

Humbleton & Flinton Parish Newsletter

February 2017

Parish Council News

The Parish Council meeting was held on 9 February at Maple Garage at 7pm, with no residents in attendance.

Concern was raised by the Clerk about the lack of information from ERYC about the outcomes of the walk-about last June, which is still outstanding. Whilst our area suffers from little crime, we are affected by fly-tipping and hare coursing locally. If you see either please report it to the authorities or to any of the councilors or clerk.

The parish clock project is being reconsidered after the Diocese of York got in touch about what is required – this will mean getting new quotes, and then trying to find funding.

Flinton's new noticeboard has been installed. Flinton's bus shelter has also had a new roof installed. The clerk successfully applied for another defibrillator from the British Heart Foundation for the Flinton phone box – this has been received, and so we just need to adopt the phone box before we can install it. Unfortunately BT seem to have a backlog and so we are just waiting for them so we can progress this.

Various maintenance items are ongoing including the village benches, weeds in the church, the trees on the Flinton land and the planter at the south end of the village in Humbleton.

Friends of Humbleton – the enhanced light switch on this year was a success and was very well supported. The hire of a toilet and the beer seemed to encourage people to stay longer.

Heron's Trust – no update as yet.

Rathlin – no meeting since the last council meeting.

Flinton land – it was agreed that this would be closed as the verbal agreement between both parties is suffice.

The suggestion box is now installed in the Humbleton phone box and is there if residents want to post comments for the councillors' attention.

In December a meeting was held with our community partners including Heron's Trust, the Church and the Recreation Field to share the results of the residents' views to date and so that we can work with our partners with a common aim. We are now giving those organisations time to discuss their strategic plans internally before meeting again to discuss how they want to be involved in developing our community plan.

The finance report, previously circulated, was discussed and payments approved as follows: Clerk salary and expenses (£459.61); HMRC £75. Payments made and retrospectively approved were M Havler £89.50 for Christmas event expenses; £85.85 to ERYC for the maintenance of the street light on The Green; £275 to Came & Company for the renewal of insurance cover for 2017; £1,009 for the repair of the bus shelter to LCM Property Maintenance and £96 to AddPlant for the hire of the toilet for the Christmas event.

The planning application for a new building at Maple Garage was discussed and no objections raised.

The next meeting is 25 May 2017 at Maple Garage at 7pm, starting with the AGM.

Remembrance Collection – Poppy Appeal

A big thanks from Mally for the donations to the Poppy Appeal which raised £105.06.

Broadband

As you will remember, Humbleton was due to be upgraded to superfast broadband, according to the East Riding Broadband project, when Burton Pidsea exchange was updated. Burton Pidsea exchange was updated in June 2016, and yet we are still unable to access superfast broadband.

We have discussed this failure with both the East Riding Broadband project team and also with our local MP, Graham Stuart. Both have confirmed that the cables between Humbleton & Burton Pidsea need to be upgraded, but that they are currently exploring the options with the aim of installing an exchange in Humbleton itself by mid-2017.

This is good news, however the cynic in me worries that the recent headlines about business rates, specifically criticized by BT as costing them millions of pounds, will give the project an excuse to delay any such installation in the village. I would love to be proved wrong, but think as a village we may need to consider alternatives including mobile broadband to improve our connectivity.

And what about Flinton – they are mainly linked to the Aldbrough exchange which has not yet been upgraded and is not yet in the plans for an upgrade. Like Humbleton, Flinton may need to consider other options so improve connectivity.

The access to internet and superfast broadband was a key issue within the community plan and so we will continue to explore options whilst still challenging the East Riding Project and our MP to help us improve our connectivity – after all such access shouldn't be considered a luxury, but is now a way of life in so many ways and rural communities should not be short-chained!

If you know of any ways to improve our connectivity or have any ideas please share them with us and maybe between us we can help ourselves?

Allotment Opportunity

There is an opportunity for someone to have an allotment within our parish – please call 07799 436 345 to discuss further.

Theatre Opportunity

We have been approached by a local touring theatre company to ask if we would like to host an event locally. Having discussed this with Susan Walker, we are able to use the Church to provide a location for such an event. Before we commit to such an undertaking, would the residents welcome such an event and would you be prepared to pay for the chance to see a play locally? This is an opportunity for our parish to join in with the City of Culture celebrations, but only if the residents agree – can you let us know your views?

Dog Fouling

Unfortunately this is still a major issue, especially on the cricket pitch / recreation field, which is used by both children and adults for sports.

It would be a real shame if these sports were unable to be held at our field due to the fact that dog owners are letting their dogs foul and are not removing it.

Dog owners – we risk losing the little amenities we have – please act responsibly and clean up after your dog and place in an appropriate waste bin.

Parking in Humbleton

We still have areas where parking is still blocking the pavement.

Please would everyone take care and only park on the roadside, and not on the pavement so that those with children / prams / dogs can walk safely on the pavement.

Calendar of Events

Thursday 25 May

Sunday 9 July

Friday 22 September

7 pm AGM & Parish Council Meeting at Maple Garage

Family Fun Day (date to be confirmed)

Elvis in the Church (St Peter's Church)

Please check the notice board / website as the Parish Council meetings can change date.

City of Culture 2017 - my personal view

So what have you done to experience the City of Culture so far this year?

As a volunteer I've found that there haven't been as many shifts available as I would have liked, but have managed to get involved in Hull Fair in October, which was very cold and wet, and I have been a guide at the British Museum Lines of Thought at Hull University. I've also managed to do more training including customer care and training at the Pod in Paragon Station – I just need the shifts to fall right now!

One of the challenges I've set myself this year is to experience more of our culture in Hull, and try to experience things I wouldn't normally do.

I was fortunate to get to see the Fireworks display on 1 January having queued at Sammy's Point for nearly 2 hours – but it was worth it not only to see the fireworks but also to see all the people of Hull celebrating Hull!

Did you get to see the Made in Hull that first week of January – what an experience and yes some of the 'installations' I didn't fully appreciate but what a start to the year, and the support was fantastic!

So far I've managed to reacquaint myself with the Maritime Museum including the Bowhead installation, reminding me of our seafaring traditions and heritage. I've been round some of the Feren's Art Gallery – seeing the Open Exhibition (reminding me of our local talent); the Pietro Lorenzetti panels (it's amazing how the colours are so vibrant despite their age) and the Francis Bacon's Nervous System paintings (otherwise known as the Screaming Popes). And I have to admit I've finally made it round the Street Life Museum in High Street which I'm ashamed to say I'd never been to before. I've also joined the Freedom Chorus and am working towards a joint concert with the Hull Youth Orchestra & Youth Choir on 5th April seeing things from a different angle – singing Karl Jenkins Adiemus and Holst's The Planets.

I went to see the Brigg & Rastrick brass band in January – wow, how amazing they were – the noise and the vibrant music which included the Massed Band incorporating our own EYMS Brass Band. This was a real first for me having never really experience a brass band concert.

What's your view of 'The Blade' – art installation or a load of rubbish? Personally I love being able to see something so close considering the many windfarms across our horizon – I think it is a thing of beauty and the fact it has been created locally too is important.

But in the end, I think this is the year to challenge myself as to what I think is 'culture' whilst also getting the rest of the world (and maybe some locals) to challenge their perceptions of Hull.

I've been to see the Hull Philamonic last weekend which included several firsts – first time I have heard the organ in the City Hall, first time I heard the a premiere of a newly commissioned piece specifically for Hull City of Culture composed by Karl Jenkins, and the first time I've been at an actual recording – this was recorded by Classic FM for airing in April.

So I've still got a few museums (Hull and East Riding) including the new Humber Street Gallery to visit, and I'm really excited about the Poppy installation coming to Hull. I'm also keen to see the Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition currently on display in Beverley. It's great that Burton Constable is benefitting too with the Radio 1 Big Weekend later in the year.

Season 2 – Roots & Routes was announced on 28 February and starts on 1 April, building on the Made in Hull from Season 1. This second season explores Hull's unique place in a constantly changing world. This promises to be a distinctly international flavour as Hull takes centre stage of UK culture.

There are still opportunities for volunteers and Wave 4 volunteers are being recruited now – so if you want to get involved there is still a chance – feel free to register online. #hull2017 #cityofculture #everyonebacktoours

Friends of Humbleton

The Christmas Lights were turned on 3rd December, before decamping to the Church for our Christmas Party and to meet Santa.

We enjoyed organising the event and those attending seemed to enjoy the event – with Santa visiting to deliver presents to the children; the mulled wine and mince pies went down a treat, as did the burgers & hot dogs. As usual the tombola and the raffle was well supported – both in donations to allow the event to occur – and on the night on the tickets sold. The added beer and burgers meant that we stayed 'open' longer than usual, and didn't rush to clear up afterwards – plus being in the church meant we all stayed warm and dry.

Remember to keep the date for your diary in 2017 – usually the first Saturday in December.

Our next planned event is the Summer Family Fun Day in July – date to be confirmed. However as mentioned elsewhere we are considering organising a play in the church with drinks if people are interested – let us know!

Church Notes

We do appreciate the support given by the local community to St Peter's Church.

We have had some events and fund raisers over the recent months which have been very successful.

The Christmas flower and cookery demonstration was held at Maple Garage once again – many thanks to the garage for the venue and hospitality. Both the hosts provide an interesting dialogue on how to prepare specific food, regaling tales of other events they've been too, or how to create a centrepiece with flowers.

The annual carol service was held in December lead by the South Holderness Deanery Choir including mulled wine and mince pies and the Christingle service was supported by families in the village and it was good to see you all.

By the time the newsletter is received, we will be into Lent and then after 40 days we will be celebrating Easter – doesn't this year seem to be flying by?

The Parish Parochial Council (PCC) wish to make the church more available for community events – as we do for the Christmas event, and did for Halloween last year, and so are exploring ways of providing a permanent toilet and some kitchen facilities – we hope to do this in conjunction with the Community Development team to ensure that the parish has a community building available for the residents. The church is a Grade 1 listed building so there are strict regulations about what can and can't be done to the building, also making any such projects expensive. The PCC are hoping to approach the windfarms funds and any other grant sources but may have to raise some funds locally. Offers for help with applications would be greatly appreciated as would any fund raising ideas.

Open Church

During the summer months from Easter onwards the church is frequently left open after services so that people may visit. Visitors are always welcome and if locked the keys are available from Janet Beadle at the Forge.

Forthcoming Events

Watch out for announcements about future fundraisers. There will a coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Nurses as well as the wonderful harvest lunch. Put Friday 22nd September in your diary for a date with Elvis.

Humbleton Cricket Club

Created in 1946 Humbleton Cricket Club has provided competitive cricket for villagers and local players for seventy years. Thanks to the outstanding service to the village of Harry Jackson cricket continues to be played on one of the better grounds in the East Riding.

Like all sports it is becoming more and more difficult to maintain sides both economically and through the rapidly reducing number of players. Club members are actively looking to promote the provision of junior cricket and to provide a fun based introduction to our sport for the younger members of the community.

By taking part in a nationwide scheme we will be looking to provide a wide range of activities aimed at developing a love for the game from an early age.

If there are any young people in the area interested please do not hesitate to contact Andy Johnson either by email – aj.humbleton@gmail.com or on 07764 936958.

Countryside by Harry Buck

January - and a good time to look back over the past farming year. Most farms reaped a decent harvest, however rainfall for the year has been a bit trying. My records tell me we had seven months below normal levels with who knows what we'll get for December.

Even as I write these notes in the nice winter sunshine, a shower of rain comes and the result is one of the best rainbows I have seen.

Some of the snags facing farms is how to control the ever present slugs and the problem of black grass in winter crops. Also in the 'wings' is the winter problem of wood pigeons – these birds often arrive just before very cold weather.

Wind turbines, whether you like them or not, have surprised me how will most of them will still turn in the faintest of winds. What is interesting on the days of clear blue skies, the vapour trails from high flying aircraft reminds us how much air traffic passes overhead everyday.

During this brief look back, I can tell you that visitor numbers to Burton Constable Hall has risen very well with all concerned very pleased and City of Culture will hopefully increase the numbers again this year.

The beginning of the year has been quite mild, and despite promises of a heatwave recently it failed to materialize – let's hope the impending storms due to batter us pale into insignificance too! The days are already getting longer and the snowdrops are giving a good performance – daffodils are also showing their faces and brightening up the entrance to Humbleton.

Let me finish by saying if everything ran as smooth and regular as the sun and moon – could we still find something to complain over?

Keep well, Keep laughing

If anyone has any events or information to add for future issues – let Vanessa know.

Website: <http://humbletonparishcouncil.eastriding.gov.uk/>