

Humbleton & Flinton Parish Newsletter

December 2017

Parish Council News

The Parish Council meeting was held on 14 December at Maple Garage at 7pm, with one residents in attendance.

The minutes are on the website as part of the transparency regulations but the highlights are mentioned below:

ERYC highways do not consider the highways issued raised as urgent on the walk about, however those in Humbleton will have noticed that Yorkshire Water have been back several times digging up the corner of the T-junction at the west of Humbleton trying to sort out the recurring leak – they may have at last succeeded!

Friends of Humbleton – the Christmas light switch on event was held on 2 December and is mentioned elsewhere in the newsletter.

Heron's Trust – no update as yet.

Rathlin – a meeting was held on 6 December with the liaison committee – this was to update us on the development at West Newton. Work is likely to start in quarter 1, 2018 – all the permits are in place. If anyone has any concerns about 'fracking' which is **not** being carried out here please contact the Environment Agency as they will investigate immediately. It was noted that the drilling uses a standard rig (which is the same rig whatever the type of drilling), however the permits only allow 'normal' drilling which is not down far enough to the shale gas which is what fracking is used to extract the gas. We have been notified of 2 proposed road closures which are out for consultation with ERYC which will if agreed mean that Pasture Lane will be closed.

The community plan has been drafted and some feedback from the team is to be collated however it was agreed that the immediate focus would be broadband, speed of traffic and supporting the church in developing it as a community building.

Police reports / neighbourhood watch – nothing significant has been reported however one house in Humbleton has had a burglary recently – it would appear a white van with 2 men are going round the village, up and down drives looking for scrap and other items. Please be aware and report it to the police if anyone acting suspiciously is noted – please note their vehicle registration too.

Planter at south end of the village – is there anyone who can help getting this project underway – we are very grateful for Harry Jackson's involvement, but it would be great if someone a little younger could help get this moving so that a replacement planter is in place in spring.

Risk register – this was due its annual review which was completed with no amendments. If anything changes this is reported at the next meeting.

The finance report, previously circulated, was discussed and payments approved as follows: Clerk salary and expenses (£313.98); HMRC £75. Payments made and retrospectively approved were Martinsons £72 for sludging Green Lane dyke; The Marvell College for printing costs £3.98 and ERYC £85.85 for the SLA on the street light. The insurance was to be renewed.

Planning application – received for stables and extension to the house Walnut Cottage in Humbleton – RESOLVED to agree with no objections.

The next meeting is 22 February 2018 at Maple Garage at 7pm.

Phone box in Flinton

Big thank you to Cally & Wayne Harrison for painting the phone box in Flinton – it looks great – the clerk is now arranging for the defib to be fitted which should be in the New Year.

Senior citizens Christmas gifts

These were discussed and a couple of new families added – anyone who is over 65 and resident in our parish is entitled to a gift from the parish at Christmas – this is either a voucher or a bag of coal. If you have been missed please contact Vanessa as clerk.

Budget 2018/19

Each year the parish council have to set a budget and send in the request for the precept, which you will see included in your rates / council tax bill annually. Our precept for 2017/18 was £2,125.

The budget process involves looking at what we spend each year – what is regular expenditure – for example insurance, maintenance of the street lighting, and clearing the Green Lane dyke, plus the clerk's salary, and the senior citizens Christmas gifts. We also look at what other costs are we likely to incur as one-off expenditure – for example the defibrillator installation. It also looks at what income we have in other than the precept. The difference, in simple terms, is what is required as the precept.

This has to be approved at the November parish meeting as ERYC require submission in January so that it can be added to the council tax for 1 April.

This money is then received by the parish on 30 April. Due to our small size we receive the full amount on 30 April – if we were significantly larger, then ERYC would pay it in 2 instalments.

At the meeting this year we agreed a 5% increase in our precept – because all the costs are increasing by inflation and we have had some unplanned expenditure this year – for example the damage to the Humbleton noticeboard by children climbing the noticeboard resulted in an unexpected bill.

Superfast Broadband

Whilst Humbleton has got a new cabinet – it appears that some residents are unable to access this superfast broadband, despite residents either side accessing it. Please let me know if you are experiencing problems so that it can be reported and we can see how big a problem it is.

Flinton I'm advised is still in the discussion phase, however it would appear that some connections are better than others, so if you 'complain' you can get moved to a better connection – however someone else will be moved to a worse one too – however being vocal is one way of registering our dissatisfaction with the service – decent broadband is not really a luxury anymore, it should be a way of life.

Church Notes

The Carol Service is to be held in St Peter's Church at 7.30pm on Friday 22nd December with the Deanery Choir – all welcome. Mulled wine and mince pies available.

A carol and crib service will be held at Elsternwick Church on 24th December at 3pm – all welcome – refreshments available.

Friends of Humbleton

The Christmas light switch on was well supported on 2nd December – we had a couple of special guests that evening. Archbishop John Sentamu switched the lights on, and then we all walked to the church – it was a fresh and crisp evening. ERYC had cut the grass around the tree so it was tidy for the event.

At the church a bbq (the archbishop was very complimentary about the burgers (from Jones @ Preston), tombola, raffle, mulled wine and keg of beer were all available – thanks to everyone who provided prizes for the tombola. Given that we hire a toilet for the event it is reassuring to note that we cover all our costs and have made a small profit, so this goes towards other costs. Unfortunately our shed roof wasn't as water proof this year and so we have had to repair it.

Santa also arrived with his sleigh bells and gave every child a present – there was an orderly queue and so he was very welcome....it was good to see so many children in the village.

Next year's event will be around the same date – Saturday 1st December – so mark it in your diary now.

The winter countryside by Harry Buck

Once again the crops look well, with much of the countryside looking nice and tidy.

Many farm hedges are nicely trimmed – what a difference hedge maintenance is compared to the old 'slasher and bill hook' method of many years ago. So far lately I have not seen any big flocks of wood pigeons (stogies) – these are the birds which often come here mostly preceding very cold weather – but there is still time for this to happen.

Very often lately, it has been good to see on the a very clear and cold morning, how pretty the sun has risen against an ice blue background – these are the mornings when we see many vapour trails of the busy passenger aircraft – do you, like me, wonder where are they going or where they have been?

As I wonder round the garden, it's good to see many spring bulbs just growing through – as I write these notes we are just a few days from the shortest day of the year – after that we hope things will improve.

Many homes have good displays of Christmas lights – which brings me nicely to wishing you all a happy Christmas and a good & healthy new year.

Keep well, Keep laughing

Calendar of Events

Friday 22 December	Carol service in the Church
Sunday 24 December	Carol & crib service at Elsternwick church
Thursday 22 February	Parish Meeting

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

Christmas Quiz

- Including Rudolph, however many reindeer pull Santa's sleigh?
- What was the name of the magician in Frosty the Snowman?
- How many "drummers drumming" in The Twelve Days of Christmas?
- What does Alvin the chipmunk want for Christmas in "The Chipmunk Song"?
- How many ghosts visit Ebenezer Scrooge in A Christmas Carol?
- Where does the Grinch live?
- What city was the baby Jesus born in?
- How did the shepherd's find the baby Jesus?
- The movie "Miracle on 34th Street" takes place in which city?
- In "It's a Wonderful Life", how did George Bailey become deaf in one ear?
- Which Christmas Carol includes the words "figgy pudding"?
- What did the first SMS text message, sent on 3rd December 1992, say?
- Which country did eggnog originate?
- What is the most common gift found in a Christmas cracker?
- Did Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer have antlers?
- Which fictional land never has Christmas, but it is always winter?
- Who wrote the Christmas carol – Once in Royal David's City?
- What Apple product was reportedly the most popular Christmas gift in 2007?
- Which of Santa's reindeer has the name translated to Thunder in English?

**Wishing you and your families and friends a
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year**



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

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