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Member: Damian Hadfield



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Kirklington Village Newsletter September 2024

OPENREACH

As you will see and hear Openreach are busy installing the cables for our upgraded fibre broadband around the village. However, scammers are afoot too. Residents could receive calls from someone who states that they are from BT and that they are doing work in the area to improve broadband speeds. They are asking for access to personal computers so they can check current speeds, however once they have access, they gain control of other confidential information on the computers this could include banking and personal details. Openreach will NEVER call themselves BT! NEVER ALLOW PEOPLE ACCESS TO YOUR COMPUTERS REMOTELY.

DOGS

We would like to repeat the request that all dogs are kept out of the 2 village parks, even in the dark, as there has been a recent incident where an off-lead dog attacked another small dog and owner in the play park. New larger signs have been erected on all gates. The hall's CCTV captured this event, and the behaviour of the attacking dog's owner was very intimidating and frightening for all concerned. All dogs should be kept on their leads if they are in public areas and likely to be met by others. Dogs are unpredictable and owners should have the control of them. Please remember **NO DOGS IN PARKS!**

WE ALL APPRECIATE THE RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERS WHO DO PICK UP AFTER THEIR DOGS – THANK YOU!, BUT, **ALL** DOG OWNERS MUST PICK UP AFTER THEIR DOGS, RESPECT OUR COMMUNITY!

HEDGES

SBC have informed the PC that owing to a rise in complaints, they intend to carry out a hedge survey as residents have noticed many hedges encroaching and overlapping onto pavements which can be dangerous. All hedges should be in line with the original width of the pavement and your property boundary. Please check and cut back your hedges/trees accordingly before SBC issue enforcement letters mandating this.

PUMP LANE

THINK BEFORE YOU PARK *

Pump Lane has now been freshly painted so all double yellow lines exist on kerbs and on the roadside to prevent parking blocking the route of large vehicles. After another busy Sunday afternoon in September, the hirers of the hall had to be reminded not to park on Pump Lane or drive the wrong way down the one-way section. The new village car park has been provided as overspill and is clearly marked from the hall. It is often left empty when cars are parked on Forest and Pump Lane instead. All hirers do have their conditions of hire listed with necessary parking maps and pictures to accompany them. If you ever see unsociable parking, anywhere, please report it to SBC enforcement team by calling: 01642 528439 or email on civic.enforcement@stockton.gov.uk. Fixed penalties can be given for all inconsiderate parking and especially on pavements where it is considered a safety hazard. An enforcement officer can ask for the vehicle to be removed, or a Police Officer can issue a fixed penalty notice.

Safety - A horse and rider with no Hi-Viz gear on were seen walking down Pump Lane the wrong way too and were very lucky not to be hit by a car. Fortunately, the owners were on the pavement at the time and the horse did not spook. It was impossible to be seen as the sun was setting and the driver only saw the lower half of the horse once he was very close. Please dress to be seen as it's not always the driver's fault.

St Martin's Green

- The footpaths are being used by people walking around St Martin's Green, but please, **NO** horses on the St Martin's Green's pathways. They are footpaths and not bridleways and we request that no horses be ridden across the grass also. Please respect the public areas otherwise it will erode our walkways and grassy areas.
- The builder, Story Homes, are due to leave the St Martin's Green site soon, and their roads will be tarmacked. Please note the temporary public right of way (PRoW) hardcore footpath laid around the perimeter of old St Martin's field, is now redundant given the original PRoW has been reinstated to provide the straight through connection to the field, popular with dog walkers.
- The entrance to the site from St Martins Way is due to receive a new fence and the unsightly weeds there better managed. In the next few weeks Story will conduct a full site walk around with the landscape contractor to identify and finish off any landscaping snagging issues.
- Story's have ordered six benches to be installed adjacent to the footpath. 4 are to be installed at the front of the development on the paths around the SuDS and play area with a further two along the path running along the north side,
- The park dog bin will be re-installed near the new car park.
- Following a further site visit recently, it was confirmed that Story's will proceed with the remedial action to make good/replace where necessary the stair links to the footpath, including any timber edge failures, and will repair/replace the areas of the footpath that require re-dressing. This will be with the same whin-dust material that is currently used on the footpath, "in line with the approved planning permission." This is **not** ideal and something we do keep pressing with SBC.
- The Parish Council have bought and provided another village noticeboard to enable us to keep all Saint Martin's Green residents aware of what village activities are taking place within the village. Story's will kindly install this near the entrance to the estate on Carr Lane.
- The dog bin from the new park will be moved to a more suitable area near the car park too.
- We would like to congratulate our Parish Councillor, Neil Clement, a resident on St Martin's Green, who has recently accepted the role of Vice-Chair to the Parish Council, he will passionately represent residents from St Martin's Green and champion a resident's greenspace association to ensure that all residents have a voice and get heard. We thank Damian Hadfield for his contribution to this role and who is only stepping down due to work commitments - he will still remain as a Parish Counsellor.

A67 SPEED LIMIT

Please be aware that Kirklevington Parish Council and SBC have now installed A REDUCED SPEED LIMIT of 40mph between The Crown, through to the Crossroads (Shell) roundabout - this is **LIVE NOW**. We are also working hard on reducing the speed limit outside The Crown to 30mph to help reduce the number of accidents entering the village. Please observe the speed limit as enforcement will be visiting the area soon.

WILLIAM HALL TRUST (WHT)

The WHT Christmas Afternoon Tea event was so popular and enjoyed by everyone attending last year, that they have decided to host another Christmas celebration this year. They would like to welcome anyone who has been experiencing difficult circumstances throughout the year and who would appreciate some company amongst friends. In The Crown on Tuesday 3rd December at 12 Noon, WHT are providing a delicious Christmas Dinner along with some festive cheer. Please nominate yourselves or your neighbours within the Kirklevington Parish, be it individuals, couples or a family. They are limited to 50 places and so this will need to be on a "first come first served" basis (if we exceed this then those villagers will be added to the top of the list for 2025). If you could send your nominations with their contact details to any of the trustees:

Jim Parker parker-j20@sky.com; Helen Ferrar helen.ferrar@hotmail.co.uk or Darren Moore frdmoore@icloud.com

To find out more about this village charity and how it could support you or your organisation, please visit their page on the Kirk Community Website www.kirkcommunity.co.uk/william-hall-trust as much more information can be found there about the charity's origins and how they can help residents of our village who are struggling with various issues.

DEFIBRILLATORS

The Parish Council and the William Hall Trust have jointly funded the provision and installation of a new defibrillator to be installed at the bus stop at the Green. Full training will be offered once installed.

The Parish Council would welcome suggested locations for additional defibs, but note this is not an easy task as we do not own the land or powers supplies with all the new developments.

VILLAGE HALL

We benefit from a very frequently used Village Hall on Forest Lane. For the benefit of our newer residents, it caters for all ages and various activities are on offer. It holds many weekly or monthly events including:

- * Pilates, keep fit, move it or lose it, karate, yoga, bowling, table tennis and Latin dance.
- * For Youngsters: Hartbeeps for babies and toddlers; guides, beavers and cubs for children.
- * Evening activities: ladies' choir, craft and chat, book club, ladies group, snooker club, and drumming.
- * Monthly coffee mornings.

Many of these are run by external groups, but the what's-on information can be found on the website: www.Kirkcommunity.co.uk as can the Hall booking information, should you wish to hire its facilities.

There are currently vacancies for trustees of the Village Hall, and they would love to hear from you if you would like to get involved. Contact Andy Alton – contacts as seen on the website.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

Sat 5th October: Messy church 3.30pm

The church is holding another popular messy church event on the afternoon of Saturday 5th October and will focus on Harvest time. 3.30 to 5pm (ish). Contact revkatebrown@outlook.com to book a place.

Sunday 6th October Harvest Festival 10am

A short family service will be held in church with refreshments afterwards. All are welcome. We will be supporting the Foodbank, Butterwick Hospice and ARC, a charity supporting farmers/ rural communities. Produce can be left in church on Thursday 3rd October between 9-11am or in the porch at 19 The Green Kirklevington, or brought to church for the Sunday service.

Saturday, 12th October: Kirklevington and Worsall Church's Autumn Fete 2.00 – 4:00pm

The annual Church Fete will be held in the Village Hall; including Cream Tea from 2.30p.m., Raffle, Various Stalls including tombola, books, plants, Cakes & Home Produce and Children's Activities. Free Entry.

Saturday 12th October: Children's Games Night. 6.30-8pm

We are trialling a children's event this autumn. So, on Saturday 12th October, Liz will be running a games evening in the Village Hall from 6.30-8:00pm for any children aged 6-12. They will start with some getting to know each other circle games and include beetle, chocolate bingo and a quiz. We will provide squash to drink. No other refreshments. Children can come along and join in with their parents' help, or parents can stay and supervise from the sides whilst meeting new friends. No unsupervised children will be allowed. The cost will be £1 per child, paid on the night which is to go towards prizes. But we need commitment, before the event to run it, so please book using the slip below or let Liz know if you are attending by emailing bussylizzie@siandliz.co.uk by Mon 7th October or message via Facebook posts.

Thursday 31st October Halloween Trail

It's almost that bewitching time of year again. The hugely popular Halloween trail will be repeated again this year on Thursday 31st October, as before, there will prizes on offer for the best decorated houses: £25 - 1st, £15 - 2nd, £10 - 3rd. Each year the event grows in popularity and attracts more interest, even from outside the village. So as our Parish grows in size, so, does the competition - so get your thinking caps (or witch's hats) on and start thinking about your display. Our residents will be the judges again as per last year as it is by far the fairest way of judging. For new residents: the idea is for the entrants to decorate their houses and windows as spookily as possible and give the display a name to be added to a list of the entrants' addresses.

Display names and a trail map can be downloaded nearer the time from the website, and printed versions can be collected from the village hall on the night.

The children then go on a treasure hunt around the village using the trail map looking at the various displays. Everyone is free to judge and vote for the best decorated house\display and return their votes to the village hall entrance (white post-box) for counting - winners will be notified on the 1st of November. There will also be an additional element this year, whereby laminated letters will be hidden next to some of the displays, so write down the letters and spell a Halloween phrase to win prizes drawn from a hat too. This will be done on the same form handed in to the village hall white post-box and drawn from a hat on the 1st November. To enter please email Kirkcommunity@gmail.com or text 07785 226030) The closing date for entries is 23rd October. There is a WhatsApp group setup for sharing info, please text your name/number to the above if you wish to be added to the group.

Even if you do not wish to enter the competition; we still encourage everyone to join in this amazing event. Residents are welcomed to leave treats out for kids to avoid being disturbed by door knocking. Previous photos will be added to the website for some inspiration.

Sunday 10th November: Remembrance Day

There will be a Community Remembrance service at 10.15am at Kirklevington Church followed by the laying of wreaths. Refreshments will be available in the Village Hall afterwards.

Tuesday 3rd December: Christmas with Friends event.

This will be hosted by the William Hall Trust at 12 Noon at The Crown. More details below under WHT.

Friday 6th December: Christmas Concert

There will be a Christmas Concert on Friday 6th December at 7pm in Kirklevington Church. Christmas services will be circulated once finalised.

Sunday 8th December: Kirklevington Christmas event

Join us to welcome Christmas into Kirklevington. Rev Kate Brown will read a blessing of the Christmas Tree in the village park, by the village hall, at 5pm, as we light the tree up, the Kirklevington Singers will encourage the villagers to sing one or two carols. Following that all will be invited to go inside the Village Hall where the choir will continue by singing a medley of carols and Christmas songs, which we welcome everyone to join in with. Food and beverages and Santa’s visit will commence in his grotto as we’re sure he’ll be roused by the wonderful sounds of singing. Refreshments of hot dogs, mince pies and drinks will be served by the KPC to wish all residents a Merry Christmas.

My children would be interested in joining the village games evening on 12 th October	YES	NO
Number of Children and ages		
I would be happy to join in and help with the event (I also acknowledge that no children may be left unsupervised at the event)	YES	NO
Name(s)		
Address		
Contact details:- Email.....		
Telephone		

Please return the completed slip to the white mailbox at the Village Hall entrance.