



Hail Weston Parish Council

Your Newsletter Summer 2018



hailweston.org.uk

hailwestonpc@outlook.com



What's been happening?

Roads

As reported in our summer 2017 newsletter, the Parish Council put in a proposal to reduce the speed on the B645 through Hail Weston village and a reduction to 50 (from 60) mph was agreed. We have been waiting for much longer than expected for Cambridgeshire County Council to implement the agreed reduction but you will doubtless have noticed that some new speed limit signs have recently gone up.



Hail Weston has also acquired, in recent months, signs at the entrances to the village and to Ford End reminding drivers that the village roads are unsuitable for Heavy Goods Vehicles. The Parish Council requested the new signage due to some incidents where large vehicles became temporarily stuck due to difficulty negotiating narrow parts of the High Street and because the route through Ford End to Little Paxton is sometimes used as a 'rat run' by lorries just to avoid traffic on bigger roads, not helped by satellite navigation systems re directing onto this road. The signs are not, of course, intended to prevent deliveries in heavy vehicles in the village (such as delivery of building supplies). If residents become aware of any issue with deliveries into the village as a result of the signs, please let us know so we can be sure it's passed on as appropriate.

Playing field



Our playing field remains an important and valued asset for Hail Weston and continues to attract visitors from further afield. Following a call for volunteers to help with essential maintenance during September, 8 volunteers came along on one or more occasions to weed, sand, scrub and paint. Thanks in particular to Steve Tipping for tackling the roof of the shelter, gold stars to Peter Mailer for speedy (cont)

What's been happening?

Playing field cont...

digging and Jen Abell for cheerful application of a whole tin of Hammerite.

However, we simply don't have enough volunteers to keep up with essential maintenance tasks and a particular issue identified was substantial encroachment of grass onto the paths running through the field. We approached the 'community payback' scheme who spent 12 days in Hail Weston during April and May. Jobs tackled included 'siding-out' the paths, re-spreading paths with limestone chips, repainting some of



the wooden structures and clearing some overgrown areas around the edges of the playing field. We were very pleased with the amount of work undertaken as it would have cost the Parish a lot of money to get in contractors to do the work. Our thanks go to the scheme organisers and workers and also to young resident Louise Abell who kindly provided home-made treats on several occasions to keep up the morale of the workers.

The playing field maintenance is ongoing and believe it or not there are still jobs to do, please do get in touch if you can spare any time!



Garden of Rest

The 14 fruit trees planted last year of local varieties are growing well. The family of the late Mr & Mrs T Cobbold kindly donated their family bench that has incidentally spent its entire life in Hail Weston. This is



now providing an opportunity to sit & reflect in rather a tranquil setting. You may recall that following 21 objections received by the PC in response to a proposal to sell, the PC aborted the sale of the garden in February 2016. Many residents felt that improvements could be made to the area and offered help in making it more attractive. Many thanks to the Gardening Club and other volunteers who have provided a peaceful community setting.

You may be interested to know... In 1974 the front part of the Garden of Rest had a lovely Chapel dating from 1759 but sadly it had to close due to a falling roll & significant renovation costs needed. Mr Cobbold, who purchased the plot, gifted HWPC the back part of the Garden of Rest in 1977 so it's rather fitting that his own bench now stands in there.

What's been happening?

General Data Protection Regulation

If you ever use the internet or receive any communications through email or through the post then it can hardly have escaped your notice that a new European law was enacted on 25th May 2018 in England & Wales to give us all greater control over our personal data. This has resulted in much work and some policy revisions for the Hail Weston Parish Council, including a new document retention policy, data audits and privacy notices to name a few! More detailed information can be found at <https://hailweston.org.uk/parish-council/financial/>.

In brief, we only process and store the personal information you provide to Hail Weston Parish Council to help us respond to your questions, provide information and/or access our facilities and services. Your personal information will not be shared or provided to any third party.

A second defibrillator



A second device was recently purchased thanks to resident donations and organised by the Crime & Safety Group. The new defibrillator is located on one side of the library (ex-telephone kiosk) and this means that we now have a defibrillator at each end of the village – the other is located outside the village hall. This should ensure that in the unhappy circumstance that a defibrillator is needed, no village resident should need to waste too many precious minutes getting to one.

Reminder—access to the defibrillator is via a 999 call: you will be given the information and guidance you need to unlock and use the defibrillator.

Path obstructions

We've recently been notified of obstructions to pavements that have caused issues for residents and which have resulted from thoughtless parking by contractor vehicles. Please remember that if you're having work done and you expect large or multiple vehicles to be nearby for any length of time, please make appropriate arrangements for parking so that it won't cause problems for your neighbours, such as agreeing temporary use of neighbours' driveways or simply asking contractors to park find a safe place to park. The same considerations should come into play if you're expecting large numbers of visitors, e.g. for a party.

What's been happening?

New cemetery charges

At the February meeting, the Parish Council agreed a revision to charges for and rules regarding plots in the new cemetery. This is to reflect non-resident charges for other local cemeteries in place to support local use of plots whilst recognising that strong and longstanding links to the Parish can be recognised as valid even for residents who move away some time prior to their death, for example for elderly care. Further detail can be found at: <http://hailweston.org.uk/parish-council/cemetery/>.



Your Parish Council

At the recent election

The outcome of Parish elections held in May was an uncontested election for Hail Weston with all seven seats being filled.

What does the Parish Council do?

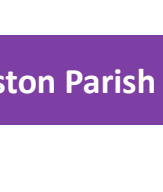
- * We're responsible for public open spaces including the playing field, cemetery and allotments
- * We represent the Hail Weston Parish in matters of planning
- * We represent Hail Weston to get better resources
- * We try to make a difference for the future

As a council we get involved in more than this and we have allocated various 'lead roles'. See who's who on the next page of who we are and how can you contact us with problems, issues, offers of help & ideas.

Don't forget that residents and other members of the public are always welcome to attend meetings of the Parish Council (dates are advertised at <http://hailweston.org.uk/parish-council/meetings/>).

Your Parish Council

Who's who?



Tony Baker – Chairman hailwestonpc@outlook.com 01480 474596 37 Orchard Close, Hail Weston	Highways & Allotments
Jill Gooch - Vice Chairman hailwestonpc@outlook.com 01480 212401 8 Orchard Close ,Hail Weston	Village Hall
Jane Sugars - Councillor hailwestonpc@outlook.com 07514 156779 133 High Street, Hail Weston	Communication & Publicity
Matthew Lobo - Councillor hailwestonpc@outlook.com Highfield House, 143 High Street, Hail Weston	Finance
Peter Mailer - Councillor hailwestonpc@outlook.com 07748 14874	Playing Field
Philip J Martin - Councillor hailwestonpc@outlook.com 26 Manor Way, Hail Weston	Open spaces/Checks Tree Warden
Jeff Hubble - Councillor hailwestonpc@outlook.com 119 High Street, Hail Weston	Highways and Environment Village Hall
Jennifer Abell – Parish Clerk hailwestonpc@outlook.com 01480 215880 5 Orchard Close, Hail Weston	

Your Parish Council

Annual Parish Assembly, March 2018

Excerpts from Tony's report are below. Read the whole report and more at <https://hailweston.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Hail-Weston-Annual-Parish-Assembly-2018.pdf>.

"The work of the council falls into two areas -

- Representing you on issues affecting the community such as planning applications....
- Maintaining our open spaces - the allotments, playing field, the new cemetery and grassland.

"I want to thank all the village volunteers who help this village to become a more attractive and nicer place to live...."

Planning applications

Planning applications relating to property or land within Hail Weston Parish are always reviewed at Parish Council meetings. You can see planning applications and associated documents on the Hunts District Council website at <https://publicaccess.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/online-applications/> where anyone can leave public comments. In responding to planning applications in support or opposition or to ask questions, the Parish Council seeks to represent the prevailing views of residents based on:

- representations made by residents direct to the Parish Council (in writing or at meetings)
- comments from residents via the HDC online planning portal
- lack of comment from residents

Councillors are also asked to review each application based on an agreed set of 'Material Considerations'.

Recent applications that have attracted interest or debate have included proposals for development at the East end of the village discussed in both September and October 2017, an extension to the life of a proposed plan related to a previously approved plan for a solar farm at Top Farm, Little Staughton (Extraordinary meeting, 9th January; discussed originally in August 2015) and plans to make improvements to St Nicolas' church discussed in January 2018. We're pleased to note that after overwhelming support from residents demonstrated by sending over 120 letters of support to HDC and a strong resident turnout on 29th of May at the Development Management Committee hearing at HDC, this application was approved. Well done to all those involved & the volunteers on the Church Restoration Group.

Believe it or not the proposed Wind Farm application, due to be located just north of Southoe (works now commencing), was originally approved in 2012!

The Parish Council response to planning applications is always recorded in meeting minutes and available on the HW website.

Your Parish Council

Report it!

The Parish Council is often approached about issues over which it has no control. We don't mind this and are happy to point residents in the right direction or to offer support or advice where appropriate. Here are some routes residents can take to report common issues:

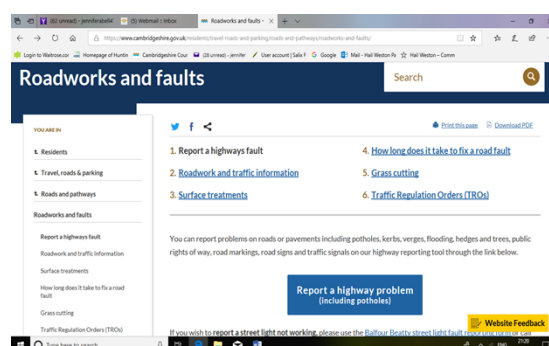
⇒ Poor car parking that encroaches & obstructs

What to do... speak with vehicle owner, report to Cambridgeshire County Council or call 101 if a vehicle is blocking access to a property

⇒ Pot holes, roads, pavements & trees on a highway

What to do... report to Cambridgeshire County Council, using their "Report a Problem" service: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults>.

Note that issues with the A1 should be reported to Highways England



⇒ Greenery on private land

What to do... report to the landowner

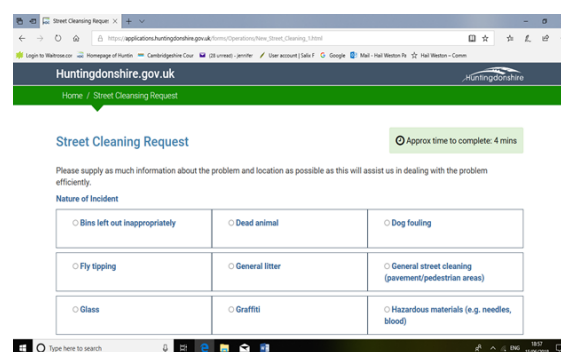
⇒ Fly tipping in river

What to do... report to the Environment Agency

⇒ Street Cleaning requests including bins left out inappropriately, fly tipping, litter, dog fouling, weeds & kerb side sweeping

What to do... report to Huntingdonshire District Council:

[https://applications.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/forms/Operations/New Street Cleaning 1.html](https://applications.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/forms/Operations/New_Street_Cleaning_1.html)



⇒ Playing field, allotments, new Cemetery

What to do... report to Hail Weston Parish Council at a Parish Meeting or contact the Clerk or any Councillor (see who's who).

Ian Gardener our Ward Councillor for Cambridgeshire County Council and Darren Tysoe Ward Councillor for Huntingdonshire District Council are keen to offer support with nuisances or issues and are often in attendance at the start of Parish Council Meetings which are held on the third Tuesday of the month in the village hall at 7.30pm (except December). There is always an 'open forum' near to the start of the meeting when any resident can speak and address the Council.

What's happening next?

Planning for the future

At the June meeting, Hail Weston Parish Council agreed to seek advice on the potential benefits of a Neighbourhood Plan to help us consider whether or not we should be preparing to make one. Anyone who was in Hail Weston in 2015/16 will probably recall the questionnaire that went to all residents from the Community Led Plan (CLP) team led by Barry Easom. This resulted in a comprehensive plan of actions to tackle issues as well as 'wish-list' items supported by residents. Many actions from the CLP have since been tackled and resident viewpoints taken from the plan have been used to inform responses from the Parish Council and other groups on proposed development. A Neighbourhood Plan would be different to our CLP in that it would have a statutory role, allowing a community to play a stronger role in shaping their area through a shared vision for the neighbourhood and in particular for its development and growth. Because of this a Neighbourhood Plan must be aligned with the strategic needs and priorities of the wider local area and would sit alongside the Local Plan prepared by the local planning authority (in our case Hunts DC).

While the vision set out in our CLP runs from 2016-2021, the process of collecting information and producing a Neighbourhood Plan could be expected to take 2-3 years, hence our agreement to start looking at all the options soon. Anyone with strong views or who's interested to stay informed or to help inform our thinking is invited to get in touch with the Clerk or any Councillor, or to contribute via a Parish Council meeting open forum session.



Allotment available

Hail Weston Parish Council have a half allotment ready now for a keen tenant. The price is £20 for 2018/19. Please email hailwestonpc@outlook.com or ring 215880 if you might be interested.

Time bank?

Hail Weston has been approached by Great Staughton to ask if we're interested in joining them to start a time bank scheme. The idea is to share knowledge and skills—volunteer 1 hour to get 1 hour credit for help from somebody else. Age and type of input no obstacle, money only needed for materials.

If you think this is something we should do, please get in touch with the Parish Council:
hailwestonpc@outlook.com.