

The Three Towers

April 2024

Serving the communities in and around
Manthorpe, Edenham, Toft, Lound,
Swinstead and Witham on the Hill



Edenham & Grimsthorpe Parish Council

Vacancy for Parish Clerk/RFO Edenham

Vacancy: The Parish Council is seeking a person with an interest in the local community for the post of Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer.

Working hours: The post is part-time, working hours vary from week to week but average around 1.5 hour per week.

Skillset: Applicants should possess excellent administrative, organisational and IT skills, as well as a flexible approach to working and be prepared to work from home. The position requires attendance at Parish Council Meetings held bi-monthly on the 2nd Tuesday at 7.30pm Edenham Village Hall.

Duties include:

Overall administration of the Parish Council's business – preparation of papers for Council Meetings, taking and production of accurate minutes, dealing with correspondence, monitoring Council's policies, advising Councillors regarding legal and good practice requirements and implementing Council decisions.

Maintenance of accurate and up-to-date financial records of the Parish Council, placing orders, preparing invoices for payment, receiving and banking income.

Preparation of the annual budget, completing the annual audit and liaising with internal and external auditors

Salary: The salary is in line with National Association of Local Councils (NALC) pay scales.

More info: For more information please contact the current Clerk. (see below) To apply for the position please send a letter with accompanying Curriculum Vitae by post or email.

Closing date for applications: Friday 10 May 2024 - the Parish Clerk, Mrs Carole Sands, 14 Scottlethorpe Road, Edenham, PE10 0LN - email: Edenham.pc@gmail.com

Parish News

WELL DONE to Jodie and Alison Whitehead for their charity car boot sale at the Danish Invader on Saturday 2 March. Together with all the kind folk who donated items and the wonderful stallholders, they raised £506. Jodie and Alison want to thank everyone who helped them to raise these funds for OCD-UK and a-Sisterhood.



Spring / Summer Opening Hours – Swinstead Village Hall Bar – With the clocks springing forward and the days getting longer, Thursdays are back! From 28th March, the new opening hours are every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 7pm to 11pm. The volunteer Bar staff will be sure to greet you with a nice cold beverage and a big smile. We also sell crisps, nuts and chocolate bars!

A huge thank you to **Mark Woodruff** and the Swinstead Darts Team who handed over a cheque for the sum of £2,400, to **Dom Brister, Founder of Don't Lose Hope charity**. This donation will help those needing support, providing around 100 counselling sessions. The monies were raised in the last year via various fundraisers, a 12-hour darts marathon and the kind donation of the winners of our recent Quiz Nights, and a contribution from the Village Hall. A huge thank you to everyone who participated and got involved in making it all possible, and to those who supported and donated.



CPR & Defibrillator Training

A Real Eye Opener - a participant's report

What to do if you encounter someone who appears to be unconscious - where do you start? I am told that using the defibrillator is easy - it talks to you - so how does that work? These are the questions I had on my mind when I attended the latest defibrillator training session.

Our training session on 15 March was presented by two members of Leisure SK in a very professional but informal way. The trainers covered the whole scenario from encountering an unconscious adult (or child), what action to take immediately, calling for help from the emergency services, what information the ambulance centre will require, how the centre prioritises call outs and, most importantly, how to administer CPR.



Through the use of dummies, we all had a go at administering CPR – it gave an insight as to just how tiring it can be but how important it is to the survival of the patient.

After all the above, we finally got our hands on an actual defibrillator. The key element is how to switch it on. This may seem a simple step and it is, but if you yourself are in a state of panic, your mind may be somewhat blurred. We practised how to use and where to place the pads on the body. If the person is clothed, what do you do? Where do you place the pads if the person is a child ? We now know. Do you?

So, in conclusion, I would say we all really benefitted from the evening and learned a lot more than we had expected. Look out for the next session – you never know when you might have to use the defibrillators we have in our communities.

A VERY BIG THANK YOU to Penny and Eda Dawson (with a little help from Jeremy.....) who braved an extremely unpleasant afternoon planting out 5 English Oak trees along the hedge line on the Wilsthorpe Road on Sunday 10 March. It may not have been the best way for Penny to spend Mother's Day but generations to come will benefit from this great effort.

FREE TO A GOOD HOME - 4 wheeled walking aid rollator. Unused gift. Call Jean 01778 590249

THANKS to Sue Renner for organising the latest defibrillator training for the Toft cum Lound and Manthorpe parish on 15 March. Participants believe that this should be an annual event.



Dates for your Diary

Sunday 31 March to Sunday 14 April - Grimsthorpe Castle - Open for Easter holidays with an Easter themed garden hunt, Tudor dancing, and a storyteller! See website for details www.grimsthorpe.co.uk

Tuesday 9 & 14 April, 10.15am to 11.30am (and then back to the first Tuesday of every month until further notice), **41 Edenham Road, Edenham (the Old Post Office) 'Bourne2Care' Coffee Morning**. Entry is by donation and includes a small raffle. Everyone is welcome. Margaret Avis wishes to thank all those who support this charity event.

Wednesday 10 & 24 April – Swinstead Village Hall - Social Coffee Mornings. A great way to meet up with friends – new and old – held every other Wednesday. Beverage, Cake & Raffle for £3.00.

Sunday 28 April, 2pm to 4:30pm, Thurlby Methodist Church Hall - Repair Café and Book Exchange. (See advert on page 21) Apart from August, the Repair Café and Book Exchange is open on the last Sunday of each month.



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Sunday 28 April, Grimsthorpe Castle - The Bytham Horse Carriage ride! Visit between 11am and 2pm for a chance to see this wonderful spectacle! Usual entry charges apply. www.grimsthorpe.co.uk for details.

Sunday 28 April, Grimsthorpe Castle - Blossom Day. Garden trail leading to the Walled Garden to celebrate Orchard Blossom Day! For details: www.grimsthorpe.co.uk Look out for details on our art competition too.

Saturday 4 May - Swinstead Village Hall - Sausage & Cider Festival returns! Traditional Ciders, Grimsthorpe Venison and Grasmere Farm Specialty Sausages, and a great line up of live music. Tickets are now on sale £10 adults, £5 children (6 – 17 yrs.), Under 5's free. For both events prebook tickets at villagehallevnts@gmail.com or call/WhatsApp msg 07805 659540 or alternatively, pop into Village Hall bar for your ticket.

Monday 3 June, 7pm - Witham on the Hill Parish Hall. Witham on the Hill Historical Society AGM. A meeting to wind up this local charity and decide on how to deal with archives and assets.

Thursday 6 June - Swinstead Village D-Day Beacon Lighting to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Normandy Landings. This commemorative event will allow the community to come together to pay respect to those who died during the Normandy Landings and remember the sacrifices of those who took part in the operation. **Beacon will be lit at 9.15pm**, on the Village Green on Bourne Road.

Saturday 8 June, Swinstead Village D-Day Memorial Street Party – A Street Party for all the villagers to come together, dress up in 1940's fashion, and enjoy some cake and bubbles. Feel free to BYO picnic, and the Village Hall will provide tables, chairs, and music. The Village Hall Bar will be opened throughout the afternoon, and there will be road closure on Bourne Road. More info to follow.

Sunday 9 June, Witham on the Hill Open Gardens (see ad on page 8)

WITHAM ON THE HILL

OPEN GARDENS



We will be holding an 'Open Gardens' event once again on Sunday 9th June 2024 and welcome participants.

Funds raised will be used towards the running costs and maintenance of the Parish Hall.

If you would like to help by opening your garden, please contact us as soon as possible on one of the following numbers. We need at least 8 gardens.

Please call: Richard - 07885 496385

or Kevin - 07740 072322

Further information will follow nearer the time

We look forward to hearing from you

Witham on the Hill Parish Council

Notes of the Parish Council meeting 4 March 2024

Village improvements: Dave Haydon was present and handed round an estimate he had prepared for making and supplying 4 Tommy silhouettes, 4 wooden poppies and 2 large wooden planters which came to £258.17. He has kindly agreed to volunteer his time to make these items. Various questions were asked and it was agreed that we would set aside a budget of £300.00 for materials. We thanked Dave for his offer to make these for the village.

County Councillor update: County Cllr Charlotte Vernon was present and gave a report:

1. The Devolution consultation had now concluded and would be discussed by Lincolnshire County Council on the 13 March. The discussion could be followed online.
2. The Council Tax had been agreed and set at 4.99% increase. 2.99% was for the Council and 2% was for Adult Care.
3. The bin inspection was put on hold as many people had been complaining about their bins being inspected and then tagged if the bin was incorrectly filled.
- 4.

Planning application: S24/0278 Proposed Farm-Style Building to house farm shop, kitchen, cafe, and WC at Bowthorpe Park Farm, Stamford Road, Witham on the Hill. *Resolved:* the Parish Council support this application as it provides a good local amenity for residents.

Clerk's report: In the correspondence received was a consultation from Lincolnshire County Council asking for suggested locations for electric vehicle charging points. The Clerk wanted to know if this would be of interest. It was discussed and, as it was felt that this might be of benefit to the village residents and visitors, the Clerk was asked to look into the matter further with Lincolnshire County Council and circulate more information.



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Bottom Street repairs: County Cllr Charlotte Vernon had written for an update on the works in Bottom Street but had not received a reply. Cllr Charles Henriques had also sent a request for an update to Mike Brown the senior Highways officer dealing with the matter and was waiting for a response.

Financials: The Clerk had obtained a quote from MozyMak to remove the moles from the village green. They had quoted £160 for 4 separate visits.
Resolved: that the quote be accepted and the Clerk instruct them to proceed.

The proposed annual increase for the Clerk's salary is in line with the national union agreement. The additional annual cost is £144.00.
Resolved: that the proposed increase be approved whereby the Clerk would receive the increase and for it to be back dated to 1st April 2023.

Next meeting: to be held on **13 May 2024**. The Annual Parish Meeting will start at 7 pm and the Meeting of the Parish Council will start at 7.30 pm; both at St Andrew's Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill.

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Clerk's Notes for the Edenham, Grimsthorpe, Elsthorpe & Scottlethorpe Parish Council Meeting 12th March 2024 at 19:30 hours

Attendees: Parish Councillors: Mr T Clarke (Chairman), Mr A Wilson, Mrs M Marshall, Mr D Hawes, Mrs A Treacy & Mrs C Sands (Parish Clerk).

Apologies: Councillor Mrs M Avis & Councillor P Cranfield (Vice Chairman)

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from 9th January 2024 meeting were accepted as a true record this was proposed by Councillor Mrs A Treacy and seconded by Councillor Mr A Wilson.

Declaration of interest: Councillor M Marshall & Mr T Clarke - Agenda item 9.3 Church yard maintenance grant.

Parish Clerk and Councillors Update from Previous Meeting

Councillor Email Addresses: Parish Clerk is currently working through the requirements and costs of setting up the system.

Anglian Water/Highways: Main Street Edenham, Councillor Mr D Hawes reported that there are still ongoing issues of responsibility following the recent flooding around Pillarwood Farm. Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) Highways has carried out some repairs to the carriageway; however, not all of these repairs have held due to further wet weather. Engagement with Anglian Water is ongoing but progress and action is limited. LCC Martin Hill has been providing support to gain a resolution. We will continue to monitor progress until fully resolved.

Parking on Coal Yard Frontage: Traffic cones have been placed on the coal yard frontage to prevent parking in this area. The headmaster (Edenham Primary) has been contacted to ask parents to park at the Village Hall. The area will be monitored.

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New Meeting Matters:

D-Day 6th June 24: Parish Clerk authorised to purchase a lantern £55 as detailed in the recent communication for this event.

BT/Openreach Building: The additional works requested for the conifer trees near the Symphonic Gardens has been completed.

Edenham Village Hall Lease: Councillor Wilson gave the Parish Council an update on the progress for the renewal of the lease and confirmed that the Parish Council is listed as the tenant of the land that the building is situated on. Parish Clerk advised that the Village Hall is not on the Parish Council asset list and it needs to be agreed who can legally sign this document on behalf of the Parish Council. Further discussion required at the next meeting.

Parish Council End of Year Audit: Parish Clerk has advised that there will be a cost of approx £125.

Play Area Information:

Internal Inspection: Councillor Treacy reported that the ground around the play area is very wet and that the already reported issues remain unchanged.

Maintenance Works: Parish Clerk has continued to chase the two contractors that came out to look and quote for the work. However, despite being promised the quotes, they have not materialised. Parish Clerk to look at alternative companies for the works.

Planning Matters: S24-0137 Grimsthorpe: Conversion of deer field to a dog exercise area. No comments or objections raised by the Parish Council.

Financial Matters:

Expenditure: Since last meeting. (Jan & Feb)

Maintenance grants: Village Hall £300

Carol Singing costs: £56.40

PC Admin costs: £42.48



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Expenditure: (Due March & April to be discussed & agreed)

Maintenance grant: Churchyard grass cutting was not agreed at this meeting. Defer until further information is available.

Salaries: Parish Clerk & Community Street Cleaning £412.66

End of Year Audit: approx £125

LALC Annual Membership: £99.06

LALC Annual Training scheme: £120

Bank Reconciliation Report: (11th March 24)

Treasurers Acc £3226.39

Business Acc £3479.95

Correspondence:

SKDC recycling & bin collections: The new recycling rules have been suspended for the time being to allow residents more time to gain a better understanding of the requirements.

Temporary Traffic restriction notices: A number of notices have been received; the Parish Clerk posts them on to the local FaceBook page.

LCC electric vehicle charger points: The Parish Council has been asked to provide details of any current local locations and where possible propose new locations in the villages.

Boothby Wildland & River restoration: Information on current proposals for this area.

South Kesteven District Council: Local Plan Review - Regulation 18 Draft Local Plan Consultation.

Portrait of His Majesty King Charles III: The Parish Clerk has applied for the free official portrait; this will be displayed in the Village Hall.

Next Meeting Date: The Annual Parish and Annual Parish Council meeting will take place on 21st May 2024.

The annual Parish meeting will commence at 19:00 hours and the annual Parish Council meeting will commence at 19:30 hours.

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COUNCIL**

Planning Policy Consultations - Local Plan Review – Regulation 18 Draft Local Plan Consultation (29th February to 25th April 2024)

We are seeking your comments on the Draft Local Plan (2021-2041), along with supporting documents.

South Kesteven District Council will be consulting on the Regulation 18 Draft Local Plan from Thursday 29th February to 11:59pm Thursday 25th April 2024.

This consultation is the second opportunity to get involved with the preparation of the new Local Plan and seeks to consult the public and stakeholders on the district's development need, site allocations, proposed changes to the plan, and prepared evidence base documents.

Please could you also inform your Parish Councillors of this consultation.

The Council is also producing a Design Code for the District. The aim of the Code is to improve the design quality of new development. If you would like to get involved, please visit www.southkesteven.gov.uk/designcode

How to View the Draft Local Plan

The Draft Local Plan and supporting documents will be available to view on the Council's website – www.southkesteven.gov.uk/localplanreview

Reference copies of the Draft Local Plan will be available to view at the following addresses

- Customer Service desk at Grantham Guildhall Arts Centre, St Peter's Hill, Grantham, NG31 6PZ [Mon – Fri 9am – 1pm]
- South Kesteven Community Point & Library, 3 Abbey Road, Bourne, PE10 9EF [Mon 9am-5pm, Wed 9am-6pm, Frid 9am-1pm, Sat 9am-1pm]
- At libraries in Grantham, Stamford, Market Deeping, and Bourne during normal opening hours.

How to comment on the Draft Local Plan

The easiest and quickest way to comment is online using the consultation portal on the Council's website - www.southkesteven.gov.uk/localplanreview

You will need to set up an account online and there is guidance available on how to use the portal on the Council's website.

If you are unable to respond online you can email planningpolicy@southkesteven.gov.uk or post your comments to Planning Policy Team, South Kesteven District Council, Council Offices, The Picture House, St Catherine's Road, Grantham, NG31 6TT. Please ensure to quote the policy, section paragraph, document or site reference.

Please note copies of all comments will be made available for the public to view, including the name of the responder who submitted the representation; therefore, your response cannot be treated as confidential. The Council will not make public any personal addresses or signatures.

If you wish to comment on the Draft Local Plan and supporting documents, please ensure that comments are received by the Council by 11:59pm Thursday 25th April 2024.



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- Sunday 28th April 2024
- 2.00pm – 4.30pm
- Thurlby Methodist Church Hall, High Street, Thurlby, PE10 0EE (NEW LOCATION!!)
- For more information email – thurlby.repair.cafe@gmail.com

The Vicar Writes

There is no 'official' report of the event we celebrate at Easter; it happened in secret in the darkness of a stone tomb. The Gospel writers do not attempt to describe it, it's beyond the capacity of human words. Instead, the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) tell us different stories about the people who were there, what they experienced and the effect it had on their lives.

Take Mary Magdalene for instance, all the Gospels agree that she was the first to see the risen Jesus. We're told that she was someone Jesus had healed and that she'd watched him die and helped to bury him. Imagine her amazement when she met him alive again! Jesus gave Mary a new start, first when he healed her and then again when she became the first witness to his resurrection.

Then there was Peter. He was Jesus' closest friend and yet someone who'd let him down badly in his hour of need. After Jesus was arrested, Peter had denied ever knowing him — just as Jesus had said he would. When Jesus died, Peter's world must have fallen apart. He would never have the chance to put things right and to say he was sorry. The resurrection gave him that second chance and with it a message of forgiveness for all people.

And what about Thomas, for ever known as 'doubting Thomas'? He couldn't believe that Jesus was alive — and who can blame him? It's such an unlikely thing to happen! Thomas wasn't the first or the last person to struggle with faith or to have doubts about the Easter story. He wanted to see and to touch Jesus before he could believe that he was alive. When the risen Jesus appeared to him, he didn't criticise Thomas for doubting, he simply accepted him as he was.

In a way, the message of Easter is simple: there is no wrong that we can do, no denial or harsh words, no injury or insult that is beyond the reach of God's love. A love that can conquer death can deal with any wrong that human beings can do, it can neutralise, forgive it and begin to help it heal.

If death can't defeat God, then anything is possible. The empty tomb reminds us that there is always hope, there is always forgiveness, there is always a future and this is what we celebrate at Easter!

Fr Edward



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WITHAM HALL

The Easter Bunny surprised visitors by hopping to Witham Hall School. The first Witham Hall Charity Easter Egg Hunt was an “*egg-cellent*” success with over 250 visitors.

We were blessed with a beautiful spring morning, perfect for children to explore the grounds and search for clues to be rewarded with a tasty treat in the pop-up café. We raised a fantastic £500 for Tommy’s Arc, a children’s cancer charity.

Thank you to everyone that visited. We look forward to seeing you again next year.

A large, multi-story stone building, Witham Hall, with a large, rounded, topiary bush in the foreground. The building has many windows and a classic architectural style. The topiary bush is a large, spherical shape made of dense foliage.

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WITHAM HALL**

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Preparatory School
Boys and Girls | Age 4-13 | Boarding and Day

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admissions@withamhall.com

WITHAMHALL.COM

Witham on the Hill WI

March 2024

Tim Stubbs, the speaker at our March meeting, gave reflections on his life as the bread delivery boy of a Thurlby baker. Sid and Elsie Stubbs bought the bakery at 22 The Green, Thurlby in 1952. They did the baking for the village tea for Queen Elizabeth II's coronation. Their first takings were £39 but the stock cost £78! In his early years, Tim was the delivery boy and he was fascinated by people and old things (he later went into selling antiques!) His Dad cooked in his oven the pies that villagers had made and turkeys at Christmas. They had the only phone in the village and people would pay tuppence to use the phone for important messages. They had a TV to watch England win the World Cup in 1966 and many locals joined them to watch. He told many tales of Thurlby, Manthorpe, Witham, Toft and Dyke residents with a humorous turn of phrase and local accents – an excellent actor who had us laughing. Margaret Rine gave the vote of thanks, saying he should sign up for Tolethorpe!

A litter pick took place between Witham on the Hill and Manthorpe in February, collecting 10 sacks of rubbish! Well done to those who took part in caring for the environment. A glass fusion workshop will take place in the Parish Hall on Friday 26 April to make sun catchers or spinners. An outing to The Priest's House, a National Trust property in Easton on the Hill, is planned for Friday 17 May and it is hoped to book an outing to Dyson's Farm at Carrington (near Boston) on Thursday 6 June, to see the huge automated strawberry glasshouses, as shown on Rick Stein's recent TV programme.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 2 April at 7.30pm in St Andrew's Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill, when Dorothy Wood will give a talk and demonstration on making hats suitable for Ascot or a wedding. New members and visitors are always most welcome. For further information, contact Jane Clark tel 01778 590232.

Willoughby Memorial Trust Gallery

Moreley's Lane, Corby Glen, NG33 4NL

12 – 5 pm Tuesday – Sunday

ADMISSION FREE

Painting for Pleasure

Paintings in watercolour, acrylic and pastel

Swayfield Art Group

An exhibition opening on

Wednesday 17 April and running until Wednesday 8 May



The Group is a collection of local people who meet each Tuesday morning at Swayfield Village Hall to encourage each other to draw and paint. The subjects of their works vary from landscapes and seascapes to portraits, wildlife, imaginative and decorative pieces created in a range of styles and techniques.

www.willoughbygallery.com

Jane's Seasonal Recipe

Honey and Almond Cake

150g butter

150g honey

50g icing sugar

4 eggs

1 teaspoon vanilla

225g ground almonds

ICING

150g icing sugar

2 tablespoons lemon juice

50g whole almonds with skin on

Melt butter, set aside to cool. Whisk 100g honey, 50g icing sugar, eggs and vanilla until light and pale. Add butter and ground almonds, mixing well. Pour into a greased and lined 23cm round cake tin. Bake 170°C for 30mins until a skewer inserted in middle comes out clean. Allow to stand for 5 mins. Slice the almonds, each into about 3 pieces and toast on a baking tray in the oven for about 10mins. Heat the remaining 50g honey. Turn the cake out, while still warm, remove the paper and flip over onto serving plate. While the cake is still hot pour over the honey and leave to cool. Mix icing sugar and lemon juice to make a spreadable icing. Spread over the top of the cake (use a palette knife dipped in hot water if necessary), scatter toasted almonds over the top. Leave to set for 1 hour.

PARISH SERVICES FOR APRIL 2024

| | Swinstead | Witham | Edenham |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7 th April Easter 2 | | 10am Parish Eucharist | 11.15am Parish Eucharist 4pm Evensong (Stable Chapel) |
| 14 th April Easter 3 | 8.45am Parish Eucharist | 10am Parish Eucharist | 11.15am All-age Eucharist 4pm Evensong (Stable Chapel) |
| 21 st April Easter 4 | | 10am Parish Eucharist | 11.15am Parish Eucharist 4pm Evensong (Stable Chapel) |
| 28 th April Easter 5 | | 10am Parish Eucharist | 11.15am Parish Eucharist 4pm Evensong (Stable Chapel) |

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