# GREETHAM COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2019 www.greethamrutland.com





Replacement of church roof underway



# Greetham Community Centre Fun-Family-Friends

## **Looking Ahead**

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October – Safari Supper Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October – Children's Halloween Party 4-6pm Friday 1st November – Fireworks Night From 6pm









Friday 6th December 2019

DOORS OPEN- 6.30PM EYES DOWN- 7.00PM

FANTASTIC PRIZES
LICENSED BAR

## Planning an Event?

## **Contact us**

079780

www.greethamrutland.com/ community-centre Find us on facebook

01572 812389 or mobile 07500

Alternatively email us at bookgreetham@gmx.com

Please note changes of advertised dates for fireworks and Halloween events.

## Regular Activities

Day	Activity	Time	Frequency
Monday	WI	7.30pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday monthly
Tuesday			
Wednesday	Community Centre Meeting Parish Council Meeting	7.30pm 7.30pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday monthly 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday monthly
Thursday	Meet 'Em and Greet 'Em Coffee Morning	10am	Weekly
	Badminton	7.30pm	Weekly
Friday			
Saturday			
Sunday			

## **COMING EVENTS IN OCTOBER**

Wed 2nd Oak House Lunch Sat 5th Safari Supper

Sun 6th 9.30am Morning Worship - Greetham Community

Centre

Village Quiz Wheatsheaf 8pm

Mon 7th Mobile library Wed 9th Parish Council

Sun 13th 9.30am Morning Worship with breakfast from 9am

Greetham Community Centre

Mon 14th WI

Sun 20th 9.30am Morning Praise Greetham Community Centre

Last day for items for November newsletter

Mon 21st Mobile library Sat 26th Halloween Party

Sun 27th 9.30 Holy Communion Greetham Community Centre

Community gardening

Village Quiz Wheatsheaf 8pm

#### Oak House lunch

Our Oak House Over 60s Lunch Club will be on Wednesday 2nd October - 1.15pm arrival. Two courses for £7.50. *'few spaces available, please book in advance, fabulous 2-course meal for £7.50 per person'*. *'Must ring to reserve on 01572 812647* 



## Greetham Monthly Sunday Quiz

At 'The Wheatsheaf' on Sunday October 6th and 27th at 8pm. Teams of four please. £1 per person entry (to include a light snack) with the money going to good causes - also a lucrative cash snowball.



## Rutland Mobile Library in Greetham

Monday October 7th and 21st.

Oakham Road Lock's Close 15.05 - 15.25 Times are approximate

For information please contact Oakham Library 01572 722918



### Parish Council

The next General Meeting will be convened on Wednesday October 9th 2019 at Greetham Community Centre commencing at 19.30hrs. Correspondence will be available before the meeting from 19.20 hrs.

#### WI

Our next meeting on October 14<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm will be a Craft Evening with everyone having the opportunity to have a go at rag rug making, felting and badge making.

## **Community Gardening**

Next community gardening sessions outside the vicarage on Church Lane on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September and 27<sup>th</sup> October. 2pm. Bring digging tools as we need to get the snowberry removed. Jobs available for children as well (accompanied by an adult) Contact Karen for more details 07850350330.





# An outstanding September Gathering

Historically, the September Gathering has been the one where we expect a lower attendance and fewer vehicles to admire. In the previous 4 years we have had poor weather and our best vehicle attendance had been a combined number of 230. Over the 4 years we had an average at our Sep-

tember Gatherings of 139 vehicles. However, this time, with the most glorious weather you could have wished for, and considering how the nights draw in so early now, we had a staggering 589 cars and motorbikes turn out. Wow! With passengers and walk-ins, the number of people in attendance was probably over 800. Yet, despite appearances, this Gathering ranked as our 3<sup>rd</sup> best attended this year and since the Gatherings started in 2014.

The Gathering continues to gain momentum, as the element of surprise seems always to be with us. The number of "not previously seen" vehicles always creates an element of excitement as to just what may turn up and it reinforces the fact that the reputation of the Gathering spreads further each time. As is now our custom, we won't be putting out a list of the fantastic marques that we are able to attract, but if you are interested, intrigued or just fancy an evening out, then come along to the next meeting (on the 21<sup>st</sup> May 2020) to see for yourself – or look at our website. We shall continue with pretty much the same formula next year – as there seems to be little need for change. One small point to note is that from May next year we shall be charging £2 per vehicle to enter and park). Remember, all profits from this charge go to our local Air Ambu-



lance.

We are looking to see if we can speed up the food line and get a wider range of options on sale. We shall also be putting out a call for home baked cakes and helpers in the kitchen. If you can help then please let Carol know on 813717. Your assistance and support is always appreciated. We shall put the call out in early 2020 so you will be reminded! We shall also call for volunteers to help with parking and

other logistical tasks.

A big thank you goes, as always, to all who helped with the organisation and running of the Gatherings this year, whether it be parking of all the vehicles, the food crew with Andy Saunders (who, as always, did a magnificent job with his team), the kitchen and cakes ladies, the Rutland First Responders, the raffle ticket sellers, and of course all who attended and supported us. We look forward to seeing you at the next Gathering and as always, volunteers to help with the event are most welcome. Whether that be marshalling vehicles, set-up, take down, clearing up the rubbish, donating cakes or raffle prizes – your assistance would be appreciated. Just turn up and make yourself known to any of the helpers in yellow fluorescent jackets.

For more information please see our website

at <a href="www.greethamgathering.co.uk">www.greethamgathering.co.uk</a>, and if you wish to contact us you can email us at <a href="greethamgathering@mail.com">greethamgathering@mail.com</a>.

We look forward to seeing you there in May 2020, and again "Thank You" for your continued and valuable support.

Martin Fairbairn

P.S. We shall announce our donation amount to the local Air Ambulance just as soon as we have worked out what it is to be!

## **GENERAL**

## Rutland North Neighbourhood Police

Leicestershire Constabulary 10<sup>-</sup>

Through the force website – www.leics.police.uk and following the link – Your Community.

Rutland County Council 01572 722577 Crimestoppers 0800 555111

URGENT Remember, in an emergency always call 999.

## Temporary Closure of Greetham Church

We are delighted to tell you that the work to replace the nave roof of the church will begin in September. The church will be closed from Sunday 18<sup>th</sup>

August to allow us time to sort out the interior before the scaffolding is erected. Please be assured that services will still take place in Greetham but at the Community Centre and all are welcome to join us. All services will start at 9.30am

## **Operation Christmas Child – Shoebox Appeal**

It's time to start thinking about filling shoeboxes again, to help bring joy to many children. This is a wonderful very simple way of showing Jesus' love to children in many different countries who may never have received a gift before. The children chosen to receive the boxes may be orphaned, sick/ terminally ill or living in very poor circumstances. The instructions for what to include and what not to include have been changed this year so be sure to pick up a leaflet with all the details. I will place leaflets in Cottesmore, Exton and Greetham churches or please telephone me and I will deliver. The completed boxes will need to be with me at the beginning of November and I will put a reminder and final date in the October newsletter. Boxes may be left in the three churches mentioned or delivered to my home 3 New Field Road, Exton and it is fine to leave them in the porch. Otherwise just telephone me (01572 813118) and I will collect.

Patricia Hagger

PS Completed boxes will either need to be left in Cottesmore or Exton churches or delivered to me by Sunday 10 November at the latest.

## Church Book of Remembrance

The Book of Remembrance is being updated while the church is closed for the roof repairs. Any further entries can still be included if anyone wishes. Details should be sent to Helen Macleod-Smith, 812852.

## PARISH COUNCIL Greetham Parish Council

## Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday, September 11th 2019

**Present** Mrs S. Begy (SB), Mrs J. Denyer (JD), Mr P. Hitchcox (PH);,Mr D. Hodson (DH), Mrs A. Jenkins (AJ),

Mr R. Kinchen (RK)

1 Apologies for absence Mr K. Edward

2 Disclosure of interests in items on the agenda and dispensations granted.

RFO (DH) does not vote on financial matters

Motion to accept minutes - Proposed DH, Seconded SB .-Voted in favour

## 4 Matters arising.

The RCC Highways officer with whom matters were being dealt with is no longer with RCC. There had been some difficulty in getting satisfactory responses from RCC on a number of issues. It was agreed that a RCC Highways representative should be asked to visit Greetham so that the issues could be explained in person and solutions agreed. Nick Begy will facilitate this process.

JD to send him a list of all the issues which are of concern.

Items to be included, plus others from minutes:

Blocked drains Church Lane & Main Street junction. Thistleton Rd & Path dust by quarry and accident damage to path.

Church Lane Restriction Signs

Oak House chicane – smoothing of radius.

Lovell Tree Planting – still not completed.

PH reported that he had spoken last week with the Enforcement Officer who is actively pursuing the matter. Lovell have undertaken to replace the trees and will do so in the planting season this year.

North Brook Tree Planting:

PH reported that the Forestry Commission are dealing with this matter Quarry Dust:

A petition with 60 signatures had been given to the Parish Council. JD will write a letter to RCC forwarding the petition and giving GPC support to its purpose.

#### 5 Finance

Update on AGAR from P.K. Littlejohn

DH had contacted PK Littlejohn to remind them that a response was required by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019 (There is a requirement to publicly display their response by that date). They had then requested some explanations on various matters. DH had supplied them with the answers

Monthly Budget. Appended. No questions

#### **Invoices for Payment**

Dog poo bags, £161.82

Payments to Heartbeat – Late unpaid invoices – £38, £13 and £38 = £89 + £282 for G3Battery

Ink for printer, £65.66

Came & Company - shortfall in payment - £64.42

£41.60 payment to HMRC Clerk's Tax for July QTR.

Motion to accept all above items - Proposed by RK, Seconded by AJ. Voted in favour. **Approval to Place an Order** 

DH explained he had applied for and received a grant of £2432 from a fund (supported by Lovell who had built Begy Gardens), for three information display boards around the village.

Unfortunately he had underestimated the cost of artwork which will be required. He proposed two options. Either, request that the money be used for two rather that three information boards or the Parish Council made up the short fall of £700.

A motion proposed that the Parish Council should make up the shortfall of £700 so that three boards can be funded. Proposed: JH, Seconded SB. Voted in favour

Note: PH stressed the importance of the boards being durable and that the information on them is correct. DH said that the supplier of the boards is the same as that used by Historic England and he was confident that they will be durable. AJ suggested that the Rutland Historic Society be asked to confirm that the content of the boards is correct. DH will do this.

Annual Village Clock Service – proposal for payment of £126 to Greetham PCC for clock servicing. Proposed by AJ, Seconded by SB. Voted in favour.

The RFO asked "Do Councillors want a copy of 2 NALC guides ("The Good Councillor's Guide to Finance and Transparency" and "The Good Councillor's Guide"), as recommended by the Internal Auditor. Cost about £5 per copy. Also do Councillors want printed Standing orders which will cost £1 per person?

It was proposed that 8 copies of each guide will be obtained and 5 parish councillors requested hard copies of the Standing Orders. Total cost £85.

Proposed by AJ, Seconded PH, Voted in favour.

A quote from Instant Eden of £360 to cut back the hedge at Community Centre had been obtained. This had arisen from RCC requesting the footpath be made passable. RK was aware of an alternative contractor for this work and it was agreed to obtain a second quote. He will pass the contact details to JD for her to request a quote.

Update on Internet Bank Account – Old account closed and monies transferred over to new Internet Bank Account.

#### 6 Planning

The Rutland Villages Services and Facilities Survey 2019 response by GPC had been circulated with the agenda. No further comment

The Settlement Hierarchy Document response had been circulated with the agenda. No further comment.

It was agreed that a "Freedom of Information Request" be made to RCC to see all the documentation relating to the updating of the Settlement Hierarchy document which is on file.

2019/0965/FUL 81 Main Street, Two storey and single storey rear extensions It was proposed that the application be supported.

Proposed – RK, Seconded SB, Voted in favour. DH to submit response on line.

2019/0571/FUL & 2019/0572/LBA

Planning decision notice 45-47 Main Street – Both applications refused. 2019/0476/FUL

Ram Jam Petrol Station – approved

2019/0009/appeal - Ram Jam Listed Building Status - rejected by Historic England.

Further comments sent to RCC - comments distributed with agenda

#### 7 Standing Orders and Focus Groups

Planning. (DH/AJ/RK)

Update on Local Plan Review

NB had provided a statement on the current situation that had been given to RCC Cabinet – (Appended).

DH commented that he was concerned that as the funding of £30 million for the St George's Barracks development had not yet been approved, this could significantly affect the Local Plan which already somewhat behind schedule.

#### Traffic/Footpaths/Pavements/Lighting. PH/AJ/RK

Issues to be included in the proposed meeting with Highways.

Burial Ground. SB/KE/JD

Procedures updated and visit to Dormans Undertakers in Uppingham to review procedures. Need to review our burial fees in line with RCC. Meeting being set with Focus group to review burial fees for approval by GPC.

#### Trees/ Benches/ Clean up SB/PH/AJ

Confirmation from AJ that equipment has booked for 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

Benches – Proposal for another bench. It will be necessary to consult with RCC to see if a licence is required. Proposed location – opposite The Wheatsheaf. SB to obtain quote, including cost of base.

Great Lane Trees: No 45 tree (2<sup>nd</sup> planting) is poorly. PH reported that this will be left to see if it recovers next year. If it does not, a different location will be tried.

#### Jacob's Well DH/JD

Upgrading of kerbs and paving will be raised at the proposed meeting with Highways.

#### Community Centre Grant Projects JD/KE

Bar renovations completed.

#### Community Garden Group DH

Work has started. More advertising of gardening events required

#### 8 Community Centre

- Thanks to the excellent work of the Blue Sky Team in obtaining grants, the bar has been refurbished and upgraded to meet the demand of large scale events such as the ~Greetham Gathering.
- The Greetham Gathering has continued to be successful and provides a significant contribution to the finances of the centre.
- On the downside, Slimming World have moved elsewhere and this will negatively impact finances.

 It has been agreed to restructure the Committee. The Trustees will focus on strategic decisions and there will be several teams to conduct the day to day running of the centre. Members of these teams do not necessarily need to be trustees.

#### 9 Welcome Card Visit None

#### 10 Correspondence and Communication

Bridge Lane Tree pruning

This had been requested by RCC. However, it was noted that the tree is growing into electrical distribution overhead lines and that Western Power should cut back the tree. JD to write to them requesting this.

School Bus Changes

KE had written to RCC in support of matters raised by a resident. It was reported that an extra stop at Catmose has been agreed.

The Clerk job vacancy had been advertised – closing date 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

Hedge and Footpath by bowls club leading to Play Area

See finance item

Containers – letter from member of the public. This will be forwarded to RCC

Gate key holder – SB will keep a key in place of the previous clerk

Chair requested missing burial book and print off of purchases from retired clerk. Awaiting reply.

Pavement safety

The issue will be included in t the proposed meeting with Highways.

Bin collection Bullfield Close

RCC will write to residents.

Essential drainage works in Main Street will take place 19<sup>th</sup> September to 8<sup>th</sup> October Safer Villages scheme.

JD will establish whether or not the previous clerk will continue to be involved in this scheme.

#### 11 Reports from outside bodies

NALC EXPO

The event provided two useful pieces of information.

Firstly, DH had the opportunity get a better understanding of accounting procedures from a company which provides software for council accounts. I do not think that our accounts warrant the purchase of the software but the information obtained was very useful in preparing our year end accounts.

Secondly, the same company provides a software for managing burial procedures. They gave DH a full set of the documentation associated with this that has been passed on to JD

#### 12 Items for future agendas

2020 Parish Council Magazine

Standing Orders - approval of updated version following comments from June meeting Safeguarding policy update - required in connection with grant for information display boards - attached to Standing Orders

Financial Regulations - approval of draft new regulations to reflect current practice - attached to Standing Orders

Decision on Christmas tree for village green.

Discuss wheelie bin stickers

Digital Rutland communication

13 Date of next PC Meeting 9th October, 2019

14 Note items to be filed on Dropbox from this meeting for future reference.

All items already there

## Village Autumn Clear Up, November 2nd

Can you help with a good old fashioned Village Autumn Clear up! We are going to have a major litter pick and tidy up in Greetham on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2019 and we need your help!

We are meeting at 10.00 am at the Community Centre and we will have pickers and bags ready for you to use and a game plan to get to all the hidden corners of the village. Many hands make light work so please come along and help for an hour or so. Greetham Parish Council

## Tree Warden update

I have spoken to the Rutland County Council Enforcement Officer and he assures me that Lovells intend to plant and replant trees at Begy Gardens according to their plan; this should be carried out soon.

Peter Hitchcox Tree Warden

## Door Step Pedlars - Potential Scam

They are doorstep callers who target areas offering small household products for sale. These callers may claim to be ex-convicts attempting to mend their ways, however they are not part of any recognised rehabilitation scheme.

Please warn your neighbours, particularly elderly or vulnerable neighbours, not to open the door to strangers or buy or sell on the doorstep. Some doorstep callers may offer poor quality goods at inflated prices and if a caller is not genuine, they may be gathering information for future crime.

Please keep in mind that if cold callers don't get any sales in your area, they are less likely to return

## How they work

The sellers may say that they are on a "rehabilitation course" arranged by probation services or other organisations trying to find people work. This is not the case and often they are known criminals. Probation services do not run such schemes.

They may show a card which claims to be a "Pedlars Licence" or work permit.

They may also hand over a card saying they are deaf or dumb. According to the police, the bag of household products is supplied by someone who employs them. The lads are supplied with a full bag of household products (including the typical tea-towels!) and charged a minimal sum for the contents – it used to be £35. They can keep whatever they make, above this amount.

Usually they are deposited in an area from a transit van and given a list of streets to work. An hour or so later they are picked up and dropped off in another location. They often work from 9am to 9pm.

They will knock on a door, offering cleaning items which they know are

cheap and of very poor quality; the householder also knows they are rubbish but that is part of the scam. Many people will purchase items and pay them something, just to get rid of them. There have been cases of elderly residents handing over large sums as these lads can be very persistent and confrontational.

The price for whatever has been purchased usually comes to a note – usually £10. The householder disappears to get this – this is when the scam begins, according to the police. When the note is handed over, the lad examines the condition and how long it took the person to get it. If it is crumpled, they accept it and move on. If it is crisp flat and new – they are much more interested and may engage the person in more conversation, to obtain details about them. As they leave they will smell the note. If it is slightly musty – this is an indication that there is more in the property. Those addresses are noted. The addresses of elderly / vulnerable / gullible people are all noted.

These are handed to the employer and there is a small amount of cash handed over for each one.

These addresses are then sold in prisons and pubs. If there is a later break-in, the employer expects a further cut of the proceeds.

Police advise that in almost every case of a stop check – the lads have long strings of convictions for burglary and violence. They use the skills learnt during their criminal activity to identify possible targets.

#### **TURN THEM AWAY**

**REMEMBER** if cold callers don't get any sales in your area, they are less likely to return

## Message Sent By

Will Ryan (Police, Enquiry Officer, Rutland)

## FOR YOUR DIARIES

## **Greetham Bridge Tea**

There will be a Bridge tea in aid of Greetham Church at the Community Centre on Friday November 8th at 1.00 for 1.30 pm start.. All bridge players are welcome. Play

will be progressive, £10 per head, delicious tea, raffle and prizes. For further information phone 812852.

#### HOPE AGAINST CANCER CHRISTMAS LUNCH

SUNDAY 24TH NOVEMBER 2019 AT GREETHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE

2 COURSE CHRISTMAS LUNCH - TEA/COFFEE & MINCE PIES £10.00 per person (must be pre-booked) Under 10's £5.00 Lunch served at 1.00 pm - Bar will be open Raffle prizes welcome Tel: Sally on 01572 813639

## Greetham Quarry Presentation to the Parish Council and the Public.

# Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 7.00pm at the Greetham Community Centre

This will be followed by the November Parish Council meeting John Gough, Planning Director, for Mick George, will be making a presentation to the Parish Council and local residents regarding a future planning application to extend the Greetham Quarry on the north -western side. He will explain the proposal in detail and address any issues the Parish Council or public would like to raise.

Please make sure you attend if you have any concerns or questions regarding the Quarry development.

## **Greetham Living Advent Calendar 2019**

After a very successful first year, we are beginning the planning of our second Greetham Living Advent Calendar!

The Annual Advent Calendar event will be taking place in December from the 1st through until Christmas Eve.

Each evening at 6.30pm one window of the Living Advent calendar will be unveiled at houses around the village.

If you are resident in Greetham and would like to join in, Please complete the choices form or please contact us on Facebook or telephone Pauline on 07977575056 or Gillian on 813943

Dates will be allocated to suit but obviously contacting us sooner will mean the most choice for your evening. The window displays can be simple or works of art - it does not matter - participating is fun and the location can be anywhere in the village. Generally the unveiling involves a tipple of something and some nibbles but it's not obligatory! Contributions can also include 'extras' such as recitals or song.

This year we would like to collect donations of Christmas food tins for Oakham Food bank, or money donation for the VE Day celebrations to be organised next May, to which all villagers we hop will benefit. Your kindness will be appreciated.

Happy planning, Pauline, Gillian and Sylvia

#### NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

Please send details of all forthcoming events to Clare Hitchcox

## by Sunday October 20th please

The Walnuts, 69 Main Street, Greetham. LE15 7NJ email: greethamnews@aol.com

#### WOULD YOU LIKE TO SPONSOR THE NEWSLETTER?

The newsletter is collated, printed and distributed to every house in Greetham. Obviously costs are involved and we invite businesses and individuals to sponsor the newsletter with a donation of £25. Sponsorship is duly recognised in the newsletter. If you are interested please contact the editor at greethamnews@aol.co

As we have not lived in Greetham for 6 years, but still enjoy reading the Newsletter on a regular basis, we thought we would take the opportunity to sponsor it! Greetham is such a special village! Barbara and Gerald

Also thanks to Richard Cumming for his sponsorship

Where was I? Manor Farm garden, Little Lane



## The Greetham Advertiser

Promoting local businesses, tradesmen, handymen and others.

To advertise your services here please contact Pauline Kelly 07977575056

## Sheerwood Skip Services Recycling & Transfer Station

Wood Lane ~ Greetham ~ Rutland LE15 7SN email: sheerwoodskipservices@hotmail.co.uk

Suppliers of - Skips Sand • Gravel • Granite Ballast • Top soil



Tel: 07850 144 367 • 01780 460065



# The festive season at Greetham Valley

Butte to Care,

Bearing Day

Festive Lunch Menu

Non Voca's Esc Parts

Nata Year's Day survey land

## Contact us to book or for more information

Greetham Valley, Wood Lane, Greetham, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 75N 01780 460444 www.greethamvalley.co.uk



## **Exton and Greetham CE Primary School**

Serving the communities of Greetham and Exton

## 57 Varieties...

We start 2019-20 with 57 pupils in the school.

Henry Heinz, of ketchup fame, thought that 57 was a lucky number and chose to celebrate '57 varieties' of product from Heinz, though in reality they have many more. Much like Heinz, we celebrate the 57 individuals we have in our school. At Exton &

Greetham we value every child's differences – and it is part of what makes our school a special place – that we all, staff and pupils have individual strengths and talents to explore, grow and share.

Pictured are two of our twelve new children in foundation stage. They have all made a great start

to their school career, have already settled in very well, making friends and beginning their learning journey with us.



We look forward to watching all of the children 'Explore and Grow' this year in their new year groups.

School website: www.extonschool.co.uk

Phone: 01572 812380 to arrange a visit.