

ELSWORTH TIMES

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2021

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THE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER FOR ELSWORTH

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IMPORTANT NOTICES

Please send all contributions, notices and adverts to janetpendrill@gmail.com and please identify these items for the Elsworth Times.

The next issue of the Elsworth Times is October 2021 and the deadline for this issue is Wednesday 22nd September

IMPORTANT DATES

Post Office services from the pavilion:
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Mobile Library – The Poacher
2nd Thurs of the month 2.35pm - 2.55pm

"Due to Covid restrictions they will allow limited access initially and operate with an on-line select and collect service just like static libraries, so books are kept clean and returns can be quarantined. If casual users turn up the operator will assist as much as possible as we know not all can go on-line."

BIN COLLECTION DATES

Bin Dates	Black Bin	Blue Bin	Green Bin
Thu 12 Aug 2021	✓		
Thu 19 Aug 2021		✓	✓
Thu 26 Aug 2021	✓		
Fri 3 Sep 2021		✓	✓
Thu 9 Sep 2021	✓		
Thu 16 Sep 2021		✓	✓
Thu 23 Sep 2021	✓		
Thu 30 Sep 2021		✓	✓

Tissues and Kitchen Roll - Due to Covid 19 the advice has changed on tissues and kitchen roll used for cleaning, these should be put in your **BLACK** bin at the moment please.

CLERK'S COLUMN - LIZ SIM PARISH CLERK

Telephone: 01954 267664

e-mail: clerk@elsworthvillage.com

So now restrictions on our daily lives have been lifted – officially that is, but many people are still being very cautious and are not taking any chances. South Cambridgeshire was one of the areas in the UK that had the fewest number of cases of Covid19 and it is worrying that they have recently seen a rise. Vaccination centres are opening up in more places and for longer hours so that people can just walk in and get their vaccinations. This time last year I was almost convinced that this would all be over by September, now I am cautiously optimistic that we can see a way out of this in the not-too-distant future and begin to meet up with more family and friends, go out to venues and events and generally enjoy life more.

The winds of change have certainly been blowing for everyone. We have seen a change in the birds in the village (and I'm not talking about the magnificent peacock who decided to explore Elsworth for a while). Very few swallows sitting on the wires or nesting this year but the swifts were still around to delight. Changes in the weather too, from flooding and storms to scorching hot. What would we have made of this funnel cloud that appeared over the village if we had lived hundreds of years ago and we had



Photo by Nicholas Leek

none of the knowledge that science gives us now? We would probably have had a totally different slant on it. An omen? A visitation from the gods?

Given the need for continued caution, the recent venue for the July Parish Council meeting was a novelty.



It gave a totally different perspective to the meeting and was actually rather interesting! The setting sort of reminds me of some old Dutch painting. Thanks are due to Edward Davison for offering the extremely spacious and well-ventilated accommodation which we shared with the most enormous piece of farm equipment I have ever seen in my life. No problem socially distancing there.

East West Rail

As can be imagined, the dominant issue of the meeting was the proposed EWR station to the north of the A428 and the associated massive housing developments near Elsworth that are proposed to accompany this. Councillors received updates from the Chairman and from Mark Howell our District Councillor. Cllr. Nick Wright also lent his strong support to local parishes' opposition to the proposals.

The sports field and play area

An informal meeting was held in May between Mr Edward Davison (the owner of the sports field) the Chairman of the Parish Council, the Chairman of the shop committee and the Secretary and Treasurer of the sports

club to gauge initial feelings for a new lease to be held by the Parish Council, that would combine the current leases held separately by the Parish Council and the sports club. A draft for a single lease for the playing fields, the sports pavilion and the play area has been received from Davison and Co. The PC will be consulting the sports club and taking legal advice to enable it to consider fully the various implications and costs that would be involved.

The annual Safety Inspection of the play area has been completed and the report received. It noted that the equipment was decidedly aging and in need of more ongoing maintenance as a result, but that the structures were safe. The Parish Council is keen to undertake the renovation project as soon as possible. *Suggestions from residents about the type of equipment that would be welcomed are gradually coming in. Please do send me your ideas as soon as possible.*

Fardell's Lane Reserve

The Fardell's Lane Nature Reserve is owned by the Parish Council. Paul Harding has impressed on the Parish Council the need to consider how it wishes to take forward the management of the reserve, as this is now a matter of urgency. The reserve management committee is looking to attract younger volunteers and elect a new chairman. The site needs continual maintenance that involves a division of labour that can no longer be sustained by current volunteers and the work that Neil Kenny does on behalf of the Parish Council. The reserve is an invaluable asset to the village and an amenity that so many enjoy. The preschool organises a forest school in the reserve and this has been a great success.

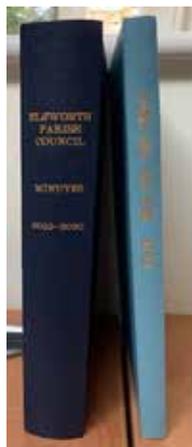
Parish Council Web site

New government legislation was introduced some time ago requiring Parish Councils to have their own web sites. The web site that Elsworth has had for many years was a village web site which combined information from many separate organisations, many of

which now also have their own dedicated web sites. The Parish Council has a new web site that is separate from the village web site and which is now live at <https://elsworth-pc.org.uk>. The former web site will be closed down and links provided from the new site. The Parish Council thanked Rich Milns of Guava Design for his help in hosting the village web site for some considerable time.

A dying art

Parish Council minutes are legal documents and as such have to be preserved. Gone are the days of handwritten minutes in books or even typed ones on loose leaf papers: now word-processed minutes are the norm. Elsworth's signed documents are still bound into beautiful volumes by a book binder who has been doing this for us for over 30 years. I recently took the last six years' worth of Parish Council Meetings' minutes and Annual Parish Meetings' minutes to him for binding. These have to be bound in separate volumes. Colin, of Stoakley Book Binders used to work from a Dickensian sort of garret opposite the round church in Cambridge. His workshop was a fascination to visit, I still recall the distinctive smell of paper and glue. But, winds of change again, the Cambridge college that owns the building decided to change it into student accommodation. So, Colin set up his own workshop in his garden and carried on. His intention to retire two years ago was scuppered by the pandemic



but when I left him last week clutching the perfectly bound volumes I cheerily said "see you in five years". "Oh no" was his reply. So, it seems that there is a distinct possibility that there will be a change to all this too and that maybe these legal documents will soon be consigned to the virtual world and Binders will be a skilled trade of the past.

Planning Applications considered.

S21/01438/FUL Land North East of Castle Acres Boxworth Road Elsworth. Mr S Booth
Erection of an agricultural building for the storage of hay and straw and machinery (instead of building with prior approval under ref 21/00634/PR106A). PC: No recommendation with comments.

21/01904/HFUL 55 Boxworth Road CB23 4JQ. Erection of Greenhouse to the front. PC: no recommendation with comments.

21/02510/HFUL 35 Boxworth Road CB23 4JQ. Demolition of existing extension and construction of new extension. PC recommendation: Support

21/02515/FUL Elm Lodge Meadow Drift CB23 4HS. Demolition of existing bungalow and construction of a 5 bedroom replacement dwelling together with garage, driveway and landscaping. PC recommendation: Support with comments.

21/02470/LBC 20 Brook Street CB23 4HX. Partial demolition of ground floor for the removal of existing concrete floor and to replace it with a breathable limecrete floor, removal of the concrete apron and excavate to approx. depth of 150mm and the trench to be lined with butyl membrane, excavate and install 100mm upvc drains. PC recommendation: Support

21/02345/HFUL. 45-47 Boxworth Road. Installation of 14 solar panels on south east roof. PC: No recommendation with comments.

21/02318/HFUL. 31 Smith Street. CB23 4HY. Detached Garden Room with sanitary provision. PC recommendation: Support
Planning Applications received FIO

S/3882/19/CONDB AGRESERVES LIMITED Barn 2 Pittdene Farm Rogues Lane Elsworth
S/1955/19/CONDB S/1955/19/PA
Submission of details required by condition 9 (contamination) on prior approval. Agricultural Building At Pitt Dene Farm Elsworth Cambridge CB23 4JA

Applications for Works to Trees in a conservation area/ protected by a TPO
21/0280/TTPO Low Farm Brook Street Elsworth CB23 4HX Granted Permission
21/0632/TTCA 5 Brockley Road Elsworth CB23 4JS DC No objection
21/0590/TTPO case is linked to 21/0254/TTPO (T2: T1 OAK) Retrospective application

Site address: 55 Boxworth Road Elsworth Cambridge Cambridgeshire

21/0863/TTCA34 Brook Street Elsworth CB23 4HX. No objection

Applications determined/closed by SCDC

S/4521/19/FL Martins Farm 53 Boxworth Road Elsworth Cambridgeshire CB23 4JQ
Erection of 9 dwellinghouses and associated infrastructure and works including formation of new vehicular access following demolition of existing buildings Refused Permission

21/01656/HFUL 13 Brockley Road Elsworth Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB23 4JS Two storey side extension. Granted Permission
21/00569/FUL Church Lane CB23 4UH. PC request for application to be considered by planning committee was considered at the shared Planning Service Delegation meeting on 29.06.2021. It was decided that this application should be a delegated decision.

S/1955/19/CONDB Agricultural Building at Pitt Dene Farm. Submission of details required by condition 10 (contamination) on prior approval S/1955/19. Refuse to Discharge Condition.

21/01904/HFUL 55 Boxworth Road Elsworth CB23 4JQ Erection of a greenhouse to the front. Granted Permission.

Dates of future Parish Council meetings in 2021.

September 15th

November 17th

Venue to be decided, depending on future government guidance.



HOLY TRINITY CHURCH -ELSWORTH

Why does everything have to change?



Nigel di Castiglione
Team Rector

'In the good old days', the Open Golf Championship was shown from early in the morning until the last player finished for 4 consecutive days. First it was Henry Longhurst then Peter Alliss as anchors to the whole event. Now I have to make do with

abbreviated highlights shown in the evening; because I have not yet succumbed to paying for subscription TV offered by a competitor to the BBC! I am a victim of change and, for now, I don't like it!

The trouble is I am rather selective over what changes I embrace and the ones I eschew or ignore! I wouldn't go back to the days when our home was heated by a couple of fires and an occasional burst of an electric fan heater! Similarly, I have now become a fan of 'on-line' banking or shopping.

One of the 'big issues' facing the church in the UK is about how to respond to change – in terms of opportunity and expectations. There are big debates (that won't be settled

speedily) about resources, buildings, whether and which posts should be paid for etc; also, more fundamentally, what it means to be human, and how best to live under God and with one another. The challenge is to distinguish wisely between the things that are essential and unalterable and others that are peripheral and very much of secondary or contextual significance; which is where and why so many struggle to agree with others!

Part of the Christian good news is this: God is committed to us changing, with His help, for the better and to be able to fulfil our potential. But as with some of the aforementioned examples, God looks for our co-operation and respects our yes or no response.

As this article reaches you, a new academic year will have begun. For some this means new clothes have been acquired, new equipment obtained, new goals set, and new relationships begun. In this setting, change is about moving on, growing up, reaching for new horizons. It would be boring, stultifying and life-sapping if things did not change.

I do not pretend to be a fount of wisdom about logistical changes being thrust at us locally – in terms of road developments, the route for the EWR and so on. But one thing I glean, as a Christian, reading the Bible is this: choices I make now have consequences down the line for others – for family, friends, colleagues and acquaintances. Therefore, I cannot afford to think just about what suits me today; and sometimes it is only when we think enough about such matters that we see underlying flaws in arguments and how changes are presented, that need correcting or challenging!

PLAY AREA



As mentioned in the June edition of the Elsworth Times the play area was given a clean-up last year but, given the age and the condition

of most of the existing equipment, it is time to consider what improvements should be made. The PC has recently been offered funding from a generous donor (who wishes to remain anonymous) and planning has started for a complete refurbishment. The PC is keen to ensure that everyone in the village who wishes to has the opportunity to make comments or suggest ideas.

The PC has so far received a number of suggestions following the article in the June ET but there is still time for suggestions for the type of play equipment that might be purchased, bearing in mind that the current

area is relatively small and that there is not an unlimited budget which of course must include the cost of installation and maintenance. We would particularly like to receive ideas from you if you have or care for children who use the play area and have a suggestion on what you think would appeal to them and their friends. It would also be useful to know what of the current equipment is the most popular and should be refurbished and retained.

Mention was also made in the June edition of the advantage that might arise from an extended lease when seeking grant funding for the equipment. Discussions between the landowner (the Davison family) and the three holders of leases on various parts of the field are ongoing and further information will be provided as matters progress.

If you do wish to make suggestions please send them to:

Liz Sim, the Parish Clerk, at Mercia Cottage, Brockley Road, CB23 4JS or by email to clerk@elsworthvillage.com.

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Please look at us on www.U3AC.org.uk, and we would be happy to send you our Programme for 2021/2022. We will be having an Open day and you are welcome to come and meet us in Bridge Street !

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**Email: office@u3ac.org.uk
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Broadband in the Village

Following the Government's announcement earlier in the year about Broadband, the Parish Council contacted Connecting Cambridgeshire to gain an understanding of what it might mean for the village.

We are aware that the village may be included in the Project Gigabit procurement but won't receive any confirmation until later this year.

We have been advised that we are also still in the County Broadband plans for 2022/23, so they will probably start engaging with the village later this year. They are currently completing the build of Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) in Newton, Fowlmere and Thriplow.

Whilst the village remains in the plans of County Broadband, then this may impact on Elsworth being included in any other plans that would allow competitive roll out of FTTP via Openreach.

The view of the Parish Council is that it there may be other options that could be explored if there were enough interested persons to take this project on. Similarly, because County Broadband is a commercial enterprise (and might restrict choice of supplier), then it is difficult for us to be having discussions on behalf of the village.

The Parish Council would therefore welcome any interested parties who would be happy to run with this project on behalf of the village. If you are interested, please get in touch with David Pope on david.popepc@btinternet.com.

What's in a name?

Martin's Farm

Continuing the theme of how some properties and roads in the village got their names, Martin's Farm (53 Boxworth Road) is another that appears to have been named from the surname of a resident or landowner. In her booklet, *The Church and Village of Elsworth Cambridgeshire* (2006), Betty Evans suggested a link with a family named Martin or Martyn in 1571. This seems a bit improbable because the Martin surname was absent from the parish registers for most of the next two centuries. So who might have been Martin of Martin's Farm?

On 21st June 1909, at The Golden Lion Hotel in St Ives, 'landed properties' were auctioned on behalf of the Trustees of the late John Martin of Melbourn, who had died in December 1906. Probate records show that he had been a farmer and his estate was valued at £30,661 (equivalent to nearly £3 million today). The estate map in the

prospectus for this auction shows property at Elsworth including a farmhouse and homestead (farm buildings) in the location that is now known as Martin's Farm. The earliest identification of Martin's Farm that I have found in public records appears to be the 1939 Register.

Members of the Martin family had probably been associated with Elsworth since the 18th century. John Martin (1857-1906) was at least the third generation 'John Martin' in the family, which makes tracing records a little difficult. His father, John Martin (1809-1892), had been born at Elsworth and in 1841 was a farmer living at the same address as his father (also John!) aged 70, who was a publican in Brook Street. Successive generations of the Martin family were large farmers in Papworth Everard, but John Martin (1857-1906) later moved to farm in Horningsea and then at Melbourn, where he died in 1906. There is no direct evidence from censuses that a member of the Martin family had ever lived at Martin's Farm.

A photograph from the early 1900s, shows the farmhouse with its thatched roof heavily patched – it was probably not a desirable residence for a wealthy landowner such as John Martin. In this photograph three members of the Murden family are standing outside the farmhouse; they were tenants and the property may have been unoccupied at the time of the 1911 census. By 1939 the farmhouse was occupied by the Bishop family as tenants.

A photograph dating from 1955 shows an attractive cottage, then with a re-thatched roof, and a tidy garden. Other photographs of Martin's Farm on the Elsworth Chronicle website show the fire that destroyed the original farmhouse in the 1960s. Only the so-called cart shed beside the road, and a dovecote or granary have survived from the original farm buildings, but both are threatened by neglect; the cottage had been replaced with a large bungalow. The property has been the subject of a large redevelopment application (S/4521/19/FL) which was refused recently by South Cambridgeshire District Council.

© Paul T. Harding

A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet

Highways England are proposing to upgrade the route between the Black Cat roundabout and Caxton Gibbet roundabout with a new 10-mile dual carriageway and a number of junction improvements.

This scheme is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP), which means it's classed as a large, complex infrastructure project that benefits the entire country.

To build the scheme, they need to seek permission through a special planning process and gain a Development Consent Order (DCO) from the Planning Inspectorate.

This was submitted on 26 February 2021. The application has been accepted by the Planning Inspectorate, so the examination process can now proceed. This can last 6 months.

The Parish Council has registered to be able to submit their opinion on matters that might affect the village. This will relate primarily to the Caxton Gibbet roundabout layout and reducing rat running through the village.

Following the examination, the Planning Inspectorate has a further three months to write a recommendation report to the Secretary of State for Transport, who has another three months to make their decision.

Villagers should follow how this progress at the Highways England website.




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