

Round and About

www.blisworthvillage.org.

Blisworth Parish Council Newsletter
August/September 2021 No 140



Notes from the Council.....

Contact Details for the Parish Council

Residents ask what is the way to contact the Council. The easiest ways are to email our Clerk blisworthparishcouncil@gmail.com or to use the "Contact Us" section on our website (www.parish.blisworthvillage.org). Otherwise, you can contact any Councillor who will help you.

Parish Council meetings returned to the Village Hall in May, the Government made it unlawful for Parish meetings to be held by remote online video conference, eg Zoom, based on a legal interpretation of 'being present' at Parish Council meetings. Our Council has selected the Village Hall as a safe and suitable location for the return of their face-to-face meetings, normally held on the first Monday of each month. Early indications are that the meetings are more productive with better understanding of what is discussed and agreed. There is space in the Village Hall for residents to attend in a Covid compliant manner by just showing up rather than having to use a computer with possibly poor connections. We hope this will extend transparency in local democracy and make it easier for residents to ask questions in the public sessions, just like we did for many years before our lockdowns. We have vacancies for three Councillors.

Keeping the Footways and Highways Clear

The Parish Council would like to remind residents to keep their hedges etc., maintained where they affect the public highway and footpaths. Residents concerned about overhanging hedges affecting public footpaths etc, should report the matter via the Northamptonshire FixmyStreet website (<https://fixmystreet.northamptonshire.gov.uk>). When reported West Northants Council (WNC) will contact the householder to maintain the overgrowth and, if there is no response, they can fix the problem themselves and charge the householder for the work.

Allotment Parking

There is an ongoing issue of illegal parking in the allotment parking areas that are for allotment users only. The Council will be providing a flyer advising people not to park in these areas and we would appreciate if you can help remind people not to park there unless they are allotment holders.

Special Grant from the Northampton Gateway Community Liaison Group

Blisworth Parish Council has an opportunity for a grant from the developers, SEGRO, of the Northampton Gateway warehouses and rail terminal, payable via West Northants Council. It is payable in 2 parts (now and approximately 3 years later on occupation of the first warehouse). Five local Parish Councils are eligible for the same payments that will be judged by the Council Spending Board - Blisworth,

Roade, Milton Malsor, Collingtree and Grange Park.

We are seeking feedback from residents about the key issues and ideas that comply with one or more of the following purposes:

1. carry out physical improvements to the public realm;
2. enhance nature conservation interest;
3. improve the physical environment of the villages within the areas of the Parishes.

Please send your feedback to blisworthparishcouncil@gmail.com or speak with one of your Councillors before the end of August 2021.

Bring or Bag

The PC would like to thank the team that have provided the Bring or Bag facilities in the village bus stop adjacent to the Royal Oak. I am sure many villagers have valued and appreciated this facility and the organisers are looking for a party to undertake the safe and effective running of this facility on behalf of the village from October. If anyone is interested in taking this on, I am sure that this will be valued by the community. Please contact our Parish Clerk.

Highways Safety Issues

We continue to lobby all relevant organisations about the continued blight of traffic through our village. You may have seen the additional safety signage, reminding residents and road users that its 30 mph, that has been provided by the Highways team. This is a continued focus for the PC despite these Highways issues being managed by WNC. We would encourage residents to continue to report issues to the PC about speed, lorries, dangerous driving and accidents so we can continue to gather evidence in support of our case to improve the road safety in the village. Pot holes and highway defects should be reported to FixmyStreet website.

Planning

The Station Road house development application and appeal, WNC has declined the appeal from the developers of the proposed development of approximately 30 dwellings.

Play Area

The Council are preparing improvements to the Play Area, including a new bench that will be installed soon. other items are being repaired or improved.

David Wilson Chair Blisworth Parish Council

Village Hall & Playing Fields Association

Now that organisations are returning to Village Hall, we would appreciate if the car park can be reserved for Hall users only. **Ann North 858579**



FOBS

Friends of Blisworth School



Thank you to everyone who has supported FOBS over the last year. We hope to see the return of more of our regular events from September. Follow us on www.facebook.com/BlisworthPTA to keep up-to-date with what we are doing. In the meantime you can continue to support us by:

- If you are having a clear out of clothes, the bins are still there just in the top car park now
- If you shop with Amazon, the charity is registered with Amazon Smile
- If you shop online, we are registered with Easyfundraising - many retailers are on there

Please email blisworthpta@gmail.com for more details on any of the above.

BVHPFA 250 Club Results

	June	July
£30	173	132
£20	3	120
£20	88	10
£10	59	90
£10	169	16

Thank you to all our members.

Estelle Rose 858482

Blisworth Baptist Church

Give thanks to The Lord, for He is good. His Love endures forever Ps.136

As of today, the legal and mandatory restrictions have been lifted, and so it is with great joy that we will be opening the buildings again, to serve our Community. Of course we have a responsibility to keep you all safe whilst using our facilities, so there will be guidelines and expectations as we join back together. Our programme for opening is:

Friday 23rd July Toddlers Group Starts. Runs from 10:00 – 12:00 each Friday

Sunday 25th July Church Reopens. Live Services at 10:30

Tuesday 3rd August Coffee House Reopens. Runs from 10:00 – 12:00 each Tuesday

Saturday 25th September Men's Breakfast Restarts at 8:30. Then the last Saturday of every month.

Worship Service every Sunday at 10.00am (Also available on line over Zoom)

Communion every First Sunday

Everyone is most welcome to join us again.

Other Events to which you are welcome will resume:

Film Nights, Quiz Nights

Usually the last Friday in the month at 7.30

Don't forget your drinks and nibbles.

Please ring the Pastor / Secretary for Zoom Codes at the numbers below.

Pastor:	Keith Barker	01327 352972
Assistant Pastor:	Lee Hillyard	01604 857654
Secretary:	Ray Payne	01604 877442
Room Bookings:	Office	01604 857654

Website www.blisworthbaptistchurch.org.uk

Blisworth Parish Church

The Pharisees got together, one of them, an expert in the law, tested Jesus with this question: "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law? Jesus replied: Love the Lord your God with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest commandment. And the second is like it: love your neighbour as yourself."

Matthew 22 vv 34-40, taken from the NIV edition.

What about "The Ten Commandments"? Well, this reply of Jesus neatly shows that if we truly love God and love our neighbour, we will automatically obey all ten. We will not dishonour or abuse others, cheat or steal, but will take every opportunity to serve others and stand up for what is right.

At the time of writing, we are witnessing unprecedented floods and fires in Germany and other countries. Once, insurance companies called such events "acts of God". Although this term is not now used, acts of God are still found wherever there is disaster and suffering. Rescuers still crawl into collapsed buildings, risking life if there is any chance of a survivor. Folk give shelter to destitute families. Thousands give money, food and clothing. In all such acts, from greatest to least, God is at work. As the saying goes, "God has no hands but our hands". Let us use them. Let us not look only to our own finite and inadequate capacity, but instead reach for the resources of heaven.

Sadly we have witnessed the other side of the coin in the appalling abuse of young footballers by those who reject any sense of kindness, compassion or rightness. These are not acts of God – these are acts of pure evil.

Although many covid restrictions are to be legally lifted, in the church we will not immediately reverse all that we have put in place to safeguard everyone's wellbeing. We will follow advice from our Bishops and go ahead with caution, to ensure that progress, once attained, will hopefully never have to be reversed.

Over the last few weeks we have settled into a regular rota, as follows. There are services in St. John's in Blisworth at 11am on the first, second and fourth Sundays. On those days there will also be a 9.30 service at one of the other Benefice churches, on third Sundays there will be a 9.30am at Milton Malsor and an 11am at Grafton Regis. On a fifth Sunday there will be a single 10am Benefice service: on August 29th, this will be at Alderton. One weekly service will be available on zoom, and on Wednesdays at 9.30am there is a Celtic themed service on zoom. Please contact the Rector if you would like a link for any of these.

We continue to pray for all still affected by the virus, for countries where the situation remains bleak, and for those working tirelessly to overcome the pandemic.

Rector	Rev. Canon Richard Stainer	857619
Wardens	Angela Cheesbrough	858059
	Fiona McKenzie	859541

Travel Free - Travel Safe - Travel Ability

Ability is a not for profit social enterprise dedicated to connecting people with local places to reduce loneliness and isolation. Once you have registered your Bus Pass can provide you with FREE door to door service to shops, banks, clubs etc. For more information contact:

Anne Goss on 858001

Blisworth Bring or Bag

The current organisers of Blisworth Bring or Bag will be stepping down as of October 2021. If you are interested in continuing this helpful community project, taking on responsibility for it all please do contact Laura on 07808549757.

We would like to thank everyone who has made this the success it turned out to be and for all the people that have contributed to it.

Thank you, Sarah 07599 053320.

Blisworth Women's Institute

Our monthly meetings have been continuing via Zoom, in April we had a very enjoyable evening with a performance from a magician. Steve is a professional magician who usually works on cruises and due to Covid has had to find other ways to continue his art. We certainly benefitted from these unfortunate circumstances as he gave a first class show and left us thinking "how did he do that"!

We continue to keep in touch with all our members as much as possible and gave out an Easter treat of simnel cake, chocolate bunnies and chocolate hearts. Quizzes continue to be sent out and the answers given out at our monthly meetings. In May we delivered 10 cakes to Cynthia Spencer Hospice as we do every year, they are always very well received.

If things go to plan with the gradual opening up and getting back to normal, we along with other village groups hope to get back to indoor meetings from September.

Tina Alexandrou - Secretary



Blisworth Friendship Group

We are delighted to say that our lovely group resumed on Wednesday 21st July, with strawberries and cream and a talk by the lady who started The Ability Bus.

Next meeting 4th August is the first of our boat trips on the beautiful new Crusader boat. Please note, if you are not on the boat trip, there is no meeting that day as all staff are required for transport.

Next meeting on 18th August is our long awaited party, we are calling it a Middlemass party as it was in the middle of the year. But of course had to be postponed again.

Next meeting on September 1st is our second boat trip.

My goodness we are nearly three quarters of the way through the year. If anyone else would like to join us, we meet every other week in the Football Clubhouse, We charge just £3 for a cuppa and lovely homemade cake. We also have a raffle, we are what we are called A Friendship Group. We now have over 40 members. if you are interested please contact Estelle 858482 Anne 858001 or Janet 07732987087.

Alderton Art Festival

Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th September

10.30 to 5.00 (Sat) 4.00 (Sun) Entry £1

Over 200 paintings from more than 30 local artists

Host of attractions, Craft Stalls, Beer Tent, Tea Stall etc

West Northamptonshire Council

As you probably know, there are now two new Unitary Councils for Northamptonshire - North and West. They will help us provide better services and information for residents and businesses. **West Northamptonshire** covers the local areas of Daventry, Northampton Borough and South Northamptonshire. Have a look at our new website, it's full of information - westnorthants.org.uk.

Myself, Cllr Ann Addison and Cllr Adam Brown are your elected Members, your District Councillors for West Northants Council. We represent the residents in the Bugbrooke Ward which includes Blisworth, Gayton, Pattishall, Milton Malsor, Rothersthorpe, Kislingbury, Harpole, Bugbrooke, Nether Heyford and Upper Heyford.

To best support the Ward we have divided up the Parishes for attendance at Parish Council Meetings and day to day business supporting our residents. I am responsible for Blisworth, Gayton and Nether Heyford.

Please do contact me for help, advice and support.

Best wishes

Karen

Cllr Karen Cooper, The Paddocks, Baker Street, Gayton NN7 3EZ. Karen.cooper@westnorthants.gov.uk
Tel: 07753 638180



Our school community has had a wonderful time despite the pandemic. We have had lots of fun curriculum days to learn including burning cardboard buildings as part of the children's Fire of London topic, a firepit for our Stone Age learning day plus lots of cooking and art as well.



Many of you will know, we are now home to the Rhino Sports Academy which has been fantastic for our children. They have been very active, entered competitions and enjoyed having the coaches round school as role models.

Every class also learned to street dance! The children have worked so hard to make excellent progress despite school closure and we are exceptionally proud. Inside school we have been doing lots of decorating - keep an eye on our Facebook to see the changes.

Keep safe everyone and a huge thank you for making me feel so very welcome in your village community.

Miss Leah Jenkins Headteacher

Blisworth Film Club—One

Good News! I am delighted to announce that Tracey and Hugh Davenport have volunteered to take over the running of the Blisworth Film Club as Covid conditions allow, hopefully from October, when the Phoenix Film providers are planning to re start screenings.

The unused annual rental, paid in advance last January, has been donated to the Village Hall funds and as a final donation during my stewardship of the Film Club, £100 has been given to the Blisworth Friendship Group.

I would like to thank Beryl Payler for her constant help, my husband Martin for his tolerance whilst keeping the accounts and all the many friends and villagers who have supported the Film Club and enabled us to make annual donations to numerous village organisations during the past ten years.

Margaret Holiday

Blisworth Film Club—Two

The Blisworth Film Club will be returning to the Village Hall on **Thursday 28th October, 7pm.**

At this initial screening (film to be announced) we will be hoping to have a short chat about what folks might want from the Film Club – film choices, social events, format changes? All ideas are very welcome.

We are both very keen to maintain an active and vibrant Film Club.

Best wishes, **Hugh & Tracey Davenport.** Tel. 859140.
E.mail – MontyDavenport@outlook.com

Blisworth Arts Society

Both the afternoon and evening groups hope to start back on 6th September at the Chapel Coffee House. Anyone wishing to join us please contact Hilary Spurrier 859181.

Phyllis Holding

We are sad to announce the death of Phyllis (Tilly) Holding, who died on 9th July aged 96 years. Tilly lived with her husband Wuffy and children Sally, Robert and Tina in Courteenhall road for many, many years.

Tilly must have been one of the last veterans on WW2. She was in the WAAFs serving under Group Captain Peter Townsend. One day Peter Townsend came in and told the girls to come outside, there was someone they should see. It was Douglas Bader walking down the runway on his wooden stumps, having just landed his plane. She also worked in the Radio Operations room with Rex Harrison.

Wuffy (her husband) served in the SBS Special Boat Service. Both of them a real part of our history, and should not be forgotten.

Next Round & About copy deadline is:

Wednesday 22nd September for the October/November Issue.

Please email items you wish to include to:

blisworthranda@gmail.com

or send to the Editor: Alan North

89 Buttmead, Blisworth, Northants

THE PARISH COUNCIL ACCEPTS NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS NEWSLETTER.



Blisworth Heritage Society



After 16 months of severe restrictions we are slowly getting back to normal and by the time you read this the Heritage Society will already have had its summer outing to Stoke Park Pavilions. This will be followed on **12 Aug** by a guided walk around the heritage sites of the village: meet outside the **Royal Oak at 2:00pm.**

Then on **17 Sept at 7:30pm** we are finally back to the Village Hall for a talk by **Martin Sirot-Smith "Life in Tudor Times"** (with Music and Costume). This will be followed by regular monthly meetings again, details are still being finalised. See our website www.blisworthheritage.org.uk or village Notice Boards for latest information.



Blisworth Football Club

The club will be running 12 Junior and 2 Senior teams for the coming season. We have a new U7s team which has a healthy number of players from the village.

The Clubhouse rebuild will soon go to planning, hopefully the new building will be on the same footprint as the current build and plans will be available at the football club to look at as soon as they are available.

The club was glad to help the primary school by marking their running track for their sports day and are happy to help the committee by hosting the Blisworth Friendship Group in the coming months.

Please contact us on Blisworthfc1898@aol.com or via our Facebook page, Twitter @FCBlisworth.

Gary Edwards

Blisworth Monthly Coffee & Cakes

The monthly Coffee & Cake Sales at our house was one of the early casualties of lockdown and was another social gathering that was missed by many.

Once things started to ease and pubs & restaurants were opening we decided to hold 'Al Fresco' mornings on our drive which allowed space for social distancing.

The first one was greatly appreciated by everyone who came and raised a considerable sum for church funds. We then decided to hold them every two weeks for as long as the weather held. We have been very lucky and only cancelled once due to bad weather.

However in the end it was the virus that called a halt to our events. It was a shame but we need to keep everyone safe.

We have all enjoyed the mornings we have met and chatted with real people. Hopefully some will still be able to meet up on a smaller scale and at a safe distance.

Many Thanks for the generous donations and contributions of cakes, jams, produce etc and thanks to Estelle for the loan of the chairs. We pray for good health for all and look forward to seeing you around the village.

Stay Safe! Keep Smiling! - It's contagious!

Pat & Mason Masterman