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IN TOUCH



The Magazine of Barkston, Belton, Honington and Syston

Rural Dean: Rev. Sonia Barron 01636 626720 Associate Priests: Revd. Stuart Hadley 01476 575854

> Revd. Lilian Hall 01400 250729

Mr R O Wall Reader: 01400 281133

Editor: Mrs Wendy Card 01400 250462 (alan.c.card@btinternet.com)

JAN/FEB 2016 Issue 323

Barkston and Syston Village Hall Regular Bookings

Monday:	Parent and Toddler Group,	10.00 -11.30 a.m.
-	Short Mat Bowls	2.00 - 4.00 p.m.
Tuesday:	Dance class	12.00 - 4.00 p.m.
Wednesday:	Dance class	12.00 - 9.30 p.m.
Thursday:	Yoga	10.00 - 12 noon
•	Short Mat Bowls	2.00 - 4.00 p.m.
Saturday:	Dance class	9.00 - 4.00 p.m.

Rainbow, Brownies and Guides meet weekly, more information is available at girlguiding.org.uk

Cardiac Group meet every second Tuesday of month 2.00 -3.30 p.m. Macular Society, WEA Courses and Lincs Trust for Nature Conservation meet from time to time.

The Hall is available for hire for, children's parties, family parties, wedding receptions and christenings.

Bookings—Carol Bradford 01400250744

County Council Representatives

Ray Wootten is County Councillor for Barkston, Belton and Syston Parishes. (Tel: 01476 400183 or e-mail cllrr.wootten@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

Post Office, St Nicholas Close, Barkston

Mondays and Thursdays 9.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m. Contact Tel No: 01636 704516

Mobile Library dates

The library will be in West Street between 11.00 p.m. - 11.30 p.m. on the following Mondays: 18th Jan, 15th Feb, 14th Mar 2016.

Items for inclusion in the next issue of `In Touch'

Please send to Wendy Card by 26 Feb 2016, on Telephone 01400 250462

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NOT FROM THE RECTORY



Dear Friends,

The past year has been both challenging and rewarding for everyone involved with our churches. The challenge has come from simply keeping everything going – making sure we continue to offer regular, high quality worship and that our church communities remain places of warmth and welcome and in good heart. We all hoped, in the early part of the year, that we would be successful in attracting an incumbent for the Barkston and Hough group. A great deal of hard work went into the advertising process, including the very demanding task of producing a group profile. Sadly, we were unsuccessful then, but I'm sure all the ground work we have done will stand us in good stead when we re-advertise. In the meantime, we are getting used to the idea of coming together with the Caythorpe churches to form the South Cliff Group of Parishes. There are so many advantages to collaborating in this way. It certainly doesn't mean that any of us will lose our sense of identity, but it does mean a greater pool of resources to draw on and the opportunity to enjoy more shared worship - already there are plans for some weekly shared services during Lent, for example.

As for the rewarding aspects of the past year, well they're all about the people. The dedication and love that is poured into keeping our churches going is amazing. Thanks to small groups of faithful people, all our churches are open and ready for worship whenever a service is scheduled, including, during December, all the Christmas 'specials'. And then there are the additional activities - the social events, the maintenance and cleaning, the fund-raising, the magazine production and so on. The way everyone has pulled together has been inspirational. It is always a joy to take a service in every one of the churches in our group, and I'm sure I speak for Stuart and John and everyone else on the ministry team when I say how grateful we are for all the support we receive. Despite the challenges, we continue to be a true Christian presence at the heart of our communities, and that alone gives us reason to feel confident and encouraged as we go into 2016.

With love, and very best wishes for a happy and hopeful new year, Lilian

BARKSTON AND SYSTON PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Monday 9th November 2015. Seven members of the Parish Council were present, together with District Councillor Ian Stokes and County Councillor Ray Wootten.

Prior to commencing the formal business of the meeting, the Council received a presentation from Mark Heaton, Area Highway Surveyor, who had attended to discuss the prioritisation of highways issues raised by the Council. After Mr Heaton had explained the constraints within which he had to operate, the Council discussed the priorities as suggested in a draft list of works and agreed that drainage works on the A607 by The Stag were the first priority, followed by patching on Church Street/Honington Road, and finally surface dressing and sealing at The Close, West Street. This list had, however to be ratified before it was finalised.

The Council then received a presentation from Roger Ranson, of the Planning Policy section at SKDC, in relation to Neighbourhood Plans. Mr Ranson outlined the procedures involved and answered questions from Members on practical aspects of the processes involved with the implementation of a plan. It was agreed that the Clerk would circulate information from Mr Ranson for Members to consider prior to taking a final decision.

Two members of the public attended and spoke during the public forum. They raised issues in relation to the danger to road users caused by vehicles parked on the northern side of the Village Green, particularly when other vehicles were passing. It was suggested that these vehicles were causing an obstruction, when parked close to the junction with the A607. Community Police Officer to be advised. The other issue raised was about flooding on the A607, and on action proposed to remedy this issue.

The Council considered the proposed waiting restrictions, and noted that the revised formal consultation was not expected until January.

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Precept for 2015/2016 was discussed and it was proposed by Cllr Gibson, seconded by the Chairman and passed unanimously that the Parish Council should ask for £750.

Allison Homes (owned by Larkfleet) have put in an application to SKDC for a new sustainable mixed use development on land at Grantham North (Manthorpe). The application will go on the website when it is validated. Cllr Wootten will then begin delivering letters to local people. The Parish Council will object as individuals and as the Parish Council. The Council will provide traffic data from the Speed Camera in Manthorpe. Cllr Wootten to keep Council informed.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.35 p.m. The next Council Meeting will be held at Manthorpe Village Hall on 11th February 2016 at 7.30 p.m.

The full minutes are available on the Parish Council Web Site at :- http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/beltonandmanthorpe

BARKSTON CHRISTMAS CONCERT

We are pleased to say that the sum of £367.38 has been sent to the Rainbows Children's Hospice, the money raised by donations at the concert and the proceeds of the three Iris the Cow raffles. We do thank everyone who took part, and those who helped in any way to raise this magnificent sum.

Margaret Elnor The Friends of Barkston Church

FROM THE REGISTER

Funerals:

09/11/15 Barbara Banks [Barkston] 18/11/15 Robert [Bob] Wakefield [Barkston]

Holy Baptism 29/11/15 Megan Louise Barnes (Barkston) Comments had been received from the Area Surveyor about the other highways issues raised. Most of the issues raised were in the process of being investigated prior to action, and the Parish Council would be kept informed. Action had been taken to clean and jet gullies on Minnetts Hill and it was now proposed to keep a check on the drainage and dyke. The footpath opposite the Village Hall would be sided back to coincide with similar work further down the A607.

It was agreed to take no further action on a letter from the County Council about self-help in times od severe winter weather, other than to check on the grit bins and to advise the County Council accordingly as to condition and whether or not they were full of salt/grit mix.

Further consideration was given to the prioritisation of highways issues following Mr Heaton's earlier presentation, and it was agreed to vary the list to include work to improve the frontage at the Almshouses, Barkston, and kerbing to the banked stretch of Church Street by the Church, after the Church Street/Honington Road patching.

An update was given on various planning applications. The Clerk reminded Members that he had circulated suggested comments on the Fulbeck Airfield wind turbine application, and these had been sent to SKDC as no objections had been received from Councillors.

The preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan was discussed, following the presentation earlier in the meeting. Further information was to be circulated, and it was agreed to ask a representative from Foston Parish Council to attend the meeting in March, to address queries from Members on the practical considerations.

Councillor Kelly reported that clearance work had been carried out at the children's corner, and that it was expected that the new equipment would be installed by mid-December.

The next meeting is on MONDAY 11TH JANUARY 2016 at 7.45 pm at the VILLAGE HALL.

Malcolm Hall, Clerk to the Council

LETTER FROM THE BISHOP

The end of another year is a good opportunity to see how far we've come. And it's been quite a year, both in the Diocese of Lincoln, and in our national life. We've had a general election, we've had people coming and people going, both nationally and in the diocese. Some projects have been completed, and others have begun. December may bring us a reminder of how long our New Year resolutions have fallen by the wayside, and how much bigger the challenge is for the next year. For me, the big thing is that we're heading in the direction I envisaged when I came to the diocese four years ago. We have resolved to build the kingdom of God in our part of England, and each year brings its new challenges to fulfil the work we're called to do.

We live in a broken world, where society strives superficially for perfection. But at this time of year, we celebrate God being among us, born in danger and poverty. It wasn't the perfect birth for a perfect God. It was a very real human experience, which serves to remind us that despite our imperfections and the challenges we face, we have a Gospel to proclaim.

The celebration of the birth of Christ is the chance to resolve to do the very best we can in the service of God. And while we can never be perfect, we have a perfect example in the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

I wish you a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

BARKSTON, SYSTON, BELTON, HONINGTON AND CARLTON SCROOP PRODUCE AND CRAFT SHOW

After a very successful show the committee decided at the AGM to donate £75 each to the 1st Barkston Rainbows, Brownies, and Guides.

The date of the next years show is Saturday August 20th 2016.

Vicki Strawson

The PC has met the transparency requirements for Smaller Authorities with data on the web site..

L.I.V.E.S The Parish Council decided to support LIVES Charity again this year and make a donation of £300. Clerk to send cheque to Group Co-ordinator.

Speed Camera - Belton Records from Mr Coney were presented for typical weeks of Belton incoming traffic, including buses. Traffic flow- individual movements into the Village:- Weekdays Total: - 2600 per day. Weekends Total: - 2000 per day Peak Flow rate (Full Hour) individual movements 400 cars per hour (Morning rush). Excessive speed in two directions, from slip road from Chandlers and then from Five Gates lane direction. In both cases over 70% of the traffic is entering the village in excess of 30mph at speeds of up to 75mph. The 85 percentile (which should be 30mph for speed limit conformance), is 40.0mph and 39.8mph for these directions respectively. Cllr Thornton suggested that the slip road from A607 Chandlers should be changed or even closed. Vehicles entering from that junction come in at high speeds and the figures from the camera confirm this. Cllr. Wootten suggested that the Council should write to Mr Heaton at LCC Highways stating the figures collected and that changing or closing the junction could be Belton's first priority for the next financial year should funding allow. Cllr Hopwell to draft. Cllr Wootten suggested asking Traffic Police to set up checks. The National Trust would not want the Parish Council to put up Day-Glo static signs in the village.

LCC Highways Self Help & Mutual Aid in Times of Severe Winter

Belton is not on the Highways gritting route. Syston is. M. Coney contacted Highways re the Self Help scheme, offering to help store and spread salt for Belton Village but had no response. Cllr Hopwell called LCC Highways South. He was informed that there would only be one, one tonne bag of salt provided and only if a period of prolonged cold, snow and frost was forecast. Alternate Highways salting/gritting with Syston had been suggested. Highways did not consider this feasible. Cllr Hopwell to contact M. Heaton of LCC Highways re salting and gritting again with the figures on traffic taken from the camera to emphasise the case for Belton to be on the salting/gritting route.

High Speed Broadband - Belton

A cabinet was installed in March. Updates were obtained by Cllr Hopwell but with no clear time for connection. Western Power will connect the power when cables have been laid. Sub Contractors for Carillion the Civil Engineers have now started to dig up the pavement from the cabinet by the A607 up to the Mains cable by the Forge and should shortly lay the cable. "OnLincolnshire" has advised that target completion is early December.

BELTON AND MANTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Summary Minutes of the Meeting held at the Village Hall, Belton On Thursday 26th November 2015

Attending: Chairman Councillor K.Gibson, Councillors T. Hopwell, R. Gibson, J. Miller, C.Thornton, J. Fountain Parish Clerk. Apologies Cllr S.Thompson. Mrs E.Bannister co-opted for Manthorpe.

General Meeting.

Matters pertaining to Belton were as follows:-

Pot Holes in Belton & Manthorpe: Pot holes had been repaired including the large one on Five Gates Road.

Smoke Pollution in Belton. C. Thornton reported that there has been five days of burning bonfires in the National Trust wood yard. The fires were left overnight and over the weekend unattended. Alec Gordon informed Cllr Thornton that there would be no more bonfires for the foreseeable future. He would advise if they should need to have another.

Cllr Thornton had contacted SKDC about the smoke from the fires and they had advised the action to take should he feel the need to report any future fires.

Cllr Hopwell to bring the subject up with Alec Gordon at the next Liaison meeting.

Waterloo Cottages: On the outstanding item of speed limits on the A607, the Clerk had written to LCC Highways who had advised that a new policy for determining speed limits was being introduced at the end of the year. The Local County Councillor should be contacted to argue for reduced limit when the policy was in place. Cllr Wootten to see where LCC Highways are with this.

The Yew tree at Belton near the A607 opposite Belton Garden Centre which had been in need of cutting back and the path out of Belton on the grass to the left of Main St, at the A607 which needs clearing, had been reported to LCC Highways who are dealing with these matters.

Parish Council Standing Orders and Policies. The Parish Council has reexamined its policies and the following were discussed, agreed and adopted unanimously.

B&MParish Council –New Model Standing Orders.

B&M Parish Council - Planning Policy, Financial Regulations and Summary, Equality & Diversity, Data Protection, Complaints Procedure.

The Parish Council has delegated its authority to the Parish Clerk, the Proper Officer of the Council, to carry out all the functions conferred on the Proper Officer by statute or otherwise, in accordance with Local Government Act 1972. This included the authority to aggregate the Parish Councillors comments on circulated comment sheet, on Planning Applications and transmit that opinion to

CHURCH OF ENGLAND'S CHILDREN'S SOCIETY CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Thanks to your generosity we have sent £53 to the Children's Society for their work among vulnerable and disadvantaged young people this Christmas - made up of raffle ticket sales [£26], a Fairtrade Advent calendar donated and sold for £4 plus donations of £23.

The Revd Stuart Hadley, Associate Priest, The South Cliff Group of Parishes, Diocese of Lincoln

PLAYING FIELD—PLAY AREA

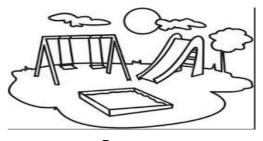
The redevelopment work on the play area has moved along significantly in the past couple of months and the installation of the new equipment was completed in early December.

Some further work is required to complete the finishing touches, included within this work will be the fitting of some benches.

As part of the redevelopment work the old safety surface was removed and replaced with a grass mat surface. In order to allow the ground to settle, and the grass to recover, the decision has been taken to keep the play area closed until spring of next year. We will monitor the position closely and make the facility available at the earliest opportunity.

Finally I would like to thank the individuals who have supported the project.

Councillor Simon Kelly



Church Services for Jan/Feb 2016

Date	Barkston	Belton	Honington	Syston
3 January 1st Sunday	10.30 am RW Morning Prayer	11am JC Holy Communion		9.30am Morning Prayer
10 January 2nd Sunday	10.45am Holy Communion SH			
17 January 3rd Sunday	11.00am Family Service JB/LH			9.30 am JC Holy Communion
24 January 4th Sunday				
31 January 5th Sunday			11am Holy Communion	
7 February 1st Sunday	10.30am RW Morning Prayer	11am JC Holy Communion		9.30am Morning Prayer
10 February Ash Wednesday	10.15 Holy Communion			
14 February 2nd Sunday	11.00am Holy Communion SH			
21 February 3rd Sunday	11.00am Family Service JB/LH			9.30am JC Holy Communion
28 February 4th Sunday				

Services of Wholeness and Healing

Wholeness and Healing services are held on the second Thursday of each month at St Nicholas' Church, Barkston at 7.30 p.m. These are quiet reflective services, where people have an opportunity to pray for any concerns, personal or of a wider nature. The service consists of two or three hymns, a meditation, prayers and opportunity to light candles, place written prayer requests on a Prayer Tree, receive the laying on of hands for oneself or for others, or simply to enjoy a time of peace and rest. Prayer is complementary to, and in support of the work of medicine and treatment.

St Nicholas' Church is warm and has toilet facilities. Refreshments are served after the service. The next services will be held on Jan 14th & Feb. 11th 2016.

Prayer and Praise

Prayer and Praise at the home of Joy Bristow, 38 West Street, Barkston, (01400 250339), will be held on Mondays 4pm. Jan. 18th & Feb. 1st.

St. Nicholas Knitting Circle, Barkston

Our next Knitting Circle meetings will be on Mondays January 25th 2016 in the Community Centre, St. Nicholas Close, between 2.00 p.m. and 4.00 p.m. We knit for The Jacob's Well Appeal, Beverley, Yorkshire. Come and join us for a Knit or just a natter.

Coffee Morning

Thank you to everyone, we raised £223.40 for the Jacob's Well appeal and for the needy at home and overseas.

KEY:

SH - Stuart Hadley LH - Lilian Hall JC - John Cook

JB – Joy Bristow PC - Peter Coombs DF - Di Fairhead RF - Dick Fairhead

JL - John Lord BL - Ben Lyte SM - Sheila Mitchell AS - Angela Sims

BG - Betty Groves **DH** - David Hitchcock

RW - Bob Wall **MT** - Ministry Team **(RS)** - Richard Shireby **(BW)**