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Parish News

STEAM ACTION Hello all! What a strange few months it's been. We've been busy shopping, baking, sewing scrubs and having daily and weekly phone calls with our residents and friends over 60. As well as socially-distanced chats on the doorstep! We were gutted that we couldn't go ahead with our annual afternoon tea at the beginning of June. But have our fingers crossed that restrictions will be lifted by September to allow the vegetable and produce show to go ahead.

In the meantime, if you are living within Edenham Parish and need help during lockdown, please call Pat 01778 591004. Our hearts go out to everyone who has lost someone during this difficult time. Stay safe and we can't wait to see you all soon. Love from Steam Action.

CONDOLENCES to family, friends and neighbours of Joe Grimer of Witham on the Hill, who passed away suddenly on 15 June.

CONDOLENCES to Heather Lee, family, neighbours and friends on the passing of Ron Lee of Edenham on 13 June. He will be greatly missed in the parishes for his wise words, common sense and very practical approach to most things. He was a very competent and loyal church bell ringer, who could always be relied on to ring for any occasion. May he rest in peace.

THANK YOU to everyone who has helped, during lockdown, socially distanced of course, to keep on top of all the work of mowing, strimming, weeding and pruning in St Andrew's Churchyard, Witham on the Hill. The amount of work involved has been incredible – the green waste bins have been full to overflowing with ivy, stripped off gravestones and memorials. You all deserve medals!

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH ORGAN During lockdown the organ has been stripped down, taken apart, cleaned, repaired and rebuilt at great expense to Church coffers. Gill Stanford and Miriam Forbes have taken turns, twice weekly, to play and bed it in; to the great delight of passers-by, people

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working in the Churchyard, and latterly to people using the Church for private prayer. The organ sounds absolutely fabulous. Well done ladies!

EDENHAM VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE is still awaiting guide lines to the reopening of the Village Hall. Risk Assessments are being put in place as advised by ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) so that we can consider the safe and effective way of re opening the hall in the future.

In the meantime we thank you all for your past support and patience in this matter. Stay Safe.

Don't forget the weekly chance to **win £25,000** in supporting the Edenham Village Hall through the www.lotterysk.co.uk

For every pound you donate the Village hall gets 50p which will help in our effort to raise the necessary funds to install a new kitchen.

Any ideas on fund raising or donations please contact Pat Smith 01778 591004.

SCARECROW FESTIVAL The Toft cum Lound and Manthorpe Parish Council sends a very big thank you to everyone who took up the challenge to build a scarecrow for its 1st Parish Scarecrow Festival. The scarecrows were enjoyed and admired by many visitors and passers-by. As advertised, the Parish Council will donate £10 for each Parish scarecrow. The Parish website shows 18 scarecrows, 17 by members of our Parish plus one from Matt Hartley in Bristol. As such, at the end of our festival the sum raised was £180 - £170 of it donated by the Parish Council and £10 from Matt. This sum has been increased by the kind donations of other members of the community.

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The Vicar Writes

I don't know about you but I feel like I could do with a rest! I've been so tired of late and I can't help but wonder why? I don't think I'm alone. Just the other day I was chatting with someone who felt that people just looked worn out. That said, if there's one thing that every human being longs for it has to be rest. We all long to 'rest in peace' not only when we die but also while we're very much alive. One of the most restful states of being we can know in our lives comes from being in what we might call the 'right relationship' with someone. Do you know what I mean? Whether it's a friendship, close personal relationship or part of a wider family group; when those relationships are working well, people are enjoying one another's company, help and support. It just feels 'right' and with that 'rightness' comes a sense of being 'at rest'. Contrast that with the anxiety and frustration that comes from being in a bad or damaged relationship with someone and you can readily see what I mean.

In St Matthew's Gospel (Matt 11.28-13), Jesus makes the claim that ultimate rest - the longing of every human heart for the most 'right' of all 'right relationships' - comes only through being in a right relationship with Him! That's quite a claim! "You want to rest?" says Jesus, "Come to me. I am the rest-giver. I'm the one you need to embrace." What I've always found reassuring about this restful invitation from Jesus is who he makes that invitation to and what he invites them to receive as a result. It's worth noting that Jesus doesn't invite those who have found their own sense of self-worth, the self-satisfied or the self-righteous, nor does he invite those who are living a life of ease and plenty. No, Jesus invites "all who labour and are heavy laden" (v.28). He invites the tired, the needy, the frustrated, the anxious, and those who feel like they have it 'all to do'.

But what does he invite them to? Rest? Yes! But more than that. Jesus invites them to "take his yoke" upon them. We all know what a yoke is; it's an instrument of work! It's a wooden frame designed to distribute weight in equal proportions to both sides of the body in order to make a load or burden easier to carry. So why promise us a yoke? Well, the truth is that Jesus doesn't promise us an escape from reality in turning to him. He won't suspend time so that we can enjoy a long weekend by the pool. What he



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promises us is the right equipment to be able to deal with our reality. That's why he promises us a yoke! Jesus never said "Take my chair", "Take my mattress", "Take my beanbag", or "Take my big cuddly, squeezable stuffed seal toy". There's no sitting, sleeping, or slouching here! "Take my yoke," he says "following me may well be uncomfortable, hard, and trying, but if you walk with me, if you build that right relationship with me then you will find rest! You'll find the rest that comes with the forgiveness, the joy that comes from right living and energy that comes from seeing the Father's will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

That's the kind of rest I could do with right now. The rest that brings reassurance, the rest that tells you that you will have enough for what tomorrow brings, be it a high drama or simply just more of the same old slog, and that's the rest that I'll be pursuing.

Fr Edward

Witham on the Hill WI

Well of course, the WI have not been able to have any meetings since March and we were disappointed to postpone the coffee afternoon we had been running for local residents.

The committee has held Zoom meetings and made decisions about how we can hopefully meet in the future, probably out on the Green to start with once the guidelines allow. We set virtual competitions for all our members and have loved seeing photos that have been shared, especially those of the VE day celebrations. We are so proud of our members who have been knitting and sewing headbands, uniform bags and scrubs for the NHS.

We hope all our members have felt supported by the committee and other members and look forward to meeting-up together.

Toft cum Lound and Manthorpe Parish Council Update

The last three months have been difficult and challenging for us all but it seems that now is a good time to start thinking about the future. As a council, we are keen to be able to follow up on items we had identified before lockdown.

One such item is that of regenerating our playing field. The brief we as Councillors have set ourselves is to provide an area where all residents can enjoy some form of play and/or exercise. Creating spaces where children can play freely requires careful thought and imaginative design. The challenge is to provide the best possible play opportunities, and to create play spaces that will be attractive for children, capture their imagination and give them scope to play in new and exciting ways.



Some months ago, a group of children in our parish suggested ways to improve the playground facility. We agreed this was a good idea and to date have spoken with two suppliers of equipment in order to produce a budget for such works. We estimate we would require £25k to procure some new items suitable for children of all ages and abilities. We are setting ourselves a funding target of £35k which would provide flexibility when choosing the new equipment to cater for both adults and children.

We also aim to ensure that the space where our children play is an important social place for our community, not just for children and young people, but also for parents and the wider community. Parents can establish their own networks through their children, meaning that play also supports community cohesion amongst adults.

Our key concern is that we create a new facility without losing its familiar feeling and quality. The heritage of the place has to be respected, and the local rural village identity needs to be reflected in the overall design.

In order to gain funding we need to demonstrate to the potential funder that there is indeed interest and support within our community. We will therefore in the near future be seeking your views and ideas for this project. We look forward to your input – by doing so you will help us achieve something which will provide a legacy for future generations.

Richard Stephenson Chair of the Parish Council

UNWANTED ITEMS IN BINS Sadly, someone decided to place their unwanted green waste into 2 of our residents' black bins. This resulted in both bins being uncollected and 2 weeks' worth of flies for the 2 unfortunate households. As a reminder, SKDC will not collect black bins that have been contaminated with green waste.

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(Taken from Country Life)

‘Stephen has glaring faults and they have certainly glared at us this term’ –
(*Stephen Fry, actor and writer*)

‘Jilly has set herself an extremely low standard, which she has failed to maintain’ – (*Jilly Cooper, author*)

‘Is a constant trouble to everybody and is always in some scrape or other. He cannot be trusted to behave himself anywhere’ – (*Winston Churchill, Prime Minister*)

‘Certainly on the road to failure... hopeless... rather a clown in class... wasting other pupils’ time’ – (*John Lennon, musician*)

‘He must devote less of his time to sport if he wants to be a success. You can’t make a living out of football’ – (*Gary Lineker, footballer*)

‘It would seem that Briers thinks he is running the school and not me. If this attitude persists, one of us will have to leave’ – (*Richard Briers, actor*)

‘He will either go to prison or become a millionaire’ – (*Sir Richard Branson, entrepreneur*)

‘He will never amount to anything’ – (*Albert Einstein, physicist*)

‘A persistent muddler. Vocabulary negligible, sentences malconstructed. He reminds me of a camel’ – (*Roald Dahl, author*)

‘Off you go and I am glad to get rid of you’ – (*On Laurie Lee, poet and author*)

100 years ago

Memorials to the Missing

"He is not missing, he is here." Field Marshal Lord Plumer at the unveiling of the Menin Gate Memorial, July 1927

The memorials to the Missing gave the individual architects scope to try to express the enormity of the human sacrifice made. The first to be commissioned and completed was Blomfield's magnificent memorial in Ypres, The Menin Gate Memorial, which commemorates the names of more than 55,000 men on 1200 panels. Other memorials followed:

Tyne Cot in Belgium designed by Sir Herbert Baker; the Helles Memorial on Gallipoli designed by Sir John Burnet; the Thiepval Memorial on the Somme is the work of Sir Edwin Lutyens while the Missing in Salonika are commemorated at Lake Doiran on a monument by Sir Robert Lorimer. Later, individual member states erected memorials to their own country's dead: the Canadians at Vimy Ridge, the Australians at Villers Bretonneux and the South Africans at Delville Wood. With Thanks to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.



Menin Gate in 1927



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Draft Minutes of AGM of the Parish Council Meeting held by a Virtual Meeting on 21st May 2020 at 19.00 as agreed by HM Government under the instruction of the National Association of Local Councils.

Present

Cllr. Richard Stephenson (Chairman)

Cllr. Jeremy Dawson

D.Cllr Chris Benn

Cllr. Sue Renner

C.Cllr Robert Reid

Cllr. Richard Hartley

Clerk Rosemary Trollope-Bellew

Public - 4

All Councillors signed the Declaration of Office.

1. Election of Chairman -Cllr Stephenson was proposed by Cllr **Hartley**, seconded by Cllr **Renner**.

2. Election of Vice-Chairman – Cllr Dawson was proposed by Cllr **Stephenson**, seconded by Cllr. **Hartley**.

3. Chairman's remarks. Cllr Stephenson thanked all present and circulated report.

4. Apologies for absence & reasons given - none

5. Minutes of the last meeting Proposed by Cllr **Stephenson**, seconded by Cllr **Renner**. All agreed.

6. Financial Matters -

Approve the Certificate of Exemption

2019/20 for smaller authorities where the gross income/expenditure did not exceed £25,000.00. Approved by Cllr Stephenson, Seconded by Cllr Hartley. All agreed.

Approve the Internal Audit Report 2019/20. Approved by Cllr Stephenson, seconded by Cllr Hartley, all agreed.

Approve the Annual Governance Statement (Section 1 of the Annual Return) for the year ended 31.03.20. It was proposed by Cllr Stephenson and seconded by Cllr Dawson. All agreed.

Approve the Accounting Statements (Section 2 of the Annual Return) for the year ended 31.03.20. It was proposed by Cllr Stephenson, seconded by Cllr Hartley. All agreed.

Approve Internal Auditor- It was approved by Cllr Stephenson, seconded by Cllr Dawson that Adrian Childs would be the internal auditor for 2020/21.

Payment:

1. R Trollope-Bellew-annual salary £810.68
2. D Kreuzberger – Smoke alarm £37.00
3. R Trollope-Bellew-stationery £38.50
4. R Harris-community 2 x £70.00
5. LALC-subscriptions £136.21
6. BHIB-Council Insurance £425.03
7. B.T-purchase of Manthorpe Kiosk £1.00
8. R Harris-community 5 x £175.00
9. £325.00 each - Royal British Legion / St Andrews PCC / LIVES / Air Ambulance/ Edenham School/ Willoughby School / St Barnabas Hospice

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It was proposed by Cllr Stephenson & seconded by Cllr Hartley that items 1-9 be paid. All agreed.

All the rents have been collected, VAT for 2019/20 has been re-claimed.

7. Parish Property

Jasmine Cottage-rent review – nothing to report due to lock-down

Playing Field- closure during COVID-19 but has since been re-opened and it will be monitored.

Noticeboards- Lound in poor condition awaiting to be painted.

Bus Shelters-Manthorpe-maintenance during 2020 will commence when able.

Defibrillators – training date was placed on hold due virus, both Manthorpe & Toft working.

Marquees –nothing to report due to COVID-19.

Townlands/Allotment-nothing to report due to COVID-19.

Street Furniture-maintenance of benches within the parish 2020 when able.

8. Highways

Witham Cross Roads – ongoing.

Reduce HGV's using Manthorpe – nothing to report.

9. Planning – nothing to report.

10. Correspondence

InvestSK – newsletter

LCC-Coronavirus updates

SKDC-Virus updates etc

Playing Field emails – closure of field during lock-down.

LALC-COVID-19 updates on meetings

Letter of thanks to parish councils from Secretary of State-Robert Jenrick MP

The rural services network – letter to George Eustice MP

LCC -proposed opening of waste recycling centres – Cllr E Pole

11. Reports from Outside Bodies

D.Cllr Chris Benn reported:

SKDC started to hold virtual meetings

Consultation on the Cummings site at Stamford has commenced.

COVID-19 virus in South Kesteven has been very low.

Council looking at revised budget due to virus.

SKDC have been busy helping businesses obtain grants to help survive the virus.

12. Village Concerns

Coronavirus – Clerk and councillors forwarded information and contacted residents.

Scarecrow Festival – fund raising in aid of NHS, thank you to residents of the parish for supporting this venture.

Date of Next Meeting – To be resolved at a later date.

Jane's seasonal recipe

POPPY SEED & HONEY CAKE WITH STRAWBERRY ICING

100g caster sugar

175g butter

85g honey

3 eggs

140g s r flour

25g cornflour

2 tablespoons poppy seeds

100g icing sugar

2 tablespoons strawberry puree

Butter a large ring tin (approx 8ins) dust with a spoonful of flour & caster sugar. Tap out excess. Cream butter, honey & sugar until pale & fluffy. Beat in eggs. Add dry ingredients & fold in. Spoon into tin & level the surface. Bake 160c for approx 35 mins until risen & firm. Cool in tin for 10 mins then ease sides with a palette knife & turn onto wire rack to cool. Make the puree by crushing a handful of strawberries & pushing through a sieve to remove pips. Mix icing sugar & puree to make a stiff icing – use more icing sugar if necessary. Put a plate under the cooling rack to catch the drips. Drizzle the icing over the cooled cake, & decorate with fresh strawberries. Can be served with cream, crème fraiche or even ice cream!

For Baptisms, Weddings, Banns of Marriage, Confessions or any other pastoral or spiritual need contact:

Vicar: The Revd Fr Edward Martin SSC 01778 591358 - Edward.Martin@lincoln.anglican.org

Associate Priest: The Revd Fr Peter Lister SSC 01778 423730 - pwr.lister@btinternet.com

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Website edition: <http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/ToftcumLoundandManthorpe/>