

# *Living Villages*



*April 2020*

*Water Newton, Thornhaugh,  
Stibbington, Sutton & Wansford*

## Editorial

When I started to put this months magazine together, I did think that we might manage to produce a printed version, but sadly with the new restrictions recently imposed this will not be the case. So if you are reading this, you will have either found it on our wonderful website which is fantastically maintained by Sharron Tonkin, or you will have received it by email.

You will notice that the order of pages is somewhat different, I have put most of the adverts towards the end. Some businesses may have had to temporarily close, but others have found innovative ways of working, therefore I have left them in so that you have their contact details.

The sense of community spirit that I have witnessed in these past few days has been wonderful. As well as the brilliant people who are working in our NHS, the Emergency services and other key workers, we must also be ever grateful for the shops, businesses, delivery drivers and posties who are continuing to work in these challenging times.

I will continue to produce Living Villages in this format until we hear from the printers that they have re-opened.

I look forward to meeting you all again sometime soon. Stay safe, stay well x

*Tracy Sortwell*

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**Front Cover - John Measures  
Website - Little Mouse**



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(Out of hours	111 option 4)	Stibbington & Wansford WI	.781733
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## Website

[www.livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk](http://www.livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk)

# Are you self isolating?

If not, can you volunteer time to those who are?

**Neighbours 4 Neighbours, with the support of Wansford and Thornhaugh churches, are offering to help.**

If you are self-isolating because you are over 70 or have a pre-existing under-lying health issues, we can help you with the following:

- Collection of local shopping or prescriptions
- A friendly telephone call
- Collecting or posting any mail

Just call or text and we will do our best to help (for free)

Our Wansford telephone numbers are 07887760887 or 01780 782416 for the village shop

Our Thornhaugh telephone number is 07719400467

Please be assured we will take every precaution to ensure we are only spreading kindness and will wash/sanitise our hands frequently, however, please wash your hands (for 20 seconds at least) after you've put your groceries in your cupboards.

## VOLUNTEERS WANTED

If you can spare some time to help support those self-isolating in Wansford and Thornhaugh please ring or text the above number.

# SOMEONE IN THIS HOUSE HAS A WEAK IMMUNE SYSTEM

People with weak immune systems are more likely to catch coronavirus (COVID-19), and more likely to suffer life-threatening complications if they become ill with it.

Because of this we are self-isolating and/or practicing social distancing as a preventative measure.

IF YOU FEEL AT ALL UNWELL OR WE DON'T ANSWER THE DOOR,

## PLEASE LEAVE DELIVERIES



As I sit down to write these words, I do so amidst the turmoil associated with the outbreak of the Corona Virus COVID-19. The world seems gripped with fear and uncertainty amidst the media reports of rising numbers of confirmed cases and deaths caused by the virus. Governments are trying their best to minimise the impact of what is happening, and health officials are using their knowledge and skills to develop strategies to keep people as safe as possible. The current situation is particularly distressing because of the uncertainty associated with it. At the moment, no one knows how long the current crisis will last, how many people will become infected or how many lives will be lost. Worries about these uncertainties are filling all of our minds. Because of this, events are being cancelled, people are being advised to avoid contact with others and many are being encouraged to isolate themselves and their families to avoid the spread of infection. The world suddenly seems a very unsettling place as all of the things we have come to trust and rely upon appear to be falling apart.

As I reflect upon these things, I have suddenly become aware of the sound of the church bells drifting across the village. I am writing these words as our trusty bell ringers have ascended the church tower for their bell practise night. The evocative sound of the bells is a reminder that amidst the uncertainties that currently face us there are more powerful forces at work. The ringing bells are a reminder of normality, the familiar things which we have come to trust and rely upon. They are also a testimony to the power of human resilience and the ability of people to remain strong in the face of suffering and adversity.

In the middle of this month we are due to celebrate the great festival of Easter. It is likely that this Easter will be unlike any other in living memory. It looks as if we will be unable to gather together in our village churches to collectively mark this high point in the Christian year. I sense that this year Easter will be marked not by large public gatherings but by many small and intimate commemorations of Christ's death and resurrection in households throughout the world. Although Christians cannot gather together in churches, they can still offer worship and prayer. They can also still continue Christ's work in the world by reaching out to those in need within our communities and offering help to the weak and vulnerable.

In many ways the Easter story lies right at the heart of the situation in which the world finds itself. At the centre of it we find the death and resurrection of Christ. An event in which we see the transformation of an apparently hopeless situation into one which changed the world. It did this by completely changing a small group of disillusioned and frightened people into men and women who had great strength and courage. Even though we may not be able to gather as normal to celebrate Easter this year, the power of what we commemorate is just as potent for us today and the message of hope just as important; the hope that good is stronger than evil, love more powerful than hate, and life will overcome death.

May the power of the Easter story, calm your troubled hearts, allay your fears and give you strength to trust in God's promises so have hope for the future.

David Ridgeway

Resources and other ideas to help you make this very different Easter special will be made available shortly, please look out for these.

There is a painting called "The Angelus" by a French painter called Jean-François Millet, depicting a couple standing in a field with heads bowed. They are clearly peasant farmers and between them sits the fruits of their day's labours: a basket of potatoes. Explaining the title of the painting Millet said, "The idea for The Angelus came to me because I remembered that my grandmother, hearing the church bell ringing while we were working in the fields, always made us stop work to say the Angelus prayer." (The Angelus is an ancient Christian prayer.)



In the distance Millet painted a church, the place where the bell rang out and called this faithful couple to prayer. They did not tramp all the way back to the village to join others; they simply prayed where they were, in the midst of their daily tasks. Their prayer was a valid and as rich, and as welcomed by God, as that offered by those in the church building in the distance.

I thought of that painting as I thought about what now has to become the "new normal" for us in these unprecedented times. Most of you will know that along with sports fixtures, social gatherings and so much else that usually makes up our daily life, weekly church services have been suspended due to the Covid-19 pandemic. For me that is a great sadness; I feel that a part of myself is missing if I cannot gather together with others to praise God, to celebrate and share Holy Communion and bring to God the needs of the world in prayer. I know that many were disappointed and distressed by the news, and yet we know that this is one way in which we can seek to combat the virus. It is difficult and painful, but the guidelines make sense.

However, though we may not be able to gather in the same place to worship and pray, that doesn't mean that we cannot pray with others in heart and spirit. Church leaders, and I include myself here, are encouraging people to take the true meaning of "church" more deeply into their own homes, to worship and to pray and know that God is with them. (And after all the first Christians made their homes their church.) Many, I know, already pray at home and seek God's comfort and purpose in the Bible and reflection, and perhaps we can all build on that.

Instead of our usual Watersmete Sunday Link, I'm going to send out ideas for worshipping at home, alone or with family. Some of these will be left in the churches for people to collect. Please do call in and take one each week if they will help. Our prayers at home are just as valid and as rich, and as welcomed by God, as if we were all together in church. And all can share in this; regular

church attenders or not. We're in this together and God is with us in it as well.

To encourage a sense of praying together, just like that couple in the potato field in France, I suggest we might like to pray together – in our own homes – at a particular time. It may be that the church bell will ring, or maybe not, but on Sundays, why don't we all pause at 9.30 a.m. – the time when our church service would normally begin – and pray for each other, for our loved ones and for the world. Social distancing doesn't mean being cut off. And perhaps, each day we pause at the same time and pray together? I'm going to try and build that 9.30 slot into my daily prayers.

These are anxious and unsettling times, but Psalm 46 seems very apt. Perhaps we could use this as our prayer through the month of April: <sup>1</sup> *God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.* <sup>2</sup> *Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;* <sup>3</sup> *though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.* <sup>10</sup> *"Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth."* <sup>11</sup> *The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.*

It may be that we are not having services in church for a while, but our churches will remain open for everyone; a place where we can find peace and a space for reflection. Please do make use of our lovely prayerful buildings. And the work of the church continues in other ways as well. Church members are part of groups offering help and support, either in practical ways or as a listening ear on the end of the phone. If you've missed the leaflets do call Rev. Jane (01780 782271) who can put you in touch. I know we are all looking out for each other and together we can make sure that no-one is missed.

God is indeed our refuge and help. May we all know his blessing, comfort and strength at this time as we continue to pray for each other, for those steering our nation and the nations of the world through these stormy waters, and for those on the frontline of medicine and those who research a solution, as well as those who are vulnerable and fearful for whatever reason. With every blessing,

Rev. Jane

## **FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S AND ST ANDREW'S**

Dear Tracy,

Having started Lent with 2 very sociable lunches in the Christie Hall, the Friends have sadly had to cancel the remaining lunches, so there won't be one on 1st April.

The Friends' meeting on 15th April is also cancelled, and our joint outing with the W.I. is postponed until later in the year.

At the moment, we can't give a definite date for the start of the Wednesday Coffee Stop, but will let everyone know as soon as we can.

Many thanks

Caroline

# Spaghetti Hoops and Pot noodles.....

**Liz Bolderston**

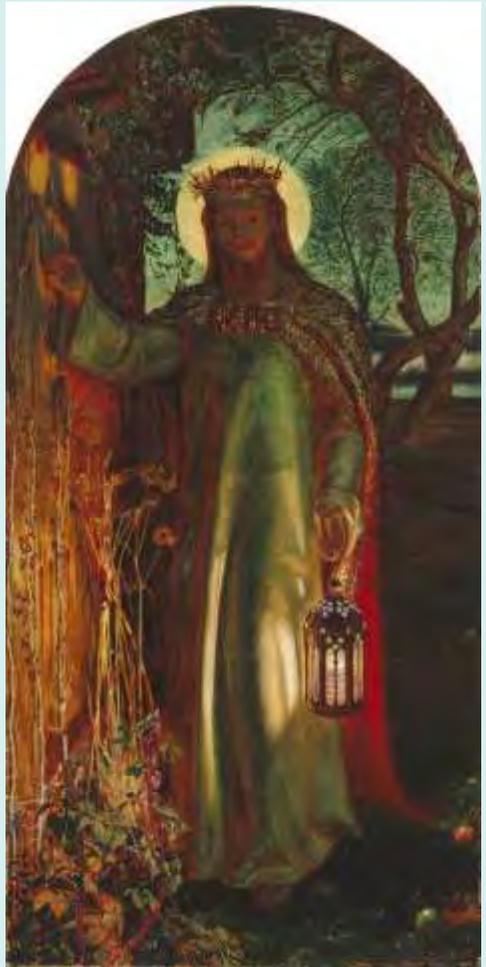
.....All gone, together with loo rolls, eggs and baked beans –thousands upon thousands of them!!! Safely tucked away in our cupboards for a rainy day. The problem is that the rainy day is here..... AND HOW!!!!

Whilst we have been blessed with blue skies, glorious colours of Spring and the larks still singing as they soar heaven wards,, the dark menacing Corona cloud is over us and the whole wide world. Those in authority grapple with statistics and predictions and the many “What ifs” of this silent, deadly enemy, whilst restaurants, pubs, schools and now churches close for public worship and the sky is quiet and clean.....

The present crisis has been likened to being on a war footing but it’s not quite like that. In war we can see our enemy and maybe even anticipate the next move of attack. What we face now is a silent, insidious enemy stalking its prey.

So in such times where can we turn for the truth, for comfort, for courage and peace of mind?. Many people are asking this very question For me as a Christian I can recommend the writings of the Psalmist, the prophets and the very words of Jesus who in the midst of this time of trouble is still The Light of the World as depicted in Holman Hunt’s famous painting

We have been using an excellent set of prayers written for this present time by Pete Greig of 24/7 Payer fame and author of such books as “Red Moon Rising” and “God on Mute”



# HOMELESS PEOPLE NEED OUR HELP

Dear friends

As you are aware we offer a night shelter for the homeless in churches where guests are fed evening meals and breakfast, as well as given a bed to sleep in and an opportunity to wash and get support. You will be pleased to know that following the closure of churches hotels have offered help with rooms (well done Paul J). During the day a homeless person may visit the Garden House where we offer support and help towards accommodation and work. They have also frequented McDonalds and Wetherspoons pubs to get fed and a warm environment.

With closures of pubs and cafes our homeless guests have nowhere to go during the daytime. We are still offering support through the Garden House but limiting numbers to use of the garden to ensure we are not spreading the virus.

I would be very grateful if you could get the message out to all those who are wanting to help , but through self isolation cannot be on the front line. We need tins and packets of food to ensure 3 meals a day for our guests.

I am suggesting the following collection points for these donations - outside Wansford Church, outside both Nassington and Wansford village stores. I will get sacks to put at these locations and plan to make 2 journeys a week to the Garden House. If other locations are wanted please let me know.

Donators must obey the government guidelines of not gathering at these locations, nor touching other goods.

We have wonderful people in our community and I know you have links to many of them. So I would appreciate your help getting the message out.

Warmest wishes  
Maureen

Maureen Woodd  
18 Waters Edge  
Wansford  
Peterborough PE8 6LH

Home : 01780 789908  
Mob : 07919157645



To prevent the  
spread of Coronavirus,  
**regularly wash  
your hands**  
for at least **20 seconds**  
with soap and warm water.



# HELP FOR THOSE MOST AFFECTED BY COVID-19

IF THERE ARE ANY AT RISK OR  
ELDERLY PEOPLE IN THE AREAS  
STATED BELOW THAT NEED  
HELP WITH GROCERIES,  
MEDICINE COLLECTIONS, OR  
ANYTHING ELSE, PLEASE  
CONTACT 07988 163794

If you are able to volunteer in further areas, please contact  
us as well so we can extend our coverage radius.

Please note, should a lockdown happen,  
this volunteer service won't be available

**PLEASE SHARE!**

**AREAS COVERED:**

**Water Newton, Castor, Alwalton , Wansford, Ailsworth**

**We can collect groceries, medications  
and anything else you may need.**

**If you require help please contact Laura on 07988 163794**

**Let's stand together as a community, stronger than ever before.**

**NOTE:**

**There will be NO human interaction  
Deliveries will be left in agreed safe spot  
Gloves will be worn at all times**



# Communicare

(Wansford & Kings Cliffe Surgery Patient Group)

## **Wansford Surgery has adapted the way it works to cope with the current COVID19 pandemic.**

All GP face to face appointments have been cancelled, but they have been converted to telephone appointments instead. Going forward, we are booking routine GP telephone consultations (or video consultations where appropriate). In addition, we are still operating our emergency telephone triage system for health concerns that arise on the day. Any patient that requires a face to face appointment will be invited to attend at a specific time. Upon arrival we will check your temperature. The outer glass doors are open but the inner doors are locked to prevent patients walking in to the building who have not been screened. A member of staff will be there to greet you. Kings Cliffe surgery is closed except for collection of medication. Patients should access via the rear of the building. An alternative way of contacting the surgery are via EngageConsult, the link is available on our website. Please ensure you sign up for two-way messaging if you chose this method.

In terms of nursing appointments, we will continue to offer urgent blood tests (as requested by the GP), INR bloods, urgent ECG's, urgent swabs, essential injections, dressings, suture removal, baby immunisations (held in a separate building). Some annual reviews may be done over the phone where suitable as can pill checks and travel advice. Routine nurses appointments such as cervical screening, health checks, blood tests for medication reviews, ear syringing, blood pressure checks, 24 hour ECG's are all suspended.

Midwifery, baby immunisations, physiotherapy, ultrasound are all continuing. All patients attending for these appointments will have their temperature checked prior to being permitted to enter. Our staff are also being checked upon arrival.

We are doing all we can to protect our community - patients and staff alike - and your cooperation is very much appreciated. We ask that you follow government advice regarding self-isolation and social distancing.

If you have access to Facebook check out our page (Wansford and Kings Cliffe Practice) where we are posting regular information

## WANSFORD UKULELE FOLK



Whilst we all stay at home and do our best to keep everyone safe from this horrible virus, our ukuleles are not gathering dust. We are all practicing at home and looking forward to being able to play together again. All the events we had already been booked to entertain at are postponed but not cancelled.. what a lot of partying it is going to be. Please all stay safe in the meantime and we will keep strumming. Thank you for your support

## MORE VILLAGE MEMORIES

I was born at Sutton in 1945 only leaving to get married in 1977, My dad Arthur was born in Wansford in 1915 at 20 London Road (Ealing House) his mum and dad were Bert and Bertha Mason he had three brothers Albert who died in WW2, Norman (the man from the pru) and Reg who moved south and one sister Joy who soon after her marriage moved to Canada where she is still alive and well aged 92.

While I was living at home dad and I would go to Wansford and take Grandad to the Paper Mills pub next door. Driving from Sutton before the flyover was built you had to cut across the A1 and go down by the Mermaid and into Wansford.

The things I remember about Wansford was that the bus stopped outside my grandparents house, the bus time table was fixed on the side of the house. The Post Office was opposite The Haycock. The doctors was a few houses along from Wingroves the butchers shop. Visiting the doctors was like going into someone's house and waiting in their front room, and then there was Moulds on the corner where you could buy everything.

The first car I brought was from Colliers on the A1. A new mini £492 (Reg TEG 133) when I had it serviced I would walk across the A1 down into Wansford to see my Grandparents.

I also remember a fun fair all the way down Elton Road. When I go to Sutton I always go on to Wansford. I keep my auntie updated about the village when I go and see her or ring her up.

**Mr Peter Mason.**

**Today's women working for tomorrow's world**

Bespoke Easter cards. The making of these cards was led by Susan Campbell.



Susan has worked with our group on many occasions, helping us to make seasonal gifts. We have been able to ask Susan to call on her many crafting skills to design items for us to make.

Susan was able to patiently take us through the making of the cards, some members shone and produced lovely

cards, others of us needed more guidance, me included. But with Susan's gentle support by the end of meeting each of us were able to leave with a beautiful card ready to send.

We are looking forward to Susan's next visit, and the challenge that she will set for us!

**Coronavirus and WI**

In line with Government recommendations the meetings and outings during April and May have been cancelled. This has been extended to our two sub groups – 3C's and book club.

Book club are still reading and discussing books via an email group, and I know that this is not our usual practice, but I felt that this was a good time to share with LV readers our new list which was going to be discussed at the March meeting, along with voting for our two favourite reading choices to read in readiness for the May meeting:

<b>Half a World Away</b>	<b>Mike Gayle</b>	<b>Contemporary</b>
<b>A Woman is no Man</b>	<b>Etaf Rum</b>	<b>Contemporary</b>
<b>For the Missing</b>	<b>Lina Bengtsson</b>	<b>Crime</b>
<b>The Silent Patient</b>	<b>Alex Michaelides</b>	<b>Thriller</b>
<b>The Secret Guests</b>	<b>Benjamin Black</b>	<b>Historical</b>
<b>The Wings of a Dove</b>	<b>Henry James</b>	<b>Classic</b>

As many of us will be needing to self-isolate over the up-coming weeks, having a good selection of books to read could prove useful to while away the hours. If you read any of these and are interested in meeting with like-minded souls who read for pleasure, please join us when meetings recommence. Of course, I will let you know when meetings have started back up again, along with all the WI activities.

**Rhona Punter 01780 592 514**

# Stibbington Community Classes

The Tree of Life workshops which were rescheduled from early February resulted in a great variation of end designs and laughter throughout, as hands were exercised as much as the imagination.



Our latest workshop in March led to some wonderful woodlands being created under the tuition of Eve Marshall.

It will be a while before we have any workshops but hopefully attendees of previous classes will now have a chance to hone their skills!

If you feel well, whilst isolated, why not unleash your inner-artist? Children in Oundle are being encouraged to make a rainbow and display it in their window for others to see and we could do the same in our villages. This does not need to be limited to age, as the one in the Wansford shop window shows, but would also work well as a family activity. You could use items from the recycling bin or even break into that stash of craft items you may have been meaning to use one day.



We are lucky to live in an area where it is straightforward to maintain appropriate Social Distancing whilst still being able to appreciate the rapid and delightful changes brought with springtime. Inspiration for your first painting could be right outside your window, materials for leaf printed cards are in your garden. If you need help to obtain craft supplies, get in contact with me using the details below and I may be able to assist. (Of course, I will expect to see the photos of your finished articles!) If you have surplus supplies to offer, let me know.

Tel: **07580 218792** or email:

**s.c.classes@protonmail.com.**

Alternatively you can send a message via our Facebook page.

© Stibbington Community Classes



## Wansford Horticultural Society

Writing this article at the very last moment for the deadline in order to be sure that I reflect all the changes, I am very conscious that everything seems a lifetime away from what was the norm just 3 short weeks ago when 45 of us enjoyed the talk by Paul Herrington on "Gardening for Health". As always the company was congenial and the presentation inspiring. We learned how just a few caring people can make such a difference to others' lives by encouraging them to garden. Paul and his Grow Places team clearly have enriched many lives in and around Cambridge with their practical and innovative approach.



Sadly but unsurprisingly that will be the last talk we hold for quite a while. Patsy Rayner has cancelled her talk about Japanese Gardens on 26<sup>th</sup> March and Diana Boston similarly can no longer describe the Manor and Gardens at Hemingford Grey on 23<sup>rd</sup> April, nor welcome us for a private visit there on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May. In both cases the speakers fall into the vulnerable age bracket, as do many of us, and would be unwise to visit us. Patsy's talk has provisionally been rescheduled for Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, and we will hope to visit Hemingford Grey in 2021.

Also cancelled is our coach trip to RHS Wisley on 28<sup>th</sup> June. Wisley Gardens were closed indefinitely on 8<sup>th</sup> March, and the date, being less than twelve and a weeks away, is far too imminent for those of us who have been instructed by the NHS and the government to self isolate for 12 weeks.

In the absence of activities, perhaps some of you would like to join our closed Facebook group so that you can look through reviews and photos of our trips and activities for the last two to three years? You will also find a weekly blog posting from Joe Whitehead, Head Gardener at Burghley. If you would like to join, just leave a request on the Wansford Horticultural Society page and I will authorise it.



We are still planning for our Annual Show in August and, if you happen to be making an Easter bonnet in April, please do keep it safely so that you can enter it for the Tom Guy Trophy, class 68 in the schedule which has been updated on our website at [www.wansfordhorticulturalsociety.org.uk](http://www.wansfordhorticulturalsociety.org.uk)  
Now over to Gary for a message regarding the show:

### **Can you grow a Whopper runner bean ?**

Preparations for our Wansford Annual Show are in progress and at the start of Spring we are launching 'Grow for the Show' to encourage all gardeners young, old and all skills to join in. Please think about planting soon.

For example, if you grow a runner bean longer than a 30cm ruler then have some fun and enter the Show for just 30 pence (10p for children). There are also classes for potatoes, onions, carrots, apples, pears..... cakes....flowers....crafts...art and photo's. Please enter the Show in August.

Our Horticultural Society aims to promote local gardening and crafts, to enhance our village appearance, sustainability and well-being. You are very welcome to get involved.

***Gill Fisher: [fisher.gill@yahoo.com](mailto:fisher.gill@yahoo.com)***

# TO HUNTINGDONSHIRE RESIDENTS

For all of us, the last few days have seen us having to completely re-think the way we work in the short term to aid our communities to tackle the new challenges COVID-19 is throwing our way. Chief amongst your responsibilities is to cascade information about key district council services and other important national information to your wider village and town communities. With this in mind, please find below all of the relevant and up to date links and contacts for best supporting the residents and businesses in your area:

## **HDC Services**

HDC COVID-19 dedicated webpage:

Please direct people to this webpage for the latest updates on how the district council services are running, this page is being updated regularly throughout the day. The webpage can be accessed here: <https://huntingdonshire.gov.uk/serviceupdate>

Information for local businesses:

- There is a dedicated webpage for local businesses to access information about business rate relief, access to support and other measures that have been introduced by the government. It can all be found in one place here: <https://huntingdonshire.gov.uk/investhuntssupport>
- The Council are also issuing letters imminently to every business ratepayer in the district which will contain information on how to access new guidance and support that the government has announced.

Impact on waste services:

- Due to the coronavirus outbreak and potential increases in staff sickness levels, some recycling and waste services may be impacted. This may result in general rubbish being prioritised, other services being suspended at short notice, such as organic waste, recycling or bulky waste collections.
- Services offered and operating hours may also change at Recycling Centres. We are working hard to minimise the impact on your recycling and waste collections and we appreciate your understanding if services do change. We are monitoring the situation closely but should the situation change we will be altering the service accordingly. Currently, all collection crews are deployed so services are running as normal.
- Any individuals asked to self-isolate, either as a precaution or because they are confirmed to have coronavirus, should follow this advice to get rid of their household waste to ensure the virus is not spread via personal waste. Individuals should place all personal waste such as used tissues and disposable cleaning cloths, securely in a plastic bag or bin liner. This plastic bag should then be placed in another plastic bag and securely tied. These bags must be stored separately to other waste for at least 72 hours before being placed in

the general rubbish collection. After 72 hours outside the body, the virus is no longer viable and the double-bagged waste can be put in the general rubbish collection as normal. Only heavily contaminated waste, such as tissues that have been coughed in and disposable cleaning cloths need to be treated in this way. Regular household recycling and waste should be treated as normal. Please note, individuals who are self-isolating should not visit any recycling centre.

## **National Advice**

Key worker definition:

Following the Government's announcement that schools are to close from Monday 23rd March until further notice, except for children of key workers and vulnerable children, please see a link for the government guidance on who qualifies as a 'key worker': <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

Guidance for charitable organisations:

Please cascade this link to any contacts you know who have links into the third sector: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-the-charity-sector>

## **Other useful links**

[Five things you can do to protect yourself and your community](#)  
(Public Health England)

[Dedicated coronavirus/COVID-19 Information](#) (NHS)

[Guidance to assist employers, employees and businesses](#)  
(Invest Huntingdonshire)

[Information for the public](#) (GOV.UK)

[Travel Advice](#) (GOV.UK)

[Guidance on social distancing and for vulnerable people](#)  
(Public Health England)

Thank you for your cooperation in this these unprecedented times.

Please keep safe.

## **Marge**

ML Beuttell

Executive Councillor for Operations and Environment  
Huntingdonshire District Council.

## SIBSON-CUM-STIBBINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Sibson-cum-Stibbington Parish Council met on the 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2020. All councillors were present together with 2 members of the public.

The waste bin outside No. 6 London road has been moved to a permanent site. The site will be maintained by the Parish Council.

All Street lights have been cleaned and broken bulbs replaced.

Following a complaint in Living Villages regarding Dog Fouling HDC have placed several more signs warning of up to £1000 in fines for owners of dogs who do not clean up after their dogs. HDC will pursue any individuals identified.

Planning – 20/00237 /LBC - repairs to outbuilding at 38 Elton Road, Wansford PE8 6JS – Parish council had no observations to make.

Pot holes in New Lane were reported to Highways. Stibbington Diner has been visited by our local Highways Officer regarding mud being dragged onto the Highways by trucks parked in the car park.

There is no further information regarding Pure Fuels, although this is an ongoing situation regarding odour and trucks visiting out of hours.

The White lining at the T junction on New Lane and Elton Road is due to be completed by the end of March.

Our next meeting is scheduled for the 6<sup>th</sup> May, but with the Coronavirus restrictions please check on our website for further updates.

## THORNHAUGH PARISH COUNCIL

[A Meeting of Thornhaugh Parish Council took place on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020.](#) It was chaired by Chris Smith, present were Ashleigh Kewney, Martin Lewis, Louise Molesworth, Adrian Rodgers, 3 Members of the Public and the Clerk.

The Chairman opened the meeting by asking whether or not those attending were comfortable to be there and confirmed that all attending should remain 2 metres apart that that the meeting would address urgent matters only. Further meetings would be conducted via telephone conferencing if possible. Ashleigh Kewney is going to make enquiries about how this could be set up for the next scheduled meeting – 18<sup>th</sup> May 2020.

There were apologies for absence from Peter Slinger, Green Party Candidate for the Peterborough City Council Elections 2021. He stated that if Diane Lamb resigns before Christmas 2020, it will trigger an election if she resigns after Christmas 2020, it will not.

### **Declarations of Interest**

Adrian Rodgers declared an interest in 7 vi) Planning Application 20/00277 as it is his property.

### **Public Forum**

The Members of the Public had no issues to raise.

### **Police Matters**

There were no police representatives present. No crimes were reported.

## **Minutes**

Minutes of the Meeting of Thornhaugh Parish Council held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020 were reviewed, amended to note that Gavin Elsey is the Conservative Candidate standing for election to replace Diane Lamb and not currently a member of Peterborough City Council. With that amendment, the Minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

## **Defibrillator**

The Chairman reported that she is still awaiting a response from the Diocese. She has sent an e-mail to Rev J Tailby for an update. A dedicated bank account is being used and, so far, two donations have already been received and put into the bank account. Two further donations were received at the meeting.

## **Thornhaugh Heritage Project**

Martin Lewis would be arranging a meeting for interested residents in April 2020 but, due to the Coronavirus, this would have to be delayed and a new date arranged when appropriate.

## **Augean Community Fund**

The Chairman stated that a list of potential projects with rough costings needs to be finalised for discussion with Grantscape.

## **Possible Breach of Planning Permission**

The complaint has been withdrawn as the resident had already complained directly to Peterborough City Council. An investigation had been undertaken and no breach was found.

## **Planning Applications**

Planning Application 19/01300 Demolition and redevelopment of land for an Electric Vehicle Charging Station providing 20 electric car charging points at Abbots Wood Service Station, Great North Road, Thornhaugh – Permitted; Planning Application 19/01195 Removal of 5 existing portacabins, leaving 3 remaining portacabins for ongoing security purposes at Leedsgate Farm, Kings Cliffe Road, Wansford – Awaiting Decision; Planning Applications 19/01604 & 19/01605 (LBC) Erection of a Shed in garden to north of dwelling at Croft Farm, Meadow Lane, Thornhaugh – Permitted; Planning Applications 19/01795 & 19/01796 (LBC) Change of use of ground floor to A3 (Restaurant). first floor to C1 (Residential Guest Accommodation). The conversion and change of use of vacant stable building to A1 (Shops) and minor alterations to the stable courtyard buildings. Change 2 windows to doors (reinstatement on west elevation of Farmhouse and east elevation of stables west range) at Sacrewell Farm & Country Centre, Great North Road, Thornhaugh – Awaiting Decision - No Objection/Comments submitted Planning Application 20/00040 Replacement of 4 existing front and 3 existing rear windows and 1 Set of French Doors at Apple Acre Cottage, Russell Hill, Thornhaugh – Awaiting Decision - No Objection/Comments submitted; Planning Application 20/00277 Removal of large single Conifer at back of house due to concerns of damaging house in high winds at St Medard House, Russell Hill, Thornhaugh – Awaiting Decision - No Objection subject to the Tree Officer's approval; and Planning Application 19/01889 Change of use from an agricultural field and woodland to form an adventure play scheme including erection of indoor play and visitor amenity barn, a supporting toilet and changing block, staff welfare facilities, outdoor play equipment and car park at Land off Sutton Heath Road, Southorpe – Awaiting Decision – Objection Submitted.

## **Annual Donations**

It was agreed to donate £85.00 to Living Villages and £190.00 to Thornhaugh with Wansford PCC.

## **State of Grass Verges**

The verges are very churned up, not helped by diverted traffic during recent A47 closure. This is inevitable with the amount of building work and large vehicles going through the village. Hopefully, once work has been completed, the verges will be restored. This is difficult to do while heavy vehicles are still required and until the weather improves.

## **Diverted Traffic through Thornhaugh.**

An e-mail has been sent to Highways Agency asking why they routed traffic through Thornhaugh and asking that this not happen again since the road is not suitable. Awaiting response.

## **Coronavirus**

A discussion took place on how the Parish Council can best help the community during the Coronavirus outbreak. It was agreed to prepare a letter with slips for residents to offer help (if they are able) to those who are at high risk and/or live alone.

## **Footpaths**

The fallen tree removed and bridge re-built (thanks to Liam Higgins for initially reporting the issue). Thanks also to both Peter Sharpley and Lee Moore, Peterborough City Council Footpaths' Officer, for prompt action (e-mails sent). Peter Sharpley has also confirmed that he will ensure that the footpath from Russell Hill to Thornhaugh across his land will be reinstated as soon as possible now that the land is starting to dry out. The Footpaths' Officer is aware.

## **Tractors Working in the Fields**

Advance notice has been received from Peter Sharpley that, now the weather is turning a little and they can get back on the land, there will be quite a lot of tractors working in the fields throughout the day and night and remedy some of the damage and pick up time lost by recent weather problems. Apologies in advance for any inconvenience but it is unavoidable.

## **Complaint about Bird Scarers**

A complaint about the bird scarers has been received. Peter Sharpley has taken remedial action in relation to the start time and has confirmed that they will be gone within the next couple of weeks. It was mooted that the bird scarers are not being used in line with NFU Guidelines. The Chairman will go back to Peter Sharpley and ask him to confirm that they are.

## **Drains in Meadow Lane**

A Complaint has been sent to Peterborough City Council regarding drains in Meadow Lane. Drains were "cleansed". However, the problem with the drain at the junction of Russell Hill and Meadow Lane has not been resolved and a further request for better remedial action has been lodged. Awaiting response.

## **Light Pollution**

A Complaint has been received about light pollution. A letter has been sent to the resident seeking discussions and/or remedial action. Awaiting response.

## **Date of Next Meeting**

The Next Meeting of Thornhaugh Parish Council should take place **at 7.00 pm on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2020** via tele-conferencing. This would have been the Annual Parish Meeting followed by the Annual General Meeting. However, due to the Coronavirus outbreak, the meetings may have to be postponed. The Clerk will check the rules and regulations regarding APMs and AGMs with NALC.

***Deirdre McCumiskey, Parish Clerk***



## WANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

We met as usual on 9<sup>th</sup> March but in the light of the Coronavirus restrictions will not be able to meet on 20<sup>th</sup> April.

We are agreed that everything will go on our website ([www.wansfordvillage.com](http://www.wansfordvillage.com)) as usual and councillors (most of whom are over 70 !) will communicate with each other and Wendy, our Clerk, using the internet. Anyone wanting to contact the Parish Council, please do so via Wendy (Tel: 01778 441312), ([wendy7wansford@gmail.com](mailto:wendy7wansford@gmail.com)).

**Planning:** We consider that the proposal for an **adventure play scheme** Off Sutton Heath Road, Sutton including the erection of an indoor play and visitor amenity barn, amenities etc is a matter for Sutton Parish Council but have responded expressing our concern at the increase in traffic that would be created at the junction of Sutton Heath Road and the A47.

We discussed the erection of **2 dwellings, garages and creation** of associated access at **23 Old North Road**. It was agreed that we should attend the full PCC Planning Committee meeting and that Cllr Clarke should present our comments on the lack of accuracy in the statement by the Conservation Officer. The errors in the Conservation Officer's statement had been pointed out earlier to PCC but they chose to repeat them in the notes to the Committee. At the meeting no one spoke to object to the scheme and Peterborough City Councillors approved the planning submission with several amendments. Since the meeting it has become apparent that the owner of the property adjacent to the site, Coopers Cottage, is now living there, which is excellent news after all this time.

**Flashing speed signs:** We will buy a flashing, solar-powered, mobile speed sign, adjustable for 30 or 20mph at a cost of £4,100.50 (for which we have a grant), in an attempt to further reduce the speed of traffic in the village.

**Defibrillator training:** An in-depth session was very informative and impressed all who attended.

We hope that you can all cope with the Covid-19 restrictions and be as fit and healthy as possible.

Tim Pearson, Chairman

## Some Messages from our Advertisers

**Justine's Pilates**— she is offering on-line classes, send her your email address and she will be in touch with all the details. 07919106156

**The Sibson Inn Hotel**—have registered the hotel with the NHS with a view to being able to provide NHS staff and key workers a bedroom to sleep in should it become necessary. We won't provide food and drink to start with but we might do some sort of room service.

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## **ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, STIBBINGTON, FLOWER FESTIVAL SAVE THE DATE**

Castor Benefice, to which we now belong will be holding a Flower Festival over the weekend of **26th and 27th September**. Look forward to seeing decorated churches and the opportunity to attend special events and services. Plans are well underway for the festival and further details will be published in due course. In the meantime **SAVE THE DATE** so that you don't miss out.

**Carol Lindsay**

**Copy deadline next month: 20th April 2020**

**editor@livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk**

This magazine is available online at **www.livingvillagesmagazine.co.uk**

# Advertisement section

During this unprecedented time, I have placed all the adverts at the end of the magazine. All businesses have been given a payment holiday and the chance to amend their advert, send details of their new arrangements and/or write an article for us all to read.

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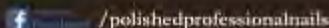


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