

Billingborough Parish Council Newsletter

We wish you a Very Happy New Year and hope that 2023 will bring you much happiness and joy!

Calling all community heroes – an opportunity awaits you to help make a difference to your village and look after its interests by becoming a **councillor**. So if you've some spare time on your hands and think you could be the person we're looking for, contact our clerk or complete the brief application form that can be found on our website. **Act now** before this amazing opportunity passes you by. Selection by co-option will take place at our Council meeting on **10th January**.

6th May 2023 is the date for the Coronation of his majesty King Charles III - If you have ideas as to how the village should celebrate this momentous occasion or wish to organise something, please let us know.

To commemorate King Charles III's coronation – the Council voted to install a bench on the north side of the recreation ground.

Flooding in West Street – following advice by LCC that Anglia Water were responsible for rectifying the problem, our Clerk contacted them. However; following two visits by them to investigate, they concluded that there was no blockage in their system, advising that it must be in LCC's. So in brief we are no further forward, though we are continuing to liaise with Cllr Hill and LCC re the problem.

Do you have an opinion on the proposed Washdyke Solar Farm or reservoir? – Then we'd like to hear from you. Remember we can only represent the village's opinion if we know it.

Big changes are a foot for our churches – information about the proposals can be found by going to <https://www.lincoln.anglican.org/ttct>. After careful consideration our church has voted to apply to be a 'Local Mission Church', in amalgamation with the Folkingham church/South Lafford group. It is hoped that by doing so, we'd be allocated a vicar to share with them. It is anticipated that the vicar would live in the Folkingham Vicarage and undertake services in our and their church on alternative Sundays. If the application is successful; our church will have three years to demonstrate that it can meet the required financial commitment, which at present given their current financial situation may be a struggle. If you'd like to know more, then please call Trevor on **01529 241325**.

Church volunteers – the church is looking for people to help when they organise and hold fund raising events and with occasional cleaning. If you'd like to be such a volunteer, then please contact Trevor.

Pop in too – is a weekly coffee morning held on a Wednesday in the village hall at 10am. On the first Wednesday of the month coffee is followed by lunch of soup, pudding and refreshments, which is served at 12pm, there's no need to book and everyone's welcome. There is no set charge for either the coffee or lunch you just donate what you can afford. The organisers are currently looking for additional volunteers to help make the soup and puddings, so if you're able to assist please contact Liz on **01529 240839**. NB the **first coffee morning of 2023** is on **11th January** and the **first lunch** is on the **1st February**.

Do you need a little support – then **Linkwell** may be able to assist you. Linkwell is a Good Neighbourhood scheme that offers support with form completion, transport to medical and other appointments (there is a small fee for this), befriending and general tasks, such as shopping etc. For more information or if you'd like to volunteer please call **07731 678242**.

Village hall - the first Social Bingo of 2023 will be held on **Friday 3rd February** (adults only). Doors open at 7pm. **New infra-red heating system** the committee report that they are absolutely delighted with the new system, which has greatly improved the heating of the hall and significantly reduced their reliance on fossil fuels. Their next project is to install **automatic doors** to the main entrance, to provide easy access to all.

The Village Hall was recently chosen as the local community project for funding through the **Co-op Community Fund** – so the committee would like to thank all those that nominated them as their preferred charity. This funding will go towards the new doors.

Have you resolved to get fitter in 2023?– Then why not give the **Community gym** ago? There is an initial induction fee of £5, then you can pay as you go at £5 per session or £16 per month. Opening hours are Monday, Wednesday & Friday – 9am to 12pm & 5pm – 7pm. For more information please call **01529 241500** or **07577 030548**.

The Ladies Wednesday Club – if you like meeting up for a coffee/tea and a natter and learning about various topics in a light hearted way, then why not pop along to the Village Hall, at **7.30pm**, on the **first Wednesday** of the month? You can either attend as a guest **£4** per meeting or become a member which costs **£20 pa**. New membership commences in May. **NB** the first meeting of 2023 will be on **Wednesday 1st February**.

Spread the word – do you belong to a non -profit group/organisation or running a charity event that you'd like to tell everyone about? Then we'll happily include a piece in our magazine -space permitting. For publication dates and submission deadlines please contact our chairman.

Please Light Up – when you're out on your bike **when it's dark** – as it's both **dangerous** and **unlawful** not to do so!

Please slow down when driving in the village – we currently have a few drivers that appear to be practicing for the grand prix. So please remember it's 30mph max but preferably slower when going down the High Street and past the school.

Once again we ask – that you park with consideration, ensuring that your car is not causing an obstruction or nuisance and is indeed legally parked. *Remember* parking on double yellow lines is unlawful, unless you're a blue badge user, as is on single yellow lines between **8am and 6pm**.

Dog poo – is the most unacceptable and offensive type of litter – and unfortunately it's on the increase in our village, recreation ground and on public footpaths yet again! So if you're a dog walker please ensure you pick up after your dog and dispose of it in your bin or a litterbin **not** in the hedge or on the verge in a plastic bag!! **Thank you**.

Lincolnshire strong voices - Do you know a passionate young person who wants to make a real difference to where they live, who'd like to raise issues re policing or crime, challenge and inform the work of the Police and Crime Commissioner and the police and help make their communities feel and be even safer? Then this could be the forum for them as Lincolnshire Strong Voices is a space for young people to work together to achieve these outcomes. For more information visit

<https://lincolnshire-pcc.gov.uk/your-pcc/lincolnshire-strong-voices/>

Looking after your emotional health – services that can help and support you do this – **mental health matters** (mhm) **0800 001 4311**, emotional support, advice and guidance 24/7, **Steps2change** talking therapies, self or GP referral at www.lpft.nhs.uk/steps2change, **Lincolnshire's Recovery College**, offers free educational courses on mental health and wellbeing for over 16s, www.lpft.nhs.uk/recovery-college, Samaritans **116 123**.

Mr Hugh J Mair 16/12/32 to 28/11/22 –Hughie had farmed in the village since 1989, when he and his family moved here from Scotland. Rumour has it that he brought his cows on the train with them. He was a well-known and loved character, whose generosity helped with the recent refurbishment of the Spring Wells island. He'll be sadly missed and fondly remembered by all who knew him. Our deepest sympathy and condolences go to Hughie's family. May he rest in peace.

Please take a moment on 24th February to think about all Ukrainians - as this day will mark a very sad anniversary for them.

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