



NORTHILL PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



Issue 43

Winter 2018

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A big thank you to everyone involved with the Remembrance events that were held throughout the parish to mark the centenary of the end of World War 1.

NPC would like to thank Cllr David Milton, Neil and Leo Chapman for works to the War memorial plinth prior to the service on Ickwell Green. Special

mention must go to David and Vicki Wingfield, Angela Over and their "Knit and Knatter Group" for producing over 11,000 knitted poppies to adorn St Mary's Church and the Lych Gate, and to Bernie Parsons for her exhibition at All Saint's, Upper Caldecote.

Northill Parish Council has been awarded the Foundation Award under the Local Council Award Scheme. This confirms we have the documentation and procedures in place to operate lawfully and to standard practice.

The next Parish Council Meeting is Thurs Jan 17th, 7.30pm at Ickwell Village Hall.

A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all.

RECENT PLANNING MATTERS

Lower Caldecote. Two applications at land adjacent to The Grange, Grange Lane, Lower Caldecote have both been rejected by CBC. One (CB/18/01946/OUT) was for 8 dwellings with all matters reserved except access. The second one (CB/18/02228/FULL) was for the change of use of land for the stationing of caravans for residential purposes.

Upper Caldecote. After much discussion the Planning Committee narrowly approved an application for 9 bungalows (2 and 3 bedroom) at 140, Biggleswade Rd. Some of the reserved matters (eg appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) at the Woodlands site are also coming forward to your Planning Committee for comment.

Northill An outline application for up to 10 dwellings (to include 2 bungalows, with all matters reserved except access) was recently approved by NPC, but was then withdrawn and replaced with an application for 21 dwellings, as allocated in CBC's Local Plan. A public meeting, as required by NPC's Large Scale Planning Policy, was then held to gauge residents opinions and resulted in NPC submitting several objections to the second proposal. Applications for 4 bungalows at The Meadows, Sand Lane, 4 Chalet Houses behind 43 to 63 Ickwell Rd and 2 bungalows at 25, Sand Lane await an official decision from CBC.

NORTHILL PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

The Northill Parish Neighbourhood Plan was submitted to CBC under Reg 16 on Nov 15th. CBC are now conducting an internal 6 week consultation, the results of which are sent directly to the government inspector tasked with examining the Plan. The examination will undoubtedly throw up some changes that will be required, after which CBC will organise a referendum in the parish to seek final approval. The anticipated time line suggests that the referendum might take place with the next year's parish and CBC council elections due in May.

All the important supporting documents (Consultation Statement, Basic Conditions Statement and the Site Assessment Report) are now available to view on the Neighbourhood Plan website

Northillneighbourhoodplan.org

Neighbourhood Planning in
Northill Parish Villages



The list of Community Led Projects identified during the course of consultations is also available on the website.

Any questions? Write to contact [@northillneighbourhoodplan.org](mailto:contact@northillneighbourhoodplan.org)

Parish Matters :Budget Setting & your Precept for 2019/2020.

NPC recently agreed a precept of £63,500 for 2019/2020. This represents a 3.25% increase from last year, amounting to a contribution of £63.18 for a Band D household, up from £62.12 (2018/2019). The Finance and General Purposes (F&GP) Committee, which made this recommendation, considers many important areas of parish life, including maintenance of the Greens, Cemeteries and Churchyards. The 5 year Tree Survey is due next summer, and NPC is already aware of tree works needed in parts of the parish. A recent unusual and very sad problem has been thirsty squirrels drowning in the water butt at Northill cemetery! Quarterly inspections are carried out and forwarded to the committee, but please bring any issues concerning you to the attention of the Clerk or a councillor. F&GP next meets on Thurs Jan 10th.

Ickwell Accommodation Track

Autumn 2017 saw the completion of the major project to install drainage and resurface the perimeter track at Ickwell Green. Early this year, additional AC-CO mesh was installed over the drains situated on either side of the Cricket Club. The Parish Council is now making arrangements to prepare for the first annual maintenance for the year 2018/19. This will take place in the Spring of 2019, after the winter. Any necessary repair work and weed control will be undertaken.

The Parish Council is now collecting annual contributions towards its ringfenced maintenance fund from adjacent households, and the Cricket Club. The Council has included £1,000 in this year's budget for this purpose.

The track is not part of the public highway, but as part of the Green is considered to be a private road giving access to adjacent properties and recreation for users of the Green. Northill Parish Council is custodian of Ickwell Green and is therefore responsible for ensuring the Green is fit for this purpose. Recalling the former state of the track, the Council and residents are generally pleased with the outcome of this project.

Caldecote Village News

After many years of service, David Humphries and Len Wagstaff are retiring as editors of the Caldecote Village News. Residents of all parts of the parish have enjoyed reading their magazine, most recently with articles about soldiers lost in the First World War contributed by Bernie Parsons. The magazine plays an important part in advertising parish events and local trades. At present, no one has come forward to take over the role. Interested? Please contact one of the editors. There also exists an opportunity to re-consider linking up all our parish magazines, as mentioned in the Parish Plan in 2008.

Disability Shopping Day — Purple Tuesday was held on Tuesday 13th November. Local businesses were encouraged to be more accessible to disabled people ahead of this new awareness day.

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Can you help those most in need in the community this winter?

Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation (BLCF) is an independent registered charity, providing support to local community groups and charities, many of whom are working with some of the county's most vulnerable and in need. They have just launched their Surviving Winter appeal to support those who may struggle with food or fuel poverty during the winter months. It is estimated that over 41,700 households in Bedfordshire live in poverty- with many people not able to afford to heat their homes or having to make a choice between eating or heating.

BLCF are partnering with local grassroot groups who often work with those most vulnerable in the community.

They are working with local Food-banks, The Need Project, FACES & Age Concern to provide essential items like food parcels, winter kits, or even helping towards paying fuel costs for those most in need.

The appeal is running between November through to January 2019 and aims to raise £20,000 to support individuals and families across the county during the winter months. If you would like to support this appeal

by organising a fundraising activity please get in touch on 01234 834930. Alternatively you can donate by text to: 'BLCF10' followed by the amount (£5 or £10) to 70070 or visit the website link: <http://www.blc.org.uk/giving/donate/winter/>



Fireworks Events at Shuttleworth in 2019

NPC has been notified that firework displays at events next year (including weddings) are currently planned for:

2nd Feb (22.00 to 22.30)

27th April (23.00- 23.00)

14th June (22.00 to 22.30)

28th Sept (22.00 to 22.30)

17th August –Flying Proms (Time TBC) Contact the Events Manager sara.dokhan@shuttleworth.org,

AdviceCentral Service

What is it? AdviceCentral is a free telephone and/or online advisory service. Mainly funded by CBC, it is primarily for the residents of Central Bedfordshire, but they will help out whoever contacts them as much as they can.

They can introduce local residents to relevant organisations and charities, but most importantly they capture their details and pass them on to their referral partners. This takes away the need for the resident to research for help, phone different numbers, speak to different people, and repeat themselves each time, which can be quite time consuming, stressful and upsetting, depending on the nature of the call.

They make their referral partners aware of the situation (either by phone or email) and then get them to call the individual back. The local residents only make one initial call.

They are able to give some advice out over the phone too (relating to benefits or disability equipment for example).

They were set up in collaboration with CBC, the Disability Resource Centre, Citizens Advice Bureaux in Leighton Buzzard, Dunstable and Ampthill, and Age UK Bedfordshire. All of these CABs have their telephone number contained in their voicemail messages, so they are often seen as the telephone answering service for them!

They have a number of referral partners who can offer help and advice in 12 areas, as seen from their website www.advicecentral.org.uk

Free and Confidential Advice in Central Bedfordshire—0300 303 6666

Kerbside Garden Waste Suspension

Between Monday 10 December 2018 and Friday 1 March 2019 inclusive kerbside garden waste collection will be suspended.

Recycle your real Christmas tree.

Simply leave your real Christmas tree NEXT to your recycling bin on your normal collection day between Monday, 7 January and Friday 18 January 2019. Please ensure it is placed separately and not in any bin or bag - No other garden waste will be accepted. Trees should be no taller than 6ft with trunks no greater than 3 inches in diameter. Alternatively, you can recycle it at your local Household Waste Recycling Centre.

NORTHILL PARISH VILLAGE SIGNS



Cllr Edwards, Cllr Brinkley and Neil Chapman have been restoring the Bedfordshire Coat of Arms plaque for each of our villages and the Best Kept Village plaque for the Ickwell sign. The remaining plaque, the Festival of Britain sign is proving a little more problematic, as they only have one template to try to copy onto some aluminium

plaques. The Ickwell road sign also requires some repairs. It is hoped that these repairs will be completed soon, and the restored plaques will then be installed in each village (Upper Caldecote, Northill and Ickwell) ready for the summer.



NORTHILL AND DISTRICT BRANCH, ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The interim committee are very grateful for the new found support in the parish. The membership has increased sufficiently for a new committee to be formed and an application for return to full branch status is planned in the New Year. However, new members are always welcome and can join at www.royalbritishlegion.org.uk. Alternatively, contact Ray Lindsay, Nigel Jarvis, Harry Martin or Helen Papworth.

Recent contributions to branch funds and the Poppy Appeal have been received from All Saint's Church and Ickwell Cricket Club. Penny Brocklehurst has been organising the Poppy Appeal collections in Northill and Old Warden parishes for some years, and this year £8,313.22 was raised this includes £1,800 by the Poppy Exhibition at Northill and £3,120.38 at Sainsburys. Thank you to Penny and everyone who was involved with these events.

NPC welcomes feedback on it's newsletters. Please write to the Clerk in the first instance. We received some interesting comments about the article on Shuttleworth Flying days in the last edition.

Parish Council and CBC elections are due next May. Talk to a councillor or Clerk if you are interested in standing for one of the 12 NPC places and want to find out more about what the role involves.

New 'Dial-a-Ride Services

(Additional to the Ivel Sprinter Service advertised in the last newsletter)

Central Bedfordshire Council's new contract for community transport services started on Monday 15 October, providing 'dial-a-ride' services throughout the mid and east Bedfordshire areas.

They are delighted to help fund these services, which make it easier for the elderly, frail or disabled to take all sorts of journeys, whether that's for their shopping trips, medical appointments, visiting friends and relations, or any other reason. Under the new contract, the service now collects residents from a wider area than previously.

The Greensand Country Link provides a bookable and fully accessible door-to-door minibus service for those people who find it difficult to use traditional buses, trains or other forms of transport. Its 'dial-a-ride' service will operate between 8.30am and 5pm on Mondays to Fridays, and journeys can be booked up to a week in advance.

The Greensand Country Link services are provided by Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity (BRCC), a well-respected local charity who provide a range of community transport services across Bedfordshire, including the Door-to-Door service in Bedford. The Greensand Country Link 'dial-a-ride' service is available on a membership basis. This will normally cost £20 a year, but BRCC have a special launch offer of free membership until 31 March 2020 for anyone joining before the end of 2018. Fares then range from £2.25 for shorter journeys, to £3.75 for longer journeys.

Information on how to become a member is available from BRCC on 01234 834933 or email communitytransport@bedsrcc.org.uk. Current users of the existing 'dial-a-ride' service in the mid and east Bedfordshire areas are encouraged to contact BRCC to set up their new Greensand Country Link membership.

The new service will cover: Ampthill, Flitwick, Westoning, Harlington, Greenfield, Pulloxhill, Flitton, Wardhedges, Silsoe, Clophill, Maulden, Houghton Conquest, Millbrook, Steppingley, Eversholt, Lidlington, Brogborough, Salford, Cranfield, Bourne End, Upper and Lower Shelton, Marston Moretaine, Biggleswade, Sandy, Beeston, Hatch, Northill, Ickwell, Upper Caldecote, Old Warden, Broom, Southill, Stanford, Shefford, Campton, Upper and Lower Gravenhurst, Meppershall, Upper and Lower Stondon, Clifton, Arlesey, Henlow, Fairfield Park, Stotfold, Langford, Dunton, Eyeworth, Wrestlingworth, Sutton, Potton, Everton, Moggerhanger, Chalton, Blunham, and Tempsford.

Parish Clerk: Lesley Rowe
Telephone Contact Times
9.30am—12.30 pm Mon -Fri
An answer phone is available outside these hours

Postal Address : PO Box 149, Biggleswade SG18 1AY
Telephone
01767 316170
parishclerk@northhillparish.co.uk

This newsletter will be published on the Parish Council website
www.bedsparishes.gov.uk/northill-parish-council
with links to the community website www.northill-parish.info

COUNCILLOR CONTACT DETAILS

Keith Bennett	01767 223398	72 Hitchin Road, U Caldecote
Rebecca Brinkley	07773034251	40 Ickwell Road, Northill
Paul Daniels	01767 314328	92, Hitchin Rd., U.Caldecote
Tony Dawson	01767 627125	10 Ickwell Road, Northill
Catherine Edwards	01767 627374	2 Garner Close, Northill
Sally Mandley	01767 313812	40 Manor Place, U. Caldecote
Richard Maudlin	07721 673723	Hatch Farm, Hatch
David Milton	01767 627661	8 Sand Lane, Northill
Wendi Momen	01767 627626	Wixamtree, Sand Lane, Northill
Helen Papworth (Chair)	01767627217	Colemoreham Farmhouse, 17 The Green, Ickwell
Rob Smith (Vice Chair)	07753 830927	159 Biggleswade Rd, U Caldecote
Tricia Turner	01767 627334	8 Caldecote Road, Ickwell

OTHER USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

Central Bedfordshire Council General Enquiries 0300 300 8301
Highways 0300 300 8049
Home and environment 0300 300 8302
Ward Councillor Frank Firth: Frank.firth@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk
0300 300 8564
Police (general non-emergency enquiries) 101
NHS Urgent Care Service 111
UK Power Network—Power Cuts 105