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Haslingfield Parish Council News



October 2021

Special points of interest:

- Little Theatre News
- HPC declares Climate and Ecological Emergency
- Charity Fair Saturday
 4 December 2021
- Vacancy for a Parish Councillor

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Lucian Hatfield

The parish council would like to express our sadness to hear of the passing of long-time parish councillor, Lucian Hatfield. Everyone remembers him playing many parts in the Little Theatre productions. On the parish council, he was always the person who would get on with the practical work, but also had a long memory of things which happened years ago in the village.

It is so unfortunate that he never got to see his favourite project completed - the Haslingfield Greenway to Cambridge (or Lucian's Lane as it should be called).

In so many ways, this and future generations will be positively affected by his love of the village, and he will be missed by so many.

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

The party at Haslingfield Rec on the 100th anniversary of Henry Badcock's death was a huge success. Over 800 people attended, including residents of all ages from the very young to nonagenarians. Activities were organized by a variety of groups, providing a diverse range of offerings with broad appeal. Lots of folks found community groups they may not have previously engaged with – it was truly an occasion to (re)discover some of the wonderful organisations that are active in Haslingfield!

The play was a unique and thoroughly charming production that was beautifully apt for the commemoration of Badcock's donation. The music that followed was enjoyed by all. On a personal note, although I had been on the Rec for almost 13 hours by the end, listening to Tiff and Steph singing their last song it felt like I had just arrived. There are too many people to thank in this short space, suffice to say that I am genuinely thankful to live in such an amazing village. Phil Golden



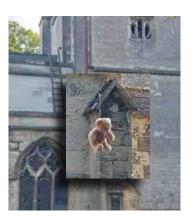




All Saints' Church Fete - September 2021

We were blessed with beautiful September sunshine for our fete this year. Thank you so much to all our friends in the village who turned out to support us. The fete was still on a smaller scale than our fetes in the past but this year we were able to serve tea and cakes once more inside the church. Along with the musical entertainment from our two regular organists and The Cann Twins on the piano it was a very relaxed and much welcomed social gathering. The stalls all sold well while the bottle stall and the teddy zip wire were very popular with the children.

These events cannot happen without the planning and a lot of hard work on the day. Thank you to the many volunteers. I am pleased to report we made just over £1000 so thank you all. Jenny Gore Churchwarden.



Little Theatre news

2020 was the first year, since reforming in 1989, that Little Theatre didn't mount a performance. Zoom pantomime script readings and quizzes, whilst they kept us connected to each other they were no substitute for really 'treading the boards'.

So, we are delighted to be back rehearsing, and working together, for our upcoming production of Ali Baba and the 40 Thieves. Lines are being learned, songs and dances practiced, costumes sewn, scenery painted and all the technical aspects are being planned.

We very much hope that this can all progress without any Covid related interruptions and that the shows will go ahead on 25, 26 and 27 November 2021, as planned.

However, with the wellbeing of our audiences and all those taking part in mind, we have decided to reduce our ticket capacity to 80 for each show. There will be increased ventilation and we will request that all, except those who are exempt, should wear a mask during the show. We have decided to delay the decision on whether or not to run a drinks bar until nearer the time.

We hope all these measures will reassure our loyal audiences and hope to have tickets available, either from Ticketsource or The Village Shop, by mid-October.

We look forward to welcoming you for some much-needed fun and laughter in November.





The Village Society is back!

The next talk 'The Haslingfield Congo Connection: A Congolese perspective' by Theodore Menelik is on Tuesday 19 October at 8.00pm in the Village Hall. All are welcome with a small fee for visitors. There has recently been exceptional interest in the village archives, perhaps you would like to be involved with the updating and preservation of the collection. No previous knowledge is required. Please contact Maria Stringer on 01223 871256 or email stringerhasfield@aol.com

Charity Fair Saturday 4 December 2021

After the success of last year's Christmas Market, the Methodist Church plans to hold another one in the church grounds on Saturday 4th December from 12-3pm.

It's not too late to book a stall selling your own craft work or a stall to raise money for your favourite registered charity. Please email Christine at grahamkipping@aol.com for more information.

Haslingfield Parish Council Votes to Declare Climate and Ecological Emergency

On Monday 13 September the Parish Council received a request from the new Haslingfield and Harlton Eco Group to declare a climate emergency and begin looking at steps our village could take to combat climate change and threats to nature.

Members of the Eco Group talked about the urgency of the problem and the importance of keeping every gram of carbon dioxide possible out of the atmosphere. "While there are many possible solutions on the table, it's essential to reduce emissions and improve biodiversity now to give those solutions time to be rolled out". They also argued that the best solutions are often community based, and that we would be supporting our local district and county councils, which have already declared climate emergencies. Other local Parish Councils have also started to take steps, with Burwell aiming to be carbon neutral by 2030, Barton launching a public consultation, and Histon and Impington declaring a climate emergency after a youth eco group attended a public meeting to demand action.

Following the discussion the Council voted to support the request and begin the process of declaring a climate emergency and putting in place an action plan. Three steps were agreed upon as a starting point:

- Setting up a working group, which will include one or more councillors, members of the eco group, and interested members of the public;
- Supporting the eco group to plan an event with activities, information and stallholders who can talk about options with us;
- Carrying out a public consultation on what steps our villagers would like to see taken.

The Parish Council was already looking into helping people without off-street parking to access electric charging points as well as planting more trees and flowers in our public places, and they welcome the support of any villagers keen to get involved.

If you would like to take part in the working group, see a copy of the report submitted by Haslingfield and Harlton Eco Group, or see examples of other local parish councils' declarations, write to hasandharlecogroup@gmail.com or clerk@haslingfieldparish.co.uk

Haslingfield Parish Council – East West Rail

Anthony Browne MP, Simon Blanchflower, CEO of East West Rail Company met In August with Cllr(s) David Revell and Jenny Jullien to raise the concerns of the East West Rail going through the village. Cllr David Revell and William Harold had listed our concerns below, and a copy was given to all concerned

Haslingfield residents highly sceptical of EWR consultation process

- Much information in consultation was not presented clearly for residents to make informed opinion (e.g., lack of artist's impressions, impact of great wall and cutting)
- Documents did not provide sufficient evidence to back up assertions (e.g., N vs S chapter, 4-tracking rationale, environmental comparison, Northstowe transport)
- 3. Avoidance of direct response to many questions in radio interviews and the EWR forums (e.g., N route having far less impact from freight)
- 4. Villagers are not clear about the case for the railway which reduces their tolerance to its impact during construction and operation. Already people are losing house sales without compensation

Environment

- No acknowledgement of several expert opinions of damage to locality and that N route is less damaging
- 2. Impact on clunch pit and rare orchids due to construction works and air pollution
- 3. Impact on Barbastelle bats, which may forage as far as Haslingfield, not assessed

Landscape

- High embankments and viaducts can be seen from distance
- 2. Long deep cutting will spoil views and atmosphere from Money Hill and can also be seen from distance
- Troughs would be far less intrusive than embankments/viaducts and would reduce noise. Not clear that they would be more expensive in cost or construction CO2 either.

Noise

 Noise from passenger and more importantly freight trains will impact Haslingfield, even in a cutting. Current baseline noise levels are exceptionally low at night.

MRAO (Mullard Radio Astronomy Observatory)

 Impact on MRAO has not been assessed – concern that MRAO may close and planning protection that it affords to Haslingfield may be lost

County Broadband

Get #futureready

County Broadband Update

As you have probably seen there has been plenty of activity to progress infrastructure works by County Broadband in and around the village. Hopefully this has not caused too much of an impact on people's day to day lives. We're pleased to report that work is currently running to plan and being completed to correct standards. The high-speed connection cabinet is in place with power connection due in the next few weeks. The target to complete all build works and hand over to the connections team for the end of October is still running to schedule, so it will not be long before our high-speed broadband connection will be up and running. Thanks again for supporting this project.

Village Christmas Tree 2021

Following the success of the Christmas Tree on the Village Green last year the parish council have decided to continue with this tradition each year by purchasing the tree and using the lights you generously sponsored last year. The purchase of the tree and the provision of the electric power to the lights is quite costly so we thought we would set up a Crowd Funding page on the parish council Facebook page and the Village website to give the villagers a chance to sponsor the tree again this year. The crowd funding page will be up and running from the 15 November 2021. If however you still prefer to pay by bank transfer or a cheque please do contact the Parish Clerk on clerk@haslingfieldparish.co.uk or 01223 870269 to arrange this.



UPDATE ON THE PARISH COUNCIL

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 Lucian Hatfield. If you want to make a real difference in our local community on topics such as the Recreation Ground, Planning matters, the Greenway, the Environment, East West Rail, the Skate Park and Playground amongst others, then please contact the Parish Clerk (clerk@ haslingfieldparish.co.uk) in the first instance or simply come along to a meeting. Previous experience is not required although 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.

APPOINTMENTS

The parish councillors are pleased to announce the following appointments to the parish council.

Councillor Clare Munday - Clare moved to the village with her partner two years ago after falling for an old, little cottage in need of some care. Clare is a Service Designer & Digital Consultant and works mainly from home, focusing on user centred design. She loves the countryside having grown up on a farm in deepest Somerset. An obsessive recycler Clare is often found bringing things home from the recycling centre rather than dropping things off.

Parish Clerk Lise Jackson - Lise has been recruited as the new Parish Clerk to take over from Jacqui Cressey when she leaves at the end of November. Lise has been the Assistant to the Parish Clerk since January 2021. She has lived in the village for 22 years and taken part in many village activities and groups, including Its Music Time, the Connections Bus, sewing masks for the NHS and volunteering at the school.

Your Parish Councillors are:

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