

Thank you from the Parish Council

The Parish Councillors would like to extend their thanks and appreciation to the many villagers who supported the cost of the first village Christmas Tree and lights in December. The tree was an outstanding success with the villagers many of whom have asked us to provide a tree again for Christmas 2021!



APPOINTMENTS

The parish councillors are pleased to announce the following appointments from January 2021:

Assistant to the Parish Clerk - Lise Jackson

Lise has been involved in village life for many years where she volunteered in the classroom at the school helping to run the costume department and recently running her own music business for children. Lise comes with a wealth of administration experience and we look forward to working with her on the parish council.

Internal Auditor – Mark Woodall

Mark has lived in the village for 13 years and is a CIPFA qualified accountant with experience in internal and IT audit. We are very pleased to welcome Mark to the parish council.



Haslingfield Greenway

The Haslingfield Greenway is a proposed route to enable pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians to travel sustainably from Haslingfield into Cambridge and is one route within a wider and developing sustainable travel network that is being created by the Greater Cambridge Partnership to increase the network of walking, cycling and equestrian routes within the local area.

In November 2020 the Greater Cambridge Partnership approved a budget of £8M for the Haslingfield Greenway. There will be two routes, one along Cantelupe Road and over to M11 footpath bridge to Grantchester, the other along the brideway to Hauxton. Planning and construction is to take 4 years approximately. Further details are available on the greater Cambridge website link below:

<https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/transport/transport-projects/greenways/haslingfield-greenway>

VACANCIES

Love where you live?

Support your community — become a Parish Councillor!

A vacancy has become available for a Parish Councillor to take the place of Ron van der Hoorn who resigned from the post in December after nine years on Haslingfield Parish Council. If you want to help to make a real difference in our local community on topics such as the Recreation Ground, planning matters, the Greenway, East West Rail, the Skate Park and Playground amongst others, then please contact our Parish Clerk, Jacqui Cressey (clerk@haslingfieldparish.co.uk) in the first instance or simply come along to a meeting. Previous experience is not required though you need to live or work in the village. The Parish Council meets at 7:30 pm on the second Monday of the month currently by Zoom.

Applications welcome from those over 18, who have lived or worked in Haslingfield for more than 12 months and are a UK national.

Your Current Parish Councillors are:

Jenny Jullien – Chairman, Tony Adcock – Vice Chairman, Helen Brown, Clive Blower, Simon Duke, Andrew Gillies, Lucian Hatfield, Ben Mavely, Diana Offord, David Revell

Haslingfield Parish Council welcomes communication from all its residents.

If you have any comments/questions on this Newsletter or any other local issue, please contact Haslingfield Parish Clerk (Jacqui Cressey) in the first instance by emailing clerk@haslingfieldparish.co.uk or calling **01223 870269**

Haslingfield Parish Council News



Get #futureready

Faster Fibre Broadband Update

Thanks to everyone who has been supporting the project to date, we've had an amazing uptake in numbers in the New Year and we now require less than 20 pre-orders to deliver the Full Fibre network to the village.

Of course, hopefully we will return to some sort of normality very soon but after the pandemic is over the way we work and communicate now will be more common place in the future. This Full Fibre network will deliver exceptionally fast speeds with unlimited future potential, meaning no more stuttering video calls or buffering homeschooling, and more importantly will future proof our village for years to come.

This pre-order includes; completely free installation of FTTP to your property (usually £225), up to a year for free to honour existing contract, free high spec router and three months free on any landline package.

If we don't get the number of pre-orders required by County Broadband to deliver the full fibre network we are at risk of losing this important opportunity for the village.

The final deadline for Haslingfield is **Sunday 28th February**, so if you have not yet pre-ordered, you really can now make the difference - visit www.countybroadband.co.uk and enter your postcode.

Thanks again for your support.
For anymore information please contact:

Ben Mavely
ben.mavely@haslingfieldparish.co.uk
07732076830
Harry Stevenson
harry.stevenson@countybroadband.co.uk
07943316887



February
2021

Special points of interest:

- **Faster Fibre Broadband Update**
- **Precept 2021-2022**
- **Legal challenge to EWR**
- **Haslingfield Greenway**
- **Parish Councillor vacancy**

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Precept 2021-2022

The Precept is the money that the Parish Council budgets each year in order to provide services to the village. It covers salaries, administrative costs, insurance, grass and tree cutting, playground and skateparks maintenance and much more. It also allows the Council to support the Warden Scheme, the Little Owls and the Connections Bus. The precept is collected from you through your Council Tax Bill. For 2021/2022 the Precept has been set at £96,517, compared to £94,129 for this year, but due to an increase in households the actual increase per Band D property will be only 1.45%, less than the increases from the County and District Councils.

Legal fund set up to challenge East West Rail

More and more signs are being erected throughout the area, many with specific themes for objecting to the route in the 'Option E' corridor such as 'Why avoid the northern approach?', 'Why avoid existing travel corridors?' and 'Why weren't we consulted?'. But signs alone will not change East West Rail's mind. For that we need to consider legal and political aspects.

The Judicial Review process is the most accessible route for a campaign group such as ours to challenge decisions that government makes. Cambridge Approaches has commissioned the services of expert lawyers Leigh Day, who have experience in many high profile environmental cases, to help us. With the very generous help from various parish councils, including Haslingfield who donated £1,000 and pledged further sums if the case proceeds. Leigh Day have now sent a warning shot letter on our behalf to EWR. When EWR publish their next consultation, due shortly, Leigh Day will assess our chances of bringing a successful case and, if positive, take it through the various stages of the process and hearing. We are very pleased to have public support from many local politicians on both sides of the political divide. South Cambs MP Anthony Browne publicly announced his support for EWR to fairly evaluate the northern route into Cambridge at the same time and on the same basis as the currently planned southern route (Option E).

We have posted an article on our website which compares the environmental impact between the southern and northern routes. We counted the number of properties within 200m either side of the CamBedRailRoad route and also a likely southern route. This is an indicator of the likely noise and air pollution impacts on communities. The exercise shows that there are 7 times more properties affected by the southern route than the CBRR route!

Our petition has now almost reached 6,000 signatures. Cambridge Approaches urges everyone in the area to review and sign the petition if they feel comfortable with the aims. The larger the number is, the more EWR Co are likely to take note of local views and makes it harder for them to make spurious claims about residents' support for any Option E route. Visit our website (cambridgeapproaches.org and click the 'Petition' link top right).



Haslingfield Covid Support Team Update from Councillor Diana Offord

The Haslingfield Support Team continues to be active, and our volunteers will do their best to be of assistance if you need help, particularly with shopping or errands. If we can't help directly we will try and signpost you to someone who may be able to. The phone number to ring is [07545 159828](tel:07545159828)

The Community Car Scheme, very kindly, continues to deliver prescriptions. They are delivering all prescriptions that are in the Village Box, twice a week on Monday and Thursday. If they don't get an answer, they will put a note through the door. If you are expecting a prescription and it hasn't been delivered by 6pm on Monday or Thursday, you should ring the Dispensary at Harston the next morning to find out where it is.

If you have any queries with prescription delivery, please ring the Car Scheme on [07800 883634](tel:07800883634)

The Haslingfield Food Hub continues to be well supported, and in conjunction with Harston Food Hub, provides regular food parcels for some families in the village.

Are you in need of some help in stretching your budget? Accessing it is confidential – those organising and running the scheme undertake to be discreet and recognise that people from all walks of life have been affected financially by the pandemic.

If you, or someone you know, a friend or neighbour perhaps, would like to make contact, please ring [01223 872862](tel:01223872862) making sure that you leave your name and number, or email alison.walker@methodist.org.uk



Hedges are starting to grow – a polite request from the Parish Council

Please trim such growth so that branches and brambles do not overhang the footpath which is for both pedestrian safety and to allow maximum pedestrian passing space on the footpath. As a guide if the hedge overhangs the tarmac of the footpath then it needs to be cut back. Please check the hedge first to ensure that no nests are disturbed.

Census 2021

Haslingfield will soon be asked to take part in Census 2021. The census is a once-in-a-decade survey that will give the most accurate estimate of all the people and households in England and Wales. It has been carried out every decade since 1801, with the exception of 1941. It will be the first run predominantly online, with households receiving a letter with a unique access code, allowing them to complete the questionnaire on their computers, phones or tablets.

"A successful census will ensure everyone from local government to charities can put services and funding in the places where they are most needed," Iain Bell, deputy national statistician at the Office for National Statistics, said.

"This could mean things like doctors' surgeries, schools and new transport routes. That's why it is so important everyone takes part and we have made it easier for

people to do so online on any device, with help and paper questionnaires for those that need them."

Census day will be on 21 March 2021 but households across the country will receive letters with online codes allowing them to take part from early March.

The census will include questions about your sex, age, work, health, education, household size and ethnicity. And, for the first time, there will be a question asking people whether they have served in the armed forces, as well as voluntary questions for those aged 16 and over on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Results will be available within 12 months, although personal records will be locked away for 100 years, kept safe for future generations. For more information, visit census.gov.uk.

Grass cutting on the Wellhouse Meadow

Wellhouse Meadow is owned by you, via the parish council and can be found just down the track (Broad Lane) from the village green.

It used to be grazed by cows, but in more recent times it has had to be mown by mechanical means. There have been many discussions over how and when it should be cut. It is essential that the same cutting regime is done every year so that certain species of wildflower can grow and set seed. This will inevitably mean that some species will be cut down when they are in flower and will not set seed.

Over the last few years, it has been cut several times in the early part of the year, then left until Autumn when it is cut again. The flower seeds fall onto the ground ready to grow the following Spring. Leaving it uncut over the whole growing season would lead to a dense tangle where most wild flowers could not grow.

The current cutting regime is as follows:
Cut March, April, May and September, with a possible cut just before bonfire night, if required, to make it safe for the firework display. The paths are cut short every 2 weeks during the growing season to provide a track to walk round.

We would be very interested if anyone would like to make a list of flower species in the meadow. There is always a good crop of cow parsley, buttercups and dead-nettles. Also some annual flowers from where the ground is reseeded after the bonfire has been cleared away.

The area inside the gate is great for a walk, with or without a dog. There are several benches where you can have a sit and watch the wildlife. There is a dog-free area to the right where there are picnic benches (when the weather warms up).

Also, remember that when we get to harvest time, the fruit trees at the far end of the meadow are owned by everyone, and you are welcome to come and pick the crop. Just help yourself. There are apples, pears, cherries and various plums and greengages, all are varieties which would have been grown in this area when much of the land was owned by Chivers to grow fruit for their jams. Or come to one of the open days when the bakehouse and wellhouse are open, and learn about the history of Haslingfield.

