charity website www.oldbitsandbobs.co.uk which has also raised a considerable sum and provides another service for the village.

We had a successful “Come and See” day in February 2020 and had hoped to do another – and more themed events like the eco-cracker making workshop – but we hope to be able to involve the community more when COVID restrictions have settled down.

Hopefully we can continue to raise awareness of avoiding waste and although not everyone in the village contributes there has been a lot of support. It seems ROAR is helping people to “Think before they buy or bin!”

Ruth Greenfield (Chair of ROAR)

Women of Wold

WoW like so many other societies have resorted to Zoom and therefore most of our meetings have been shorter than we would have liked them to be but still packed with a good humoured exchange of news and views.

We are planning in meeting in a garden in June and again in July and will see what September brings, ever hopeful of getting together back at the Community Centre and talking about books, making cards and having a good catch up and laugh face to face.

As always we emphasise that WoW is open to anyone and that all new people will be made so very welcome.

Sarah Hampden Smith

Clerk to the meeting: Liz Quinn

DRAFT