This Newsletter

Village News will be published by the Parish Council, approx. four times this year, and will also be on the PC website under 'Parish Council' in PDF format. Over the coming year, we plan to develop the website as a village resource, & revamp it, eventually publishing the newsletter on the website only (in printable, PDF format, should you require a hard copy). If you have friends or neighbours without internet, a hard copy could be printed off for them.

The Parish Council would like to hear your views.

Meanwhile, we would welcome help deliver, to the houses in your part of the village. If you can help, please contact Jan Wylie: 451986 or Wendy Knight: 450490.

Updates from PC meeting 20th Jan. 2021

Meetings

We met in Jan. via Zoom and remote meetings will need to continue for the foreseeable future - certainly the March Meeting.

Dates of PC meetings for 2021 (Wed. at 7.30pm). 17th March / 19th May / 21st July / 15th Sept. / 17th Nov.

If you've anything you would like raise, please contact the clerk at least 10 days before the meeting, so it can be added to the agenda. **Email: huntonpc@outlook.com**

Replacement of existing swings

We have now received sufficient funding to replace the toddler and children's swings, on the north side of the beck. The Parish Council has energetically pursued funding opportunities, and almost all the cost has been raised from these sources:

NYCC Locality Budget	£ 2,000
Lower Wensleydale Area Partnership	£ 1,000
National Lottery	£ 2,500
Broadacres (Village Hall)	£ 150

The project is costed at just over £6,000, with the balance met from PC funds (precept)

The work will go ahead on Mon 1st Feb., weather permitting. The two units will be repositioned slightly west of the old units; this allows us to keep costs down, as Streetscape (who did the large play park) will only be asked to supply and construct/fit.

The removal of the old wooden frames will be on a selfhelp basis and we will need to plan this project around Covid rules applying at the time.

Captain's Bridge damage

Once again, the stonework at Captain's Bridge has been badly damaged by a large vehicle. This route into the village, (and also the route from Bedale, along Diamond Hill lane) is very problematical for large, long and articulated vehicles. It is also an essential route for local farmers, to access fields and stock.

The Parish Council would be very grateful if local residents could ask visitors to avoid parking within 10m of the Captain's Bridge T-junction, to allow sufficient space for large and articulated vehicles to safely navigate the bridge.

Meanwhile, take care when walking next to the damaged stones as they have shifted considerably and could be unstable. Thank you.

Parish Council website

Go to: huntonpc.org.uk

Contents include:

Council - contacts, financial info, minutes of meetings, newsletters, local/national govt. reps.

Village - upcoming events, news, and information, including photos of village life, past and present, current projects (pinfold, wildflowers, play equipment and ongoing maintenance)

The PC are in the process of updating and revamping the website over the coming months.

If you have any photos or information you would like to have on the site, please contact the clerk at: huntonpc@outlook.com

Recycling

This has been a challenging time of year for recycling collections. Some of the lorry depots are situated to the south of our district and were severely affected by snow and ice this month. The disruption to post-Christmas collections was made worse by hugely increased volumes, particularly of card and paper, as we all turn to more online deliveries in these difficult times. There was one instance, recently, of a huge dump of card, Christmas cards and paper (and polystyrene!) left beside the bins (5 animal feed sacks were collected by a resident and stored, waiting for emptying, as RDC cannot pick up fly tipping).

Over recent months, RDC have been collecting much more frequently, but last week the newly emptied card bins were refilled in 48 hours, due to the unfortunate further disruption to kerbside collections caused by weather. **Update:** RDC managed to empty the bins again, only 3 days later!

So, please can we ask for your help in the following ways:

- Please flatten all boxes before putting them in;
- When the bins are full, please take your recycling home, until RDC is able to empty them;
- Please ensure that the card and paper bins in particular are not contaminated with plastic bubble wrap, film, polystyrene, or take away drink cups. If a bin load is contaminated, the whole lorry load may be condemned.
- If you are out and about, the Brompton Household Waste & Recycling site is excellent, because it has recycling facilities outside the fencing, which can be accessed at all times.

Be assured that the PC alert RDC when the bins are filling quicker than the collection timetable allows.

For more information on recycling and sites, please visit the RDC or Hambleton DC websites.

Mobile Post Office service

Since Mr & Mrs Stockdale's retirement and the closure of the shop and Post Office, a mobile service has been operating in the village.

The van parks outside the village hall on Wed. 10.00 - 10.45 and Fri. 13.30 - 14.00.

The van not only offers a full service; the helpful operator will put requested items on the van for next time. **See information on the PC website.**

Avian Flu restrictions

As poultry keepers in the village are aware, restrictions on poultry (keeping them housed, taking measures like extra netting to keep wild birds out) have been in place since Mid December. At present there is no news on lifting restrictions. **We will post on the PC website** when we hear news that the restrictions are to be lifted.

Lower Wensleydale Church News

Revd. Chris Lawton produces regular Lower Wensleydale Newsletters, which are posted on the PC website. Go to 'Village' - then 'Places for worship and Lower Wensleydale News', where you will find the current News, and previous ones further down.

Wildflower/wildlife project

As Spring starts to be evident, do go and look at the second phase, on the area opposite the village hall car park under the small oak tree, where already a lot of new plants have germinated. This was prepared and sown in late autumn; we also planted the area with spring flowering primroses, chicory and bluebells under the trees. Hopefully, the bulbs will come up. If not, we will try again! We will also reseed both areas in the Spring to supplement what is already there.

The small apple orchard has been pruned; we have also removed more grass to extend the beds, allowing space for more bee-friendly plants to be sown. Snowdrops are now poking up in the grass circle in the middle. Over time, they should multiply and spread.

Check out the bird boxes in the trees around the green, made and donated by a resident. There's room for more if anyone has the time and skill to make some! Birds are rightly hesitant about adopting nest boxes, so the bigger the choice, the more likely they will settle down and raise a brood or two. Jan Wylie & Wendy Knight

Knitted Poppy Appeal from Heather Smith

Looking for a project for winter lockdown? I thought it would be a nice idea to decorate the War Memorial with some additional poppies for November 2021. I have an easy pattern for these, in plain knitting using DK yarn, and the end result is very effective.

If you would like to make some, please let me know; I'll send you the pattern, or visit the PC website, where you will find the pattern on the Home Page, under 'Latest News'. Poppies can be dropped off at 4 Greenacres, or give me a ring & I'll collect. Thank you.

Heather Smith tel. 450238

Wildlife Quiz

This is aimed at the children and young people of the parish, but there's no age bar, and no prizes either, just the satisfaction of having a go!

You can find the answers and lots more information on the PC website.

- 1) What bird has a red breast?
- 2) What owl cannot go out in the rain; do you know why?
- 3) Can you name the white flower that appears very early in the year?
- 4) What tree do acorns come from?
- 5) Do you know the colours of the Lancashire and Yorkshire roses?
- 6) What local cheese and sheep have the same name?
- 7) Which two birds beginning with the letters 'S' and 'M' migrate to Britain in Spring?
- 8) What do you call a male duck?
- 9) What are a group of sheep called?
- 10) There are currently 17 species of bat, which are known to breed in the UK. Can you name any?

Your Parish Councillors are: Robert Wyatt (Chair), Ronnie Smith, Raymond Worsdale, Jan Wylie, Wendy Knight. If you would like to include items of interest in the next Village News, or on the website, please contact the Parish Council, at huntonpc@outlook.com or talk to any member of the PC.