

THE LINK

The Magazine of The Knightley Parishes



October 2025

No. 410

Badby ☿ Newnham ☿ Charwelton ☿ Fawsley ☿ Preston Capes



THE KNIGHTLEY PARISHES

www.knightleybenefice.org.uk

An on-line version of this magazine in colour is available on the web site

Services for October 2025

	5 October I Trinity 16	12 October II Trinity 17	19 October III Trinity 18	26 October IV Last after Trinity	2 November I 4 bef. Advent
Badby	11:00 Holy Communion CW [GS]	11:00 Morning Worship for Harvest [Lay SR]	10:00 United Benefice Service of Holy Communion CW at Newnham [+JM]	11:00 Morning Worship [Lay SR]	11:00 Holy Communion CW [GS]
Newnham	X	16:00 Harvest [GS]		10:00 Holy Communion CW [CP]	X
Charwelton	18:00 Harvest Festival (Church) [GS]	X		17:00 Evensong BCP (Chapel) [Lay ??]	09:15 Holy Communion BCP (Church) [GS]
Fawsley	X	11:00 Holy Communion BCP [CP]		X	X
Preston Capes	X	09:15 Holy Communion CW [CP]		10:00 Morning Prayer CW [Lay GH]	X
	X	X		X	X

OTHER SERVICES

Tuesday 21 October

6.30 pm

Badby

ESOW

SUNDAY READINGS

Principal Service CW

- for other services see Lectionary

Date	Feast	OT Reading	NT Reading	Gospel
5 Oct	Trinity 16	Hab. 1, 1-4 & 2, 1-4	2 Tim. 1, 1-14	Luke 17, 5-10
12 Oct	Trinity 17	2 Kings 5,1-3 & 7-15c	2 Tim 2, 8-15	Luke 17, 11-19
19 Oct	Trinity18	Gen. 32, 22-31	2 Tim. 3,14 - 4, 5	Luke 18, 1-8
26 Oct	Last after Trinity	Ecclus. 35, 12-17	2 Tim. 4, 6-8 & 16-18	Luke 18, 9-14
2 Nov	4 bef. Advent	Isa. 1, 10-18	2 Thess. ch 1	Luke 19, 1-10

FROM THE REGISTERS

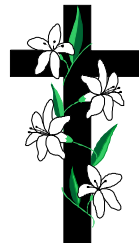
IN MEMORIAM

at Newnham
on 29th. August
Interment of Ashes
of
Harry G R Ferguson
[by. Bishop Ed. Condry]

at Badby
on 3rd September 2025
Christopher Charles Nelson
followed by cremation.
[by Rev. Greg Shaw]

at Badby
on 18th September 2025
Alan George Roddis
followed by burial.
[by Rev. Celia Parkes]

*Grant them peace,
and let light perpetual shine upon them*



*The funeral of Dorothy (Dot) Hawkins will be held at
St. Mary's, Badby on Friday 17 October at 10.30am.*

EDITORIAL

By the end of August the swallows had all gone. Having all congregated on the telephone wires in the village for a week or so, suddenly one day they had disappeared.

We can now therefore reclaim our garage where our pair had successfully raised 2 broods of 4 chicks each, which I think is pretty good going. We can also remove now the plastic sheeting which we had suspended over the garage roof beams to catch the huge amount of droppings, which would otherwise have landed all over our cars.

The eating apples are now over, and seem to have been appreciated by the friends and neighbours who have helped themselves from the box at our gate. But fear not! The cookers (Bramleys, James Grieve, and Howgate Wonder) will be ready any time now. Watch out for the box. There is no charge.

The cattle in the Church Field seem thankful for the recent rain and the good green grass which has resulted. They are also becoming much more agreeable. The other day as I was driving to the church the whole herd was blocking the road, but as I approached they started quite spontaneously to part and silently moved aside. I felt like Moses crossing the Red Sea!

Those of you with a mathematical turn of mind (and especially those born in 1980) might like this which was published in a medical source I follow.

My wife turns 45 tomorrow, which is interesting as 45 is the square root of 2025. It is very rare that one's age should be the square root of the year and won't happen again until people turn 46 in 2116.

*Also, 45 is the 9th triangle number
(1+2+3+4+5+6+7+8+9)
And the sum of the cubes of 1 to 9 is also
2025*

*So I shall be baking a square birthday cake
with a 9x9x9 triangle of smarties on top.*

*My wife couldn't give tuppence about all this
though. Except that it must be a chocolate
cake!*

And you wonder why you can't get an appointment with your GP!!!

David



PASTORAL LETTER

Farewell in Christ

As fourteen years of ministry in the Diocese draw to a close, our overwhelming sense is of thankfulness. Elizabeth and I are so grateful to God for the privilege of my being called here to serve as one of your Bishops, the warmth of your welcome and the kindness of your support. We have been upheld by your prayers, humbled by your appreciation and thrilled by your willingness to serve Christ. It has been deeply moving to see God at work in our communities, churches and ministries. Thank you all so much.

Throughout my Christian life, I have been sustained by the bible verse printed on a bookmark that I attached to my bedside cupboard whilst growing up. It had God's words of reassurance to Joshua as he took over leadership from Moses and read "*Be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed, for I, the Lord thy God, will be with thee whithersoever thou goest*" (Joshua 1.9).

I love the beautifully challenging prayer attributed to Sir Francis Drake;

*Disturb us, Lord, when we are too well pleased with ourselves,
When our dreams have come true because we have dreamed too little,
When we arrived safely because we sailed too close to the shore.*

*Disturb us, Lord,
when with the abundance of things we possess
We have lost our thirst for the waters of life;
Having fallen in love with life, We have ceased to dream of eternity
And in our efforts to build a new earth,
We have allowed our vision of the new Heaven to dim.*



*Disturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly,
To venture on wider seas where storms will show your mastery;
Where losing sight of land, we shall find the stars.*

*We ask You to push back the horizons of our hopes;
And to push into the future in strength, courage, hope, and love.*

Please continue to pray for us as we will continue to pray for you, as the Diocese grows under Bishop Debbie's inspiring leadership.

*The Rt Revd John Holbrook
Bishop of Brixworth*

BENEFICE PAGE

OBITUARY CHRIS NELSON

Many Link readers will have known Chris Nelson who, sadly, died on 11 August 2025. He was a noticeable presence in Badby and generous in his support of St Mary's Church over many years following his move to the village with Gill. In addition to being a member of the PCC, he served at various times as Churchwarden, PCC Treasurer and PCC Secretary, and latterly he was an active member of the PCC's fund-raising committee. At a time of difficulty or disagreement, he could be relied upon to provide sage advice, or make a philosophical and reflective observation which would defuse any tension. His kindness and unfailing good humour made him a very popular member of our community, and he will be greatly missed.

EVENING SERVICE OF THE WORD

This lay-led service is held once a month on the Tuesday evening following the third Sunday at St Mary's Badby from 6.30pm to 7pm. There is always a brief talk about someone inspirational. All welcome! The next dates are 21 October and 18 November.

BADBY AND DISTRICT FILM SOCIETY

Friday 10th October: Ice Cold in Alex (1958)

The ultimate British war film, in which a WW II ambulance crew crosses North African desert to reach British lines in Alexandria. It stars John Mills, Harry Andrews, Anthony Quayle and the gorgeous Sylvia Syms. It was nominated for 4 BAFTAs. It's a great film, worth watching if only for its magnificent scenery and superb acting. [125 mins, B&W, PG certificate]

Friday 24th October: A Complete Unknown (2024)

A young Bob Dylan shakes up the folk music scene when he plugs in his electric guitar at the 1965 Newport Folk Festival. Directed by James Mangold, it stars Timothée Chalamet as Dylan, supported by Elle Fanning & Edward Norton. "Charged up by Chalamet's electric performance, this ballad of Bob Dylan might not get under the enigmatic artist's skin, but will make you feel like you've spent time in his company. [140 mins, 15 certificate]



SUDOKU

[With thanks to Robin Baker]

Puzzle 124 - Mild

4		8		7				2
		3		1	5			
			4		8		9	3
	5	1				9		
7	4						3	1
		2				6	8	
5	6		2		4			
			7	3		5		
3				5		4		7

Puzzle No. 125 - Difficult

2		5			7		4	
								2
4			5	1				8
		4	8					6
6				2	9	3		
		3	7					5
7			2	3				9
								1
3		9			8		5	

[Solutions on p 12]

PARISH NOTICES

BADBY

Correspondent - Geoff Pullin (gcsspullin@yahoo.com)
website: www.badby-pc.gov.uk

	Reader	Sidesman	Coffee
5 Oct	J. Jordan J. Peel	J. Jordan C. Wakeford	G. Morley
12 Oct	C. Richards P. Wakeford	J. Jordan C. Richards	C. Wakeford
26 Oct	F. Williams G. Nelson	F. Williams G. Nelson	C. Richards

CHURCH CLEANING ROTA FOR OCTOBER

w/b 6 Ann Cotton, Monique Shortt, Ann Syred
w/b 13 Gillie Morley, Ann Skinner, Helen Morris
w/b 20 Jan Cooper, Moira Cooper
w/b 27 Jo Hind, Judy Jordan, Gill Nelson

CHURCH FLOWER ROTA

27 Sept. - 11 Oct: Debbie Chandler
11 - 25 Oct: Jan Cooper
25 Oct. - 7 Nov: Jackie Peel

Decorating the church for harvest festival will take place on Saturday 11 October, when helpers and autumn flowers, foliage, berries, fruit and veg will be very welcome!

SCARECROW FESTIVAL AND FAYRE

Many thanks to all who helped or supported the Scarecrow Festival in any way. At the time of writing this seems to have produced just over £1700, an excellent result given the torrential rain!

BADBY BELLS

Irritatingly, the return of our bells has been delayed further until at least the end of October.

RECORDED MUSIC SOCIETY

On Tuesday 14 October, 2-4pm, members will bring to the village hall a piece where the percussion section is the star.

BADBY & FAWSLEY WI

This month on Thursday 9 October, we will be having a visit from local author Judith Allnatt, who will be talking about her best-selling novel "The Silk Factory", which is set in nearby Weedon.

For further information about this thriving and friendly WI or to arrange a visit, please contact Jan Cooper on jancooper2012@me.com or Jackie Peel on jackiepeel22@gmail.com

COFFEE MORNING

We are looking forward to seeing you at the coffee morning in St. Mary's on Tuesday 21 October, from 10.30am till noon. As always, we shall be doing the Church draw.

Every number is entered in the monthly draw for cash prizes each month of £20 & 2 X £10) plus a bonus draw each September for cash prizes of £160, £80 & £40. Subscriptions have re-opened for the coming year, so if you would like to join the draw, please contact Frances on email williamsf333@aol.com or tel. 07717 337048 very soon. The September draw winners were: 1st: Hilary Warburton, 2nd: John Brodie, 3rd: Hamish Brodie. The annual bonus winners were: 1st: Jo Hind, 2nd: Gwen Edwards, 3rd: Rachel Brodie.

FILM RACE NIGHT AT BADBY VILLAGE HALL

Tickets are now available for our fund-raising event on Saturday 8 November at £19 pp. including a tasty fish'n'chip (or alternative) supper. Come along and put bets on your favourites, even 'buy' a horse with the chance of the winning owner's prize. Doors open 6.45pm, first race 7.15pm, licensed bar and raffle. Contact Peter Cooper (07792 165529, peter.bvhmc@btinternet.com) for information and tickets.

Our Christmas events timetable: Friday 5 December, 7:30 – Wreath-making; Wednesday 17 December (time tbc) – free communal Seasonal Singing; Friday 19 December (afternoon) and Saturday 20 December (morning) – Santa's Grotto for local children up to 11 years old. Contact Peter Cooper (as above) for further details.

TAD NEWTON'S JAZZ FRIENDS

Saturday 22 November, in the village hall, 7.30 pm.
Tickets from 07703 821042 or email
cladders@icloud.com.



NEWNHAM

Correspondent - Ellen Henning
(ellen.henning@hotmail.co.uk)

NEWNHAM'S CLEANING ROTA FOR OCTOBER

Oct. 5th. Mr. and Mrs. Rees
Oct. 12th. Mr. and Mrs. Wood
Oct. 19th. Mrs. Cooke and Mrs. Rees
Oct. 26th. Ms J Minor

HELP WITH CHURCH CLEANING

Do you have an hour a month to help with church cleaning.

This just involves vacuuming and dusting.

If you are able to help give me, Mary Wood 872670 or Janet Rees 705394 a call. Thank You.

ANGEL FESTIVAL

December 7th. 2.00 to 4.00pm

The church is a large space that is open to all and we are keen that all enjoy the space. To that effect we are organising an Angel Festival, in which we hope all organisations in the village will take part, thus bringing the whole village together in one place. This has been done in other places to great effect, but is reliant on all the organisations in the village taking part.

There will be no charge to take part or to come to this Angel Festival.

What is being asked of you? Please make an angel for display and write a piece about your organisation, to display with the angel, or you could be there in person to advertise your organisation. Angels can be large, we do hope for some large ones as it is a big space, or a host of small ones. If you are an

individual who enjoys craft work and making things you are very welcome to take part. To encourage people to visit, tea and cake will be served in the village hall.

Please do contact me with any questions, or to let me know that you are on board with this. We really hope the village can be together under one roof.

Email jimandmarywood@yahoo.co.uk or phone 01327 872670.

NEWNHAM WI

16th October at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.
Newnham WI welcome Janet Ashwell, a British butterfly enthusiast and wonderful photographer. Come and share the passion as Janet takes us on a photo tour around Britain and it's native butterfly species. member Ladies welcome at a fee of £6.

NEWNHAM HISTORY SOCIETY

4th November at 7pm in Newnham Church.
Newnham History Society welcome back historian, Jean Yates for a topical talk on the Gunpowder Plot and the Treshams. Non members welcome at £6 per person.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Our Harvest celebration will be held in the church on Sunday 12th. October at 4.00pm. A finger buffet will be served after the service

BINGO

The church is restarting its Bingo sessions on the 3rd. October, as usual this will be in the Village Hall, doors open at 6.30pm for a 7.00pm start. Refreshments will be provided, but you are welcome to bring your own. You can come on your own or as a group and make it a competitive fun evening. We look forward to seeing those who have been to Bingo before and those new to Bingo.

BOOK EXCHANGE IN THE CHURCH

In the past I have been asked about a book exchange in the church and things have been left in the porch, therefore we are looking to do a book exchange in a more organised way. If you go into the church and turn left you will see the bookcase;

please feel free to take a book or leave a book or both! If you haven't got anything to leave it doesn't matter you can still take a book. Initially, there won't be a lot of stock, but over time it should build up and just the thing you are looking for may be there.

SCHOOL

On Saturday 20th Sept. FONS (Friends of Newnham School) hosted a very enjoyable "Hoe Down" Thank you to all those who came along and took part and to those who helped with the organisation.

The school Harvest Festival Service will take place in the Church on Thurs. October 8th at 9.30am. All are welcome.



CHARWELTON

Correspondent - David Pound
(davidpound1939@talktalk.net)

	Reader/Sidesman	Flowers
5 Oct	TBA	Fiona Spencer
26 Oct	Meryl Nicholls	Elizabeth Bird
2 Nov	<i>Fiona Spencer</i>	

Chapel cleaning	
October	Graham White
November	Meryl Nicholls

POP UP COFFEE MORNING

After the success of the last event Lola's Coffee Morning is Returning to the Village Hall on Saturday 25/10/25 - 10.00 am - 1.00 pm
As usual a delicious array of cakes and speciality coffees and tea will be available

VILLAGE HALL QUIZ

October 3rd : village Hall Quiz with f&c supper : 1 table left, contact 07817973642 if you would like to take it.

ARMISTICE DAY BREAKFAST

November 9th : Armistice Day breakfast in the

Village Hall, 9-12.

It would be helpful to pre-book 07817973642 for catering

CHRISTMAS CRAFTERS' FAYRE

Sunday November 16th Christmas Crafters Fayre with refreshments. Come and support local makers for unusual gifts, and have seasonal refreshments at the start of the run up to Christmas.

LAUGH OUT LOUD THEATRE

Monday 29th. December 1.30 pm : Laugh Out Loud Touring Theatre returns, after last year's success, with "Sinbad The Sailor". What better way to spend a festive afternoon with family? Prices held from last year : Adults and over 8 years £10, children 8 years and under £8. Phone Trish 07817973642 to book.

CHURCH EVENTS

Three events for your diary:

Harvest Festival weekend 4th – 6th October. The flower arrangers will have worked their magic and transformed the church it into a floral haven: do come and enjoy it on Saturday 4th October between 2 – 4.30pm. Refreshments will be available. On Sunday 5th at 6pm our Harvest Festival service in the church will be led by Revd Greg Shaw, featuring all your favourite harvest hymns. It will be a particularly joyous occasion as Graham White will be licensed by Bishop Ed Condry as a Lay Reader for the Benefice. Graham particularly chose this service for his licensing as it best represents and celebrates the rural community in which he will minister. All produce will be gratefully received at the church on Saturday or at the service on Sunday.

Christmas bingo on Friday 28th November at 7pm in the village hall marks the start of the festive fun. We expect a great night for all the family -,young, old and in between.

Wreath-making between Thurs. 4th and Sat. 6th December. This community effort is our biggest fundraiser. All help - collecting holly, bunch-making, wreath-making and other light jobs - is earnestly sought. Contact Penny on pennycory@yahoo.co.uk for details.

Services in the chapel
 26th Oct 5pm
 9th Nov - Remembrance 8.30 am

PRESTON CAPES

Correspondent - Claire Hoare
 caghoare@gmail.com

VILLAGE HISTORY DAY

A reminder of the Village History Day on Saturday 31st. January 2026. If you have any interest at all in the history of our village, and/or the people who have lived, worked, and died in or around it, this is the time to learn about it. There will be exhibitions on the history of the Great Central Railway; the church, its buildings, its Rectors, and its development; the people who have lived in your house over the years, and the Knightley family. Census records from 1841 will be on display. There will be viewings of ciné films of a number of village events over the years; and much more. There will be no charge, though donations to the Church and the Village Hall will be appreciated. Refreshments will be available.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES

Fiona Spencer will be collecting the Children's Society Boxes during October.



FAWSLEY

Correspondent - Vacant

FIORI MUSICALI – ANGEL VOICES

Fiori Musicali will be presenting “Angel Voices” a programme of choral music in the Church at 6:00pm on 12th October. For full details of this expressive programme please see Fiori’s web site: fiori-musicali.com. Tickets are available at the door and from www.ticketsource.co.uk/fiori.

PARISH MEETING

The date of the Annual Parish Meeting has been provisionally set as 13th November. An agenda and full details will be circulated this month. Please keep this date free.



	Reader	Sidesman	Cleaning
12 Oct	Luke Bridgeman	Anabel Lewis-Bowen	All dates TBA
26 Oct	Bridget Whittaker	V Brassey	
	Flowers - Christine Farmer		

ROOF APPEAL

This is ongoing. Planning permission has been applied for, ongoing fund raising for our north aisle roof, the cost of which exceeds £60,000 We hope to receive some grants towards the work. Please support us if you can. The church is there for everyone - weddings, christenings and funerals.

GARDEN DRINKS AND FUNDRAISER FOR CHURCH ROOF

A most enjoyable evening was had by many who supported the start of fundraising for the North Aisle Roof Fund. It was slightly chilly but remained dry, delicious food, wine and the Daventry Ukulele Band added to the enjoyment. Thank you to Luke and Tic Bridgeman for hosting the evening, and Heather and Tim who helped and provided the food.

HARVEST POP UP SHOP

Do not miss the Harvest Pop Up Shop in the Village Hall on Sunday 5th October 12.00. Cakes/biscuits/pies and quiches, plus seasonal vegetables if available. Come early to avoid disappointment - once it has gone, it has gone!

AUTUMN CHURCHYARD TIDY AND WORKING PARTY

Please come and join the working party on Saturday 25th October, 9.30 - 11.30 for the autumn tidy up. Many hands make light work and any help is much appreciated. Please bring your own favourite gardening tools, though some will be available. Coffee, tea and biscuits will be provided.

CAROL SERVICE
Friday 12th December 6.30

A traditional service of lessons and carols.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

At this month's meeting our speaker will be Ian Scott-Hunter with his *Memoirs of a Royal Footman – an Upstairs/Downstairs View*.

The meeting is on Tuesday, 28th October, at 7.30pm in the village hall - if you would like to join us please contact our secretary, Anabel Lewis-Bowen (361298 or alewisbowen@btinternet.com) as soon as possible.

VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNING

Friday, 24th October, is the date for this month's coffee morning. Come along from 10.30am to noon and enjoy unlimited tea/coffee and biscuits for just £1.00, with a small extra charge for cake!



DIARY

This diary records the proposed dates of any benefice, parish or village events. We hope that this will help those planning such events to know what else is going on and therefore be able to avoid any unhelpful clashes of dates.

If you know, or become aware, of events which ought to be recorded please let David Pound, or your village Link correspondent, know.

Events known about so far are:

October

- 3 Newnham Bingo
- 3 Charwelton VH Quiz Night
- 4 Charwelton Harvest weekend open church
- 4 Newnham History Soc.
- 5 PC Harvest Pop-up Shop
- 6 Charwelton Harvest Supper and Sale
- 8 Benefice Council
- 9 Badby & Fawsley WI
- 10 Film Soc BVH
- 12 Fiori Musicali at Fawsley
- 16 Newnham WI

- 24 Film Soc BVH
- 28 Preston Capes WI

November

- 4 Newnham PCC
- 5 Charwelton PCC
- 8 Badby VH Race Night
- 9 Armistice Day Breakfast Charwelton
- 11 Badby PCC
- 13 Fawsley Parish Meeting
- 15 Film Soc opera BVH
- 16 Charwelton Christmas Craft Fair
- 20 Charwelton Parish Meeting
- 22 Jazz in BVH
- 28 Film Soc BVH
- 28 Charwelton Christmas Prize Bingo

December

- 3 Benefice Council
- 4/5/6 Charwelton wreath making?
- 5 Badby wreath making
- 6 Badby church fair
- 6 Badby Bells 3 hour peel
- 7 Newnham Angel Festival
- 12 Film Soc BVH
- 13 Charwelton Children's Christmas party
- 14 Knightley Singers Christmas concert Newnham
- 17 Seasonal Singing BVH
- 19-20 Santa's Grotto BVH
- 29 Charwelton Pantomime - "Sinbad the Sailor"

2026

January

- 31 Charwelton Village History Day



Ruth Mackman, celebrant

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SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

Solution No 124

4	9	8	6	7	3	1	5	2
2	7	3	9	1	5	8	4	6
6	1	5	4	2	8	7	9	3
8	5	1	3	6	2	9	7	4
7	4	6	5	8	9	2	3	1
9	3	2	1	4	7	6	8	5
5	6	7	2	9	4	3	1	8
1	8	4	7	3	6	5	2	9
3	2	9	8	5	1	4	6	7

Solution No 125

2	9	5	6	8	7	1	4
8	1	6	3	9	4	5	7
4	3	7	5	1	2	6	9
1	7	4	8	5	3	9	2
6	5	8	4	2	9	3	1
9	2	3	7	6	1	4	8
7	4	1	2	3	5	8	6
5	8	2	9	4	6	7	3
3	6	9	1	7	8	2	5

To commemorate her birthday, actress/vocalist, Julie Andrews made a special appearance at Manhattan's Radio City Music Hall for the benefit of the AARP. One of the musical numbers she performed was 'My Favourite Things' from the legendary movie 'Sound Of Music'. Here are the lyrics she used: (Sing It!) - If you sing it, it's especially hysterical!!!)

*Botox and nose drops and needles for knitting,
Walkers and handrails and new dental fittings,
Bundles of magazines tied up in strings, These
are a few of my favourite things.
Cadillacs and cataracts, hearing aids and
glasses, Polident and Fixodent and false teeth
in glasses, Pacemakers, golf carts and porches
with swings, These are a few of my favourite
things.*

*When the pipes leak, When the bones creak,
When the knees go bad, I simply remember my
favourite things, And then I don't feel so bad.*

*Hot tea and crumpets and corn pads for
bunions, No spicy hot food or food cooked with
onions, Bathrobes and heating pads and hot
meals they bring, These are a few of my favour-
ite things.*

*Back pain, confused brains and no need for
sinnin', Thin bones and fractures and hair that
is thinnin', And we won't mention our short
shrunken frames, When we remember our
favourite things, When the joints ache, When
the hips break, When the eyes grow dim, Then
I remember the great life I've had, And then I
don't feel so bad.*



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* * * * *

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NEWNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN – Gary Hammersley

07887 634936 chair@newnhamparishcouncil.gov.uk

CLERK – Kevin Carr

clerk@newnhamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Council Update

After the August break, there was a long list of items to review and update at the September meeting.

Tackling flood risks was the major item, with others including **street lighting, church path maintenance, 20mph advisory zone, communications and the grass mowing contract.**

As autumn approaches and with it, the likelihood of increased rainfall, we discussed the WNC response to last year's **flooding** with West Northants Councillor Charlie Hastie. Many of the actions we have requested and lobbied for have not been completed but Councillor Hastie listened to our concerns and committed to follow them up with the relevant officers. Since then, there has been some drain clearance work so hopefully the other work will be completed. Thanks to Gary Niblett for continuing to lobby on the village' behalf.

We agreed a programme of **street light replacement and maintenance**– thanks to Debbie Bastin for the research and liaison with the street lighting provider.

We also agreed a maintenance programme to keep the **church path** clearer of leaves over the autumn period, to avoid the build-up of mulch which becomes slippery and potentially dangerous to people using the path between the church and Mounts Lane.

In conjunction with WNC Highways, we are in the process of introducing a **20mph advisory zone** in the village. We are aware that many drivers exceed 30mph as they drive into the village, so it is hoped that the 20mph advisory signs will encourage drivers to slow down as they drive through the village. We continue to explore options for slowing traffic on the Weedon Road as you approach the junction with Mounts Lane.

Further to the consultation work done over the summer regarding communications, we are now ready to send the first email to **Village Email Group**. This will enable us to share important village news via a monthly update from the Parish Council. To date, over 140 households have indicated that they would like to be on this mailing list. If you haven' yet signed up for this, you can do so by emailing clerk@newnhamparishcouncil.gov.uk.

This is the third year of the contract with the company which does **themowing of the grassed areas** in the village. Over the winter we will be reviewing the specification for grass cutting and strimming and market-testing the contract in preparation for next year.

The **Auditor** has given our accounts and financial management processes a clean bill of health. They did recommend that we formalise the appointment of our not-so-new Parish Clerk, Kevin Carr. Kevin is applying himself to this crucial role for the Council really well and we are delighted to appoint him to the position on a permanent basis.

Finally, the usual reminder – we have a **vacancy for a new Councillor**. If you' interested, please feel free to contact myself or the Parish Clerk.

The **next Parish Council Meeting is Monday 6th October**, starting at **7.00pm in the Village Hall**. The agenda for this meeting, together with all minutes and agendas, is available on the Council website newnhamparishcouncil.gov.uk

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Benefice Secretary: *Vacant*

Benefice Treasurer: *Vacant*

Ministry Team: Gerard Hoare, Susan Rose, Graham White

Lay Pastoral Minister: Graham White

Benefice Children's Officer Susan Rose (879053)

Parish Visiting: Requests for visiting should be made to the co-ordinators who will pass them on.

Link Editor: David Pound, Forge End, Church Street, Charwelton. NN11 3YT 260006 davidpound1939@talktalk.net

Copy deadlines - Editorial, 20th of the month; Advertising 18th. of the month please.

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BADBY

Churchwardens:

Frances Williams, 25 Westhorpe Lane, Byfield, Daventry
NN11 6XB 07717 337048 williamsf333@aol.com
Judy Jordan, Thyme Cottage, Vicarage Hill, Badby
NN11 3AP 07752 384969 judyjordan27@gmail.com

Secretary:

Vacant

Treasurer:

Frances Williams, 25 Westhorpe Lane, Byfield, Daventry
NN11 6XB 07717 337048 williamsf333@aol.com

Visiting co-ordinator: Judy Jordan (07752 384969)

NEWNHAM

Churchwardens:

Mary Wood, Hillside, School Hill, Newnham. NN11 3HG
872670 jimandmarywood@yahoo.co.uk
Vacant

Secretary:

Janet Rees, 33, Bradbury Road jmr3349@hotmail.com

Treasurer:

Jim Wood, Hillside, School Hill, Newnham. NN11 3HG
872670 jimandmarywood@yahoo.co.uk

Visiting co-ordinator: Jeff Lawrence (705085)

CHARWELTON

Churchwarden:

Graham White, 8, Council Houses, Charwelton.
NN11 3YT 264393 grahamwhite1962@gmail.com
Vacant

Secretary :

Penny Cory, 3, Lindrick Close, Daventry. NN11 4SN
700550 pennycory@yahoo.co.uk

Treasurer:

Freddy Arthur, Harcourt House, Church Street, Charwelton.
NN11 3YT 07815 057729
mfreddymarthur@gmail.com

Visiting co-ordinator: Graham White (264393)

FAWSLEY

Churchwardens:

Vivienne Baker, Lakes Rise, Fawsley NN11 3BA. 361585
v.j.baker@outlook.com
Vacant

Secretary:

Vacant

Treasurer:

Robin Baker, Lakes Rise, Fawsley NN11 3BA. 361585
FawsleyTreasurer@gmail.com

Visiting co-ordinator: *Vacant*

PRESTON CAPES

Churchwardens:

Gerard Hoare, Old West Farm, Little Preston. NN11 3TF 361263 gerardjhoare@gmail.com
Claire Hoare, Old West Farm, Little Preston. NN11 3TF 361263 caghoare@gmail.com

Secretary:

Mireya Weaver, West Field House, Little Preston. NN11
3TF 361201 mireyaweaver@aol.com

Treasurer:

Edward J. Giles, Hall Farm, Preston Capes, NN11
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