

Round and About

www.blisworthvillage.org.

Blisworth Parish Council Newsletter
October/November 2021 No 141



Notes from the Council.....

Traffic Issues Update

Blisworth continues to be a village with heavy through traffic, often speeding in places that are dangerous. Residents have made many complaints about the problems we face. The Parish Council does not have responsibility for highways and footway infrastructure but have been working with our District Councillor to help make improvements and put traffic calming measures in place. However, it is clear that Highways maintain their historic position that they have little/no funding available to implement traffic calming measures. It may be that the only possible option for making such changes would be by way of Northampton Gateway Grant funding or by identifying other potential public grants.

Our July Round and About newsletter, issue 140 included an update on the Northampton Gateway Grant funding opportunities. If you have any feedback or ideas for how we use the Grant, please contact our Clerk by email, blisworthparishcouncil@gmail.com

Next Parish Council Meeting in October

There will be a public session for residents to share their ideas about Northampton Gateway Grant funding before our Parish Council meeting on Monday 4th October at 18.30 pm before the main meeting. You are welcome to attend and explain how you believe the money should be spent:

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.

New Mobile VAS Machine

Issues regarding the licence required for a new mobile VAS (speed indicator device) pole and machine have been resolved, and the PC is now investigating options/prices. Our intention is to purchase an additional device and an additional mounting pole for Courteenhall Road so the devices can be moved between Stoke Road, High Street and Courteenhall Road. They will be positioned towards the village boundary unlike the current VAS devices on Stoke Road and Courteenhall Road.

Changes to Parish Councillors

The Parish Council extends our thanks to Anne Goss who has recently resigned from her position as Parish Councillor and for her work across the village. We have 3 x vacancies for Councillors, you can contact a Parish Councillor for details or our Parish Clerk. Information is also on our website.

Carriageway Near the Village Boundary on Stoke Road

The carriageway near the Blisworth Tunnel entrance and car park has deteriorated over recent years, partly because of the volume and weight of traffic using our village routes.

With the help of our new District Councillor, arrangements are in place for Highways to carry out a CCTV survey, Jetting drainage survey, GPR survey, Vegetation clearance and a Topo survey (carriageway/footway/edge under the closure).

In addition, we will be installing 3T weight limit signs close to the location of carriageway cracking. These will be supplemented with advance warning signs of the 3T limit from the junction of Knock Lane and the High St. Highways has progressed the 3T traffic order to become effective from the 6th October and they will inform local business etc., e.g. Blisworth Hill Farm Business Park about the arrangements.

Play Area Improvements and Repairs

New and replacement equipment was ordered some months ago. Unfortunately, because of supplier delays caused by ongoing COVID impact, a shortage of equipment, materials and labour, the items and work will not be in place until mid/late October. The wooden bench that is in poor condition will also be replaced at the same time.

Village Planters

Our thanks are extended to our volunteers who have been maintaining the planters at our village entry and exit points and keeping them in tip top condition.

Blisworth Facebook Pages

If residents have feedback or ideas about village services or infrastructure, please ensure that you email our Blisworth Parish Council Clerk on blisworthparishcouncil@gmail.com. Posts only on the local Facebook pages will not always be actioned as the Council does not formally monitor the page. The Council may also ask you for more information than you would normally post on an informal page.

Blisworth Village Stores, Post Office, Shops and Pub

Please continue to support our wonderful local facilities. They provide a valuable amenity and service to our village and need our support.

Stay safe, everybody.

David Wilson Chair Blisworth Parish Council

St John the Baptist Christmas Coffee Morning and Bazaar

This popular event will take place again on Saturday November 27th from 10 am to 1230 p.m in St John's Church. The many stalls will include Christmas goods, gifts and toiletries, tombola, cakes, books. We look forward to giving everyone a warm welcome. Come along to enjoy refreshments as you browse, buy, relax and chat.

Blisworth Women's Institute

Unfortunately, the article in the last R&A was a repeat of the previous one (for which humble apologies Ed) so I will just give a brief resume of what would have been in the correct article.



May, June and July meetings were still via zoom, and we enjoyed speakers on Climate Change, 'Ration to Fashion' which included the fact that during WW2 the government supplied WI's with tons of sugar to make jam and this was credited to eradicating scurvy in the Navy, thus living up to our nickname 'Jam & Jerusalem'! The third speaker was Hilary Spurrier on 'Life in The Arctic'. In August we enjoyed a cream tea at The Royal Oak.

September saw us meet up again in the Village Hall, members were greeted with a Prosecco and poppers to pull to open the meeting with 'a bang'. We had a brilliant speaker, his topic was called 'Dancing with Diana' and he entertained us with many tails of when he was a Close Protection Officer to members of The Royal Family in The Met Police. Judging by the laughter and the hearty applause our members really enjoyed his varied and lively talk.

Coming up in October we have our AGM and supper, The British Legion in November and our Christmas celebration in December. New members always welcome, just come along to the Village Hall at 7.30pm on the second Thursday of the month. **Tina Alexandrou - Secretary**

BVHPFA 250 Club Results

	August	September
£30	155	37
£20	68	99
£20	44	137
£10	239	4
£10	96	244

Congratulations to our winners and good luck next time to all our other supporters

Estelle Rose 858482



Blisworth Allotments & Gardens Association

Stoke Road private allotment association is pleased to update the local community that we are still operating at full capacity and have a waiting list of 6 people. We would like to thank our members and the local community that use the bridlepath through our grounds for their continued respect and support in maintaining a friendly well kept local asset.

Anyone wishing to join our unique, inclusive and progressive allotment association should contact Gemma Roberts via blisworthallotments@gmail.com. We are still probably the cheapest allotment site in the UK, have an optional water scheme, a junior membership initiative, a monthly newsletter plus many more unexpected benefits all facilitated by various wonderful members.

Blisworth Parish Church

"Be still and know that I am God" Psalm 46:10 "And the peace of God which passes all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus" Philippians 4:7

These two quotations sit well together: practise the first, and the second will follow! It's often difficult to carve out even a few moments of quiet in days that are physically and mentally so busy. We rush around from one thing to another, and our minds are constantly active. So it is a valuable discipline to try to give ourselves the gift of a few moments to be still and thank God for His presence with us, to ask Him to guide our actions, and to tell Him our worries and fears. John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, had many siblings, yet in her busy life, his mother Susanna would put her apron over her head, so that her children knew not to disturb her prayer time.

The wearing of masks is now voluntary, and many people still feel, with good reason, that caution is necessary. However, as a more normal life resumes, it has been welcome to be able to be more relaxed about meeting in church, singing and enjoying refreshments.

The Northampton Art Trail will be held in church from October 2nd to 10th. Eight talented artists will display their work, and refreshments will be available. This is always such an enjoyable event, and well worth a visit.

The Remembrance Day service is on Sunday November 14th, starting in the churchyard at 10.50 a.m., hopefully with the uniformed organisations present. On Saturday November 27th our traditional coffee morning and bazaar will be held in church from 10 am to 12.30. A warm welcome for all who visit to enjoy a sociable morning.

December services, in celebration of our Lord's birth, are being planned. Details will be in the next issue of R&A.

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



Blisworth Heritage Society



We have 2 meetings coming up in the Village Hall both with a particular Blisworth flavour:

Friday Oct 8 at 7:30pm

History of Blisworth School (from the school log books) by Hilary Spurrier

Friday Nov 19 at 7:30pm (please note the date, a week later than normal)

Village Scrapbooks (with particular reference to George Freeston's 1952 scrapbook) by Cherish Watton

The Archives are available by arrangement, if there is something of particular interest in the records, please contact any committee member and we will try to make it available for you.

See our website www.blisworthheritage.org.uk

Blisworth Film Club

With great regret that we have to **postpone** the relaunch of the film club. Phoenix Community Cinema recently closed due to the impact of COVID and the withdrawal of vital grants & funding, they supplied projector, films, screen and projectionist. We now have to investigate other ways of developing the Film Club - lottery funding, other grants to support the purchasing or sharing of equipment and alternative sources for films. If anyone has any ideas, information, contacts or skills which will help this endeavour - please contact Tracey or Hugh at MontyDavenport@outlook.com or on 859140.

Defibrillator Update Including Planned Training

Local Defibrillator Training will be held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 12 October at 1900 - 2100. It is a free, however participants may wish to make a voluntary donation. We will be joined by South Northamptonshire Neighbourhood Watch team who will answer questions and give advice.

It will be a practical and useful training session open to all residents. It also aims to raise awareness of the machine's location outside of the primary school entrance.

Blisworth Friendship Group

Our last three meetings have been lovely; 4th Aug we had the second of our boat trips, great fun was had by all, some of our members enjoyed a meal at the wharf, the rest had a picnic we prepared. Special thanks to the crew of Crusader Community Boating, and the charity that runs it. Also to Ability bus company who helped take our members to the boat. These kind and generous people help to make life happier for so many people.

We had our Middlemas party (named as its in the middle of year) where our wonderful committee served our members a delicious lunch, followed by music and even dancing.

Last week, John Woodhouse entertained us with his wonderful (self made) horse racing game, all bets were 10 pence and if you were lucky, you could win at least £1. Great fun was had by all.

If you feel you would like to join us, its only £3 per week to cover room and refreshments, we meet at the football club and those who can't get there themselves, we'll pick up. Just ring Estelle on 858482

Blisworth Baptist Church

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

It is so good to be able to invite folks back into the Church and its building and for the village life to return to near normal, with a few restrictions still in place. The good news is that as of Tuesday October the 5th, Coffee House will open weekly utilising both the Coffee House and the hall. It will be so lovely to welcome you all back, to catch up with old friends again, as many activity groups begin again.

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:

Tuesday: Coffee House 10 - 12.

Fridays: Mums and Tots. 10 - 12

Film Nights Friday October 29th at 7.00 for 7.30pm start

Don't forget your drinks and nibbles

Men's Breakfast: 8.30 on October 30th and November 27th
Come and share some friendship and a good breakfast. All welcome. Please let us know you are coming for catering purposes.

Please ring the Pastor / Secretary for Zoom Codes

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

1st Blisworth Scout Group

10 Years – Really

It is almost 10 years since the new Scout Hall was opened to the young people followed by an official opening the following year. Opening night was simply magical, it seemed the whole village came out to see as we walked from the village hall new scout hall, the Grafton District Scout band played as they accompanied us. Candles lit the approach to the hall, the atmosphere was fantastic and something I will never forget.

One aspect of building of the new hall that amazed me was the contribution the village made. We had large donations from many funders but the village support made all the difference. Whether it was donations or the willingness to lend a hand the interest and encouragement from the village meant so much, so thank you.

That community spirit was fantastic and it has been again during the pandemic with villagers helping whenever they can. This spirit is something all Scout Leaders have in their programmes as it can work wonders, the scout hall is evidence of it. I am saddened that scout groups, Blisworth included, still struggle to recruit adult volunteers to help ensure that young people learn the value of that Spirit.

Looking back over the 10 years since the hall opened and the 30+ years I have been involved with scouting, what a time I've had, so many adventures, so many opportunities to try activities I may never had known otherwise. The Scout movement has so much to offer adults and young people. Here's to the next ten years for the Scout Hall as I look back and remember and be thankful for the support we were given. **Sandra**



We are thrilled to welcome back our children after the summer and are really enjoying getting to know all our new Reception children and new children who have joined us across school. They are all working very hard in their lessons and enjoying a range of sport. The children are busy at lunches playing basketball, football, tennis, undertaking cross-country running and dancing on a Friday! Next week we are looking forward to a week of promoting healthy lifestyles and good wellbeing.

Many of you in the village will have seen that much work has been undertaken inside the building. Key stage two classrooms, the school hall and our new reading lounge have all been decorated. Our staff are working hard to create reading promotion displays to tempt children with the next exciting book they want to read.

Miss Leah Jenkins Headteacher

Blisworth Arts Society

Calling all Artists. The Blisworth Arts Society is holding an Art Show on the 13th and 14th of November to showcase the many artistic talents in Blisworth. If you are a member of the Art Society or live in Blisworth you are warmly invited to enter your work. Please contact Hilary Spurrier on h.spurrier.123@btinternet.com or 859181 for details.

The Art Show will be in the village hall and we do hope for lots of visitors, there will be work for sale so perhaps the chance to do some Christmas shopping.



Blisworth Football Club

The season's started for our 15 teams, our 2 new U7 teams have made huge progress in a short time. Many village children are part of both squads as we look to increase the opportunities for local children to play and keep fit.

We continue to provide facilities for the Blisworth Friendship Group to hold their events and hope to continue helping this fantastic community group in the future.

One problem faced at the Playing Fields is the constant rubbish just left on the floor around the 'Mugga', dome and where cars park at night. We would be grateful if people would put their rubbish in the bins provided.

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



FOBS

Friends of Blisworth School



Thank you to everyone who has supported FOBS over the last 18 months. We are currently putting together plans for the coming year. Please 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:

- Using the clothes bins at the top of the car park
- Using our Amazon Smile when shopping at Amazon
- Use our Easyfundraising account for online shopping

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

Local Bus Tickets

The area for **Dayrider** tickets on Northampton Stagecoach has been increased, for £4.20 a day journeys from Blisworth to surrounding villages and as far as Earls Barton, Brixworth, Nether Heywood are now included.

Blisworth Pre School

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8am - 1pm

Tuesday and Thursday 9am - 3pm

Children accepted from 2 years

Ofsted Registered and approved

Experienced, nurturing, longstanding staff

Warm friendly village location

For more details please contact Pam on 07803 662433

Phyllis Holding

The family of the late Mrs Phyllis (Tilly) Holding would like to thank everyone for their kind words and thoughts. A tribute to a lady whose long life touched so many people.

Next Round & About copy deadline is:

Wednesday 24th November for the December/January 2022 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.

Rotary Becket

Rotary Becket members in Blisworth helped supply 3 foodbanks during the pandemic, as well as collecting door to door food donations, over £22,000 was raised. We know that many others volunteered locally to help the community to get through the challenges faced over the last 18 months.

Rotarians continue to support both young and old near us. If you have enjoyed the experience gained from giving that kind of help yourself why not become a club member and enjoy the fellowship and fun which comes from making a difference to the lives of others.

Right now Rotary Becket is collecting unwanted garden tools to help the Hope Centre get growing. In some areas we are rewilding or tree planting and our car service for the Young Carers programme is about to restart.

If you want to know more or to drop off some tools call 07401 971483 or message mail@rotarybecket.org.uk

Dick Roberts

Honorary Member Rotary Club of Northampton Becket

Stitchery Do

Creating with fabric and thread



StitcheryDo is back!

After such a long break, we are delighted to announce that the monthly craft group plans to restart on Thursday, November 4th, at Blisworth Chapel, from 10.00 to 2.00pm, (socially distanced as necessary).

New members are always welcome to join this friendly group who enjoy all aspects of stitching, knitting, creating with fabric and thread, as well as refreshments and a range of resources to use or borrow. Free advice is always on hand to help with your projects and occasional workshops and visits are arranged. Come and join us!

For more details, contact **Margaret Holiday**, on **858590**

BMC – Blisworth Mothers Club

All Meetings in the Village Hall 7.30 pm

19 October Quiz – Teams of 4.

16 November "Rock Those Frocks" - Clothes modelled by RTF staff for purchase from the shop.

Accessories will be available on the night.

21 December Xmas Party.

If you wish to join us, please contact Chris Lea 857659 or Beryl Payler 858476. **Chris Lea Secretary**

Windmill Avenue Christmas Market

We are thinking of holding a Christmas Market in Windmill Avenue Saturday December 4th 2pm-6pm. All stalls are for Blisworth Crafters who would like to show the village what they have on offer, not only for Christmas but for future reference, when we are looking for gifts. We will not charge for stalls as this is just part of Blisworth Community Spirit to make another great day in our lovely village.

Everyone will have to supply their own gazebo, lights etc and be responsible for their own and their customers safety, no charge therefore no money for liability insurance. BUT just imagine it. Christmas lights, music and goodies. Our brilliant neighbours have offered the use of their front gardens, so if you are a crafter and have Christmassy gifts to sell. Please give me a call on 858482 **Estelle xx**