

Update on the Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting - 6 May 2021

The Chairman's Report is now available to read on the Village Website.

Appointments

The parish councillors are pleased to announce the following appointment to the council from May 2021

Zoe Ratnasothy - also known as Zoe Fritz, she has lived in the village for six years and is a doctor at Addenbrooke's Hospital. She has a great love of the village, is involved with Little Theatre and the choir and would like to change the village name to Hamazlingfield!

Reaching out to our Villagers

- The parish councillors are a group of villagers who try to make things work for everyone.
- We aim to represent the views of the people in the village and try not to spend too much money!
- We are not infallible and do very much want villagers to get in touch with us if they have suggestions on how we can do things better.
- Posting criticisms on social media can be demoralising and upsetting.



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

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 Helen Brown who resigned from the post in May after more than two years on Haslingfield Parish Council. If you want 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 at the Village Hall.

Applications welcome from those over 18, who have lived or worked in Haslingfield for more than 12 months and are an EU National.

Your Parish Councillors are:

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



June 2021

Special points of interest:

- 9th June - EWR Consultation deadline
- Environment Working Group
- Parish Council Vacancy

Inside this issue:

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Haslingfield Village Society Celebrates 40 Years!

The Village Society will celebrate 40 years on the weekend of the 17/18 July 2021. A programme of events has been put together by the Village Society Committee and everyone will be welcome to attend all or part of the events. In advance of the event all the village groups, societies, church, shops and chapel will be contacted with an invitation to display their archives at this celebration event.



Saturday 17 July: Village Hall 10.00 am to 4.00pm Exhibition of archives - coffee and biscuits available in the morning, tea and cakes available in the afternoon.

Sunday 18 July: Village Hall 10.00 am to 3.00pm Exhibition of archives - coffee and biscuits available in the morning, tea and cakes available in the afternoon.

Sunday 18 July: Village Hall 3.00pm to 4.00pm Invitation to all past committee members to attend a brief ceremony of Celebration. Short speeches by first chairman and current chairman. During the weekend we will launch John Beresford's book - 'Forty Years On'.



Images from the Village Society archives; Howard Stringer the initiator of the Village Archives in 1985 and the old pub that is now the location of the village shop

The Rec's 100th Birthday Party – 4 September 2021

On October 10th 1921 a local farmer called Henry Badcock died. In his will he left money in the hands of his trustees to be used to purchase the land that now makes up the half of the recreation ground along River Lane. The other half of the current Rec was donated by Chivers & Sons, who gave it to the village on the condition that the two fields were to be made into one and used as a recreation ground in perpetuity.

To commemorate the centenary of the founding of Haslingfield Recreation Ground we are hosting a party on September 4th! For further details contact Phil Golden (phil.golden.zn@renesas.com).

You're invited to the Rec's 100th Birthday Party! To commemorate Henry Badcock's donation of the Rec in 1921 there will be a day of games, music and fun for the village of Haslingfield.

Save the date: 4th September, 3pm onwards.



Featuring freestyler Ben Nuttall

Haslingfield's Great British Spring Clean 2021

Saturday 5 June 2021 at 2.00pm

Join the #MILLIONMILEMISSION!

It's spring clean time for the UK, and this year the Keep Britain Tidy team is aiming to clean up a million miles of UK streets and countryside.

As a village we've pledged to reach 60 hours - that's 180 miles - of litter picking! Join us on the 5th June in groups of up to six - or two households - to spend an hour or two cleaning up our village. We'll meet at the Village Hall from 2.00 pm with supplies including gloves and litter pickers available between 2.00 and 4.00 pm.

Can't make it? You can litter pick any time during the fortnight between 28 May-13 June and record your efforts on this page! <https://www.facebook.com/events/2626008887696801/>



Environment Working Group

A big thank you to Jay Cole who looked after the Environment Working Group for many years, she has done an amazing job. With the help and support of the new Haslingfield & Harlton Eco Group, Michelle Golder has taken on the role of co-ordinating - following Jay's retirement - and hopes those who have already helped out will be keen to remain involved.

As well as reporting to the Parish Council, the Environment Working Group is responsible for things like tidying the village's green spaces that don't belong to South Cambridgeshire District Council, organising litter picks and the planting of bulbs and flowers.



A butterfly enjoying the lavender, Haslingfield

The group will also be looking at lots of other projects and initiatives to enhance and maintain our biodiversity and green spaces. If you would like to get involved with the group, or find out more about what we do, please contact Michelle Golder: michellegolder@gmail.com.

Young Artists Wanted

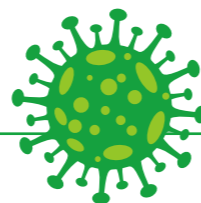
Young artists can help us spread the word by creating a Haslingfield Great British Spring Clean poster for the 5th of June event. Please submit a scan of your poster to michellegolder@gmail.com by May 24th so we can laminate and hang it in the village!

Safety and Recycling

Whether you join us on the 5th or plan your own independent clean up, we recommend all litter pickers use protective equipment including a litter-picker and gloves. Wash or sanitise your hands well after your clean up and don't forget to recycle your finds into:

- ✓ Plastic bottles
- ✓ Aluminium cans
- ✓ General waste

There's lots more info and advice on the Keep Britain Tidy website: <https://www.keepbritaintidy.org>



**COVID-19
CORONAVIRUS**

Haslingfield Covid Support Team Update

Cllr Diana Offord has continued to play a major part in helping the elderly and vulnerable people within the village during the Covid19 pandemic. I know many parishioners were, and still are, very grateful for all the help given by the Haslingfield Support team and the parish councillors would like to thank each and every member of the team.

East West Rail – Consultation Response Deadline

At the time of publication the deadline for responding to the current EWR consultation – Wednesday 9 June – is fast approaching. If you are planning to respond and still haven't, or if you want to and are not sure how to, then please do so:

- ✓ you can respond online at https://communityhub.eastwestrail.co.uk/consultation-feedback/survey_tools/feedback
- ✓ you should also have received a comprehensive guidance leaflet on how to respond from the tireless Cambridge Approaches (CA) team.

Recent weeks have been incredibly busy during the height of the consultation.

The CA team has given a number of webinars to continue to raise and reinforce awareness amongst local communities threatened by the multiple severe impacts of EWR's proposed Route E southern approach into Cambridge. And of course to strengthen the call for a fair and open consultation on the alternative northern approach – by mid-May the CamBedRailRoad petition reached 10,800.

A leaflet mail drop is on the drawing board to reach a wider section of the consultation catchment area, including into Cambridge and the railway corridor to Newmarket, which face their side of the likely significant increases in freight services including at night.

Local media have naturally been feasting on the intense debate with views sought and published on all sides of the key areas of heated discussion. Well done to local residents featuring clearly and strongly in written articles and a TV news item of particular local interest – highlighting the untold impact of the 10m high 70m wide embankment which would bisect the Haslingfield-Harlton road and of the devastating planned cuttings into Chapel Hill.



We can get an idea of what a modern railway viaduct will look like from this image of the recently constructed Hitchin Flyover!

EWR have in this period hosted a number of Q&A webinars, necessarily online due to the pandemic. Locals who participated in these webinars have universally reported intense frustration with the process: important details of questions not being addressed (e.g. compensation for loss of land and property devaluation), stock

answers given, inconsistencies, etc. These were key sessions for consulting, listening, responding – instead they have turned into a further grievance with calls for “real” consultation and in-person meetings.

Meanwhile CA has continued its highly detailed and focused research and probing into key aspects and data underlying EWR proposals on the southern approach, and in support of the call to consult on the northern approach. See all the recent posts on the CA website (<https://cambridgeapproaches.org/>), with these latest highlights:

- ✓ a forensic point-by-point rebuttal of EWR's 'Comparison of Factual Data' on the southern vs the northern approach;
- ✓ much more details of the civil engineering and visualisation impacts of the 'Great Wall', the height profile, cross section and other characteristics of the EWR embankments and viaducts over the 17.4km from Cambourne North to Hauxton;
- ✓ analysis of the environmental and other potential benefits of trench railway technology, seemingly ignored by EWR but in operational use in Dutch lowlands, and an explicit part of CamBedRailRoad's experts' northern route proposals since 2018.

Another important area of recent focus has been the business case for EWR. It is founded on National Infrastructure Commission reports in 2016 and 2017 which concluded that without East West transport connectivity the Oxford Cambridge Arc would miss out on significant (well, massive actually) economic growth. In March this year, the Department for Transport (DfT) cancelled the Oxford-Cambridge Expressway – for not being Value for (taxpayers) Money (VfM). So, all eggs now in the EWR railway basket: just build it, and the ££££ growth will follow.

Of course, growth means more jobs, housing, roads, etc. It's not just the EWR railway that's coming for 120 years – in the high growth scenario, the Cambridgeshire area alone is due to have another 270k houses by 2050, an increase of 81% on today.

Is the EWR business proposition actually VfM? In EWR's own early 2020 Preferred Route Option Report, their now preferred Route E had a Benefit Cost Ratio (BCR) between 1.23 and 1.31 in the high growth scenario. That's only 'Low' in the DfT's own VfM assessment framework.

The BCR and VfM are expected to be key in the Treasury approving such a huge infrastructure project. CA has submitted a number of Freedom Of Information Requests to find out the latest BCR and key numbers in the EWR business case – unfortunately no success so far. Efforts continue, along with calls for higher cost features in EWR's proposals – such as electrification – every little counts to weaken the business case.

Post consultation, with the new local political landscape, the need for collective resolve and for ongoing action and support remains as strong as ever – stay tuned to all the strands and developments ([see https://cambridgeapproaches.org/support-us/](https://cambridgeapproaches.org/support-us/)).