



Sedgeford Village News

November/December 2020

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Village Hall

Once again, we have to close the hall and get the mothballs out for another month of lockdown. It is such a shame when some groups had managed to keep COVID free and provide some exercise and support for young parents with the baby and toddler group.

Committee members will be regularly monitoring the hall to make sure all is ok with heating etc. The field and playground remain open for use but please remember the sanitisation rules and distancing. If you go for a walk and see anything that concerns you then please let us know.

After the 2nd December has passed, we will be able to assess what we are allowed to do and if we can get the hall back in use.

John Ward

Chair

Village Support

During the period of lockdown, a group of volunteers are again ready to step up and help residents if you need help. They are happy to shop and collect medicines etc if that is of help to you. I am very grateful for all the help that people are offering and I am sure many will be happy to carry on through the coming winter period. If you need some help please don't hesitate to call 570504 and I am sure I will be able to put you in touch with someone. It is crucial we all stay safe in this difficult period and hope that when the vaccine comes it will provide a little more freedom for all.

John Ward

Volunteers Co-ordinator

Village Hall Going Forward

Although we're still not there we're definitely a little closer to seeing new plays once more at Sedgeford Village Hall and have two dates in the diary for 2021. We also have a new domain address and an updated website: www.sedgefordvillagehall.co.uk. Please take a look as there's lots of info on there as to what we have been up to over these past months and pictures of the many improvements that have been made to the hall and of course details of those plays which you may want to put in the diary.

Dave Carter

Parish Council

Parish Councillors

With the co-option of Sophie Rix, the Parish Council now has its full complement of seven councillors. An up to date list of councillors is now on the Parish Council website -

<https://sedgefordparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/category/councillors/>

The Parish Clerk can be contacted by email:

sedgeford.parish@outlook.com

Parish Council Clerk

In mid-November, a panel of councillors interviewed applicants for the post of Parish Council Clerk and Responsible Officer. The panel reported to the full council at the monthly meeting on 18th November and the panel's recommendations were approved. Once contracts have been signed, the outcome will be announced on the Parish Council website.

Council Meetings

Because of current restrictions, Parish Council meetings are taking place on Zoom. Members of the public are welcome to attend: to find out more, email sedgeford.parish@outlook.com.

Police Scam Alert

Western District Engagement Officer Lee Anderton from Kings Lynn Police has warned West Norfolk residents to look out for scams. He writes: You may have seen on our social media warnings around scams and frauds where victims are cold-called via the telephone by fraudsters purporting to be Police Officers/Detectives from London Police Stations. He stresses that: **Police will NEVER call and ask for your bank account details, bank card or credit card details or ask you to withdraw cash to hand over to couriers. If you get a call like this hang up and report it to Police.**

Freebridge support for tenants

Freebridge Community Housing has announced plans to provide additional support to tenants and the wider community in West Norfolk over the winter months.

Activities planned for the next few months include:

- making regular welfare telephone calls to tenants over the age of 60,
- providing additional financial and welfare support,

- providing additional advice and guidance to people who have become unemployed as a result of the knock-on effects of coronavirus
- identifying suitable empty properties for use as isolation units, *and*
- a programme of activities for young people to keep them active and entertained.

**For further information please contact
Simon Swanson on 01553 667746 / 07810
853506**

Current Consultations

There are several organisations asking local people for their views this month. Here is information about some of them.

Norfolk Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) survey on transport issues.

A chance to comment on transport issues in Sedgeford! There's a survey open to all who either live in the Norfolk Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) or who visit the area. It doesn't take long - you do have to say at the start if you're a resident or a visitor and say which village you live in. Here's the link

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/NorfolkCoastAONBTransportSurvey/>

Norfolk County Council Budget and Council Tax proposals

Norfolk County Council (NCC) invites residents to comment on proposals to raise Council Tax for 2021-2022 and on options they are considering in order to save money. This is a long document, with many sections – but you can choose which sections you wish to comment on. For example, there is a section about proposals to close recycling centres at 4.00pm, summer and winter, and one about the frequency of grass-cutting.

Here's the link:

<https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/consultation/budgetconsultation2021-2022/>

Sue Crump.

Chair

The Arts Society

The Art Society, no longer able to meet in the Village Hall, are now providing lectures 'online'. If you would like to join an online lecture please email:

info@theartsocietywnorfolk.org.uk and request a link. The December lecture is on Monday 14th

December at 2 pm and is: The Journey of the Magi: Origins, Myths and Reality – The true story of the Three Kings.

Gerald Pepper

Chair

St Mary's Church

Foodbank

Again, thank you to everyone who has left food in the church – a big thank you from James Munro who organises the Hunstanton Foodbank. Please if you can leave food, including Christmas treats in the church, we will make sure they are delivered well in time for Christmas. If possible, please also leave cat and dog food.

Raffle

Unfortunately, we were unable to hold our Christmas stall but we will still hold our raffle. Hopefully, this can take place on Sunday 6th December from 11 am until 12 in the church. First prize will be a Christmas Hamper which includes a £50 meat voucher and champagne. Many other nice prizes. Tickets will be £1 a strip and the draw will take place at 12.15 pm.

Puzzles

We now have some jigsaw puzzles in the church which you can either buy or borrow. If you have any jigsaws you no longer want please would you leave them in the church – many thanks.

Brainteaser

To try to make a little money for the church we have a brainteaser for sale. There are 100 questions and they are £1 each. This will keep the brain working during lockdown and can be done by the family over Christmas. Closing date is 31st January and there is a £20 prize for the winner. If you would like a copy please give Pam a ring on 579002 or they will be on sale when we have our raffle on the 6th December.

Used Stamps

The RNLI are collecting used stamps. If you have any used stamps please drop them into the church and pop them in the box provided.

The church is open daily from 9.30 am to 3 pm.

Women's Friendship Group

Hello ladies, are you still out there? Well, another year has nearly passed – not much excitement this year, but we did enjoy some good drinks sessions with friends in our gardens in the summer. We'll have to save the rave parties and holidays for next year – or I think the year after! Face masks of varying designs and colours are our new accessory, worn with steamed up glasses! Rubber gloves (sadly no designer labels available yet) are now our hand-covering sensation. Our hands have never been so clean – in fact if we wash them much more, we will wash away our skin! We no longer have a social life but are experts at social distancing. No touchy, touchy is allowed. Who would have thought that our lives would be reduced to this when we were

living it up in the Swinging Sixties, when there was plenty of touchy, touchy! During the first lockdown our shopping baskets were hopefully filled (if any of the items were on the shelves) with loo rolls, bleach, disinfectant wipes, hand gel, soap and tissues. Loo rolls were upgraded to luxury status and bleach as precious as Gin! At the peak of lockdown, I was reduced to my last loo roll and feared I would have to self-induce constipation if I did not acquire some of the sheets of gold! We followed the arrows in the shops and got told off if we went the wrong way. One day in Tesco's when accidentally going the wrong way down the aisle a mad woman shouted at me yelling 'Go back, go back, we must stop these killings!' I thought 'lunatics have landed in Norfolk' and I quickly turned and ran back the way I had come, thinking that she was more dangerous than the virus! But, hey ho, it will pass (but when we ask ourselves). Obviously, no meetings for the foreseeable future but the committee send their very best wishes to you all for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Looking forward to seeing everyone again when the grey clouds lift and the silver lining appears again.

Stop Press: Helen has informed me that if we are able, she has made a provisional booking for the Village Hall for the afternoon and evening of Wednesday 9th December for our Christmas Party. She will forward details to everyone nearer the time. Maggie Burlton

Hunstanton Community Choir

Our very sociable weekly rehearsals ground to a halt in March, as lockdown started. Never a good thing for a choir which was looking forward to rehearsing and performing at our 10th anniversary concert and ultimately our Christmas Carol sing-a-long. It is regrettable that these lovely events have been cancelled. However, all is not lost. We are continuing to work behind the scenes and there is a very strong desire to return to singing and performing as soon as we can. Rest assured we will be back, stronger than ever next year, when we can once again contribute to the community while continuing to support local charities with the funds we raise.

We anticipate being in the hands of a new Musical Director and will welcome new members. Singing with us is great fun, sociable and you do not have to be able to read music to join us. Please keep an eye on Town and Around, both the newsletter and the web page and on our website

<https://hunstantonchoir.co.uk>.

Lesly Trebbick

Chair

Norfolk Coast Partnership Small Grant Fund

Small changes can make a big difference and we would like to support your projects through our recently-launched small grant fund. The cash, from sales of posters, greetings cards, cycle maps and a book of poetry and pictures from local people, is already being ploughed back into taking care of the area of outstanding natural beauty through the fund. Grants of between £500-£3,000 are now available for local, community projects which bring environmental, economic, social or educational benefits to the Norfolk Coast and its communities. Projects encouraging people of differing ethnicities, age groups and accessibility needs to experience and enjoy the area are particularly welcomed. The funding has already enabled installation of a boardwalk at Natural Surrounding in Bayfield, near Holt, which improves the site for visitors by re-instating all weather access to the River Glaven and the riverbank hide and making the path through the wet woodland a lot easier and safer to use.

We are grateful to those who have purchased our products and the shop and outlets that have stocked them. The profits are all being spent on restoring and protecting the coast we look after and now we've built up sufficient funds, we're keen to hear ideas for how the money can be spent. Do get in touch with us if you think of a project you could take forward. For further information or to discuss project ideas please contact the fund facilitator Helen Timson, helen.timson@norfolk.gov.uk or telephone: 01328 850541.

Examples of suitable projects might be schools looking to enhance their outdoor learning area for wildlife, sensory needs or vegetable growing; care homes wishing to incorporate wildlife areas into their grounds for residents to enjoy; parish biodiversity projects or schemes facilitating non-motorised transport for visitors/locals

Help needed

Unfortunately, due to illness we are short of people to deliver the newsletter. In particular off Heacham Road. It will only take a short time once a month. If you can help please ring Pam 579002. Thank you.

Articles for the next newsletter should be in by: Monday 14th December.

Sorry this is little earlier than usual.