

# ELSWORTH TIMES

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2022

ISSUE 22-01

**THE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER FOR ELSWORTH**

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## USEFUL NUMBERS

### Elsworth Times Editorial & Adverts

Janet Dobson - 01480 831066  
janetpendrill@gmail.com

### Police Community Support Officer

Non Emergency - 101 or Emergency - 999

### Community Fire Safety Officer

01223 376217 or Emergency - 999

### South Cambridgeshire District Council

08450 450500 or 01954 713000

### Parish Clerk

Liz Sim - 01954 267664  
clerk@elsworthvillage.com

### Parish Council Web site address

<https://elsworth-pc.org.uk>

### Doctors' Surgery

Papworth - 01480 830888  
Bourn - 01954 719313  
Appointments 01954 719469

### Parish Church Contacts

Chris Westgarth - Team Administrator  
01480 839933

### The Rev Nigel di Castiglione

01954 267241

### Elsworth Primary School

01954 267272

### Elsworth Show

Sonia Hegan - 01954 267743

### Elsworth Sports Club & Pavilion

Roger Fensom - 01954 267534  
Bookings: kplesko@aol.com  
07770 807850

### Swavesey Village College

01954 230366

### Elsworth Shop

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[www.elsworth-shop.co.uk](http://www.elsworth-shop.co.uk)

### Tree Warden

Paul Harding - 01954 267218

### Fardell's Lane Nature Reserve

Louise Harding - 07785 614303

### Cambourne Car Scheme

07526 998465  
Cambournecarscheme@gmail.com

## IMPORTANT NOTICES

Please send all contributions, notices and adverts please send to [janetpendrill@gmail.com](mailto:janetpendrill@gmail.com)

The next issue of the Elsworth Times is April 2022 and the deadline for this issue is Wednesday 23rd March

## IMPORTANT DATES

Post Office services from the Sports Pavilion:

Tues 2pm - 4pm and Thurs 12 noon - 2pm

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 10 Feb 2022	✓		
Thu 17 Feb 2022		✓	✓
Thu 24 Feb 2022	✓		
Thu 3 Mar 2022		✓	
Thu 10 Mar 2022	✓		
Thu 17 Mar 2022		✓	✓
Thu 24 Mar 2022	✓		
Thu 31 Mar 2022		✓	
Thu 7 Apr 2022	✓		
Thu 14 Apr 2022		✓	✓

**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, into 2022 and many sighs of relief that restrictions on our lives are easing, even though we are all staying pretty cautious.

## Play equipment.

Three quotations for the supply and installation of new play equipment were received. Councillors agreed to accept the quotation from NGF Play Ltd. However, additional costs could be incurred for the removal and disposal of the existing equipment, and it is hoped that some local companies could be approached for possible free assistance and a working party could be convened to dismantle the majority of the old equipment and landscape the ground surface in preparation for the installation of the new equipment.

## Precept for 2022-20231.

The precept is the Parish Council's share of the council tax. The precept demand (the amount that the Parish Council resolves to ask for) goes to the billing authority, the District Council, which collects the tax for the Parish Council. The 'Precept' is converted into an amount per Council Tax Band that is added onto the Council Tax bill. Your rates demand will show you what council tax band your property is in.

The Parish Councillors agreed a precept of twenty four thousand pounds for the coming financial year. They were mindful of increasing costs that would be incurred and proposed a review of the level of reserves that the Parish Council holds.

For those of you who like figures, this is an increase in the total precept of one thousand pounds over the last financial year's precept. The 2022/23 year's precept will give a Band D equivalent of £77.32. This is an increase of £2.11 or 2.80% to the properties in Band D equivalent charge in 2021/22. The tax base has increased from 305.8 to 310.4 - this results in an increase to the Band D equivalent cost.

## But what is the tax base and how is it calculated?

This is the average number of band D equivalent properties within the Parish and is produced from the Council Tax system. All dwellings in the Parish are assessed by the Valuation Office, part of Revenue and Customs, and placed in the following bands:

Valuation Band	Range of Values (at 1991 prices)
A up to	£40,000
B	£40,001 - £ 52,000
C	£52,001 - £ 68,000
D	£68,001 - £ 88,000
E	£88,001 - £120,000
F	£120,001 -£160,000
G	£160,001 -£320,000
H over	£320,000

The number of dwellings in each band is then adjusted to take account of:

1. reductions in the number of dwellings, eg exempt, demolitions.
2. additions to the number of dwelling eg new builds.
3. Adjustments eg single occupancy discounts.

The properties are then translated into band D equivalent's using the ratios below:

Band A 6/9ths	Band B 7/9ths
Band C 8/9ths	Band D 9/9 (1) (one whole)
Band E 11/9ths	Band F 13/9ths
Band G 15/9ths	Band H 18/9ths

Finally, the estimated number of Band D equivalents to be built in the year are added on and an allowance applied for losses on collection rate.

This then gives the total number of band D equivalent properties to use for the tax base.

### Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee

**celebrations.** A proposal for village celebrations and possible gifts for the children of the parish is going to be put to the council at the March Parish Council meeting. It is hoped that many organisations in the village, as well as the school and preschool, will come together to celebrate this event, which will take place in June.

### Fardell's Lane Reserve and tree matters

The Parish Council formally resolved to disestablish the Fardell's Lane Reserve Committee following the appointment of Ms Louise Hanzi as Voluntary Reserve Warden. Paul Harding had produced a comprehensive report on the trees in the village and advised the council that he was looking for support to undertake work on trees that were affecting the village highways, in particular in Brockley Road, Boxworth Road and Rogues Lane. He also advised the council that consideration should be given to the appointment of a new Tree Warden to take over from him in the near future.

### Cambridge South station proposals

District Cllr Nick Wright advised the Parish Council that the District Council had signalled its intention to reject proposals for the South Cambridge station (part of the EWR project which is being driven by No 10) on environmental grounds. Network Rail has responded by producing alternative proposals.

### And yet again a plea about the perennial doo doo problem.



Certain areas of the village seem to suffer at different times from a build-up of poo problems. This time it is Fardell's Lane. This is particularly sad as this is the pleasant route for so many children to walk to school. There is a doggy doo bin near the junction of Fardell's

Lane and Paddock Row which is emptied on a very regular basis.

### Planning Applications considered.

21/05368/HFUL& 21/05369/LBC 15 Cotterells Lane Elsworth CB23 4JR Repair works to and replacement of roof finish of existing barn. Works to also incorporate roof lights within roof. PC recommendation Support

21/05155/FUL & 21/05156/LBC 54 Boxworth Road Elsworth CB23 4JQ

Replacement of existing plastic sheet roof lights in boot room with 3 No. conservation style roof lights, dry-line, plaster and paint the interior of the two external boot room walls, lay new natural flag stone floor covering on the existing painted concrete screed in boot room and undertake other necessary sensitive repairs to make good generally. PC recommendation Support

21/05189/LBC 3 Brook Street Elsworth CB23 4HX Repair floors, replacing joists and installing structural plywood diaphragm. PC recommendation Support

21/04671/PRIOR Browns Farm Boxworth Road Elsworth Cambridgeshire Change of Use of Agricultural Building to 2 No. Dwellinghouses (Class C3), and for building operations reasonably necessary for the conversation. Prior Approval Given on 17 December 2021

21/05136/CL2PD Carpenters Broad End Elsworth Certificate of lawfulness under S192 for the installation of 24 No. solar panels on the south facing roof.

Planning Application received FIO

S/1955/19/CONDD Pittdene Farm Rogues Lane Elsworth Submission of details required by condition 6 (Drainage) of prior approval S/1955/19/PA. FIO

Applications for Works to Trees in a conservation area/ protected by a TPO

21/1637/TTCA 15 Brook Street PC recommendation no comment about felling the spruce but recommends replacing with oak, small leaved lime or hornbeam or a fruit tree. No objection

Applications determined/closed by SCDC 21/1395/TTCA. No objection.

20/05352/CONDA 15 Cotterells Lane  
Elsworth CB23 4JR. Discharge Condition in  
Full

### Dates of Parish Council meetings in 2022.

March 16th.	Parish Council Meeting
May 18th	Annual Parish Council Meeting
July 20th	Parish Council Meeting
September 21st	Parish Council Meeting
November 16th	Parish Council Meeting

## Elsworth Parish Council Elections are this year!

5th May 2022 sees the next scheduled elections for all Parish and Town Councils in South Cambridgeshire (except for Willingham and Longstanton).

These elections are held every four years and elected councillors hold the post for the duration of the following four years.

Most people in Elsworth know that we have a Parish Council but possibly haven't thought that they might like to become involved with the work that it does. Why not consider whether you would like to stand for election? What does it mean to be a Parish Councillor? Who is eligible to become one? What would be expected of you in terms of commitment?

If you would like to consider standing as a councillor, consider what you could bring to this village. What ideas could you contribute to its future? How do you feel about issues that are affecting this village? What skills and knowledge do you have that would bring additional benefit to the village as a whole through the parish council and its work for the residents? Elsworth Parish Council has an entitlement to nine councillors, at present we only have seven.

If you are considering becoming a candidate for the village the information below may be

helpful. Keep it for future reference while you have a think about things! It will probably answer a lot of your questions.

### Guidance for Candidates

The Electoral Commission publishes significant guidance notes for anyone who is considering standing as a parish (or town council) candidate. You can find the guidance documents here: <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/candidate-or-agent/parish-council-elections-england>. This guidance is still being updated for 2022, so keep an eye out for any changes. It is recommended that all candidates read this guidance, especially the parts relating to qualification and conduct.

### Formal Notices

At key points during the election period several notices will be displayed within the parish. The first notice is the Notice of Election, which will arrive soon, in February or early March. This notice will be displayed on 28 March, and signifies the start of the election period. Further notices will follow after the close of nominations and in the run up to polling day.

### The Pre-election period

In this period, (from March 28th until the election) there are restrictions on local authority publicity, which includes parish councils. You can find some guidance from the LGA here: <https://www.local.gov.uk/publications/short-guide-publicity-during-pre-election-period>. Although this is targeted at principal councils, much of it will apply to parishes.

Nomination papers can be downloaded from the Electoral Commission website <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/>. The Returning Officer (\*see below) is able to provide printed copies, but in the interests of sustainability, these will only be supplied

on request. Nomination papers must be completed in hard copy (not digitally).

### **Nomination Period**

Nominations must be delivered by hand to the Returning Officer at SCDC (Cambourne Business Park, CB23 6EA). They may be delivered at any time between 8.30am and 5.30pm on any working day between 28 March and 5 April. In accordance with the statutory timetable, the Returning Officer will stop taking nominations at 4.00pm on 5 April. Nomination papers must not be posted -they will be returned if they are. However, they may be delivered by a "trusted person". The parish clerk can bring in nominations for a number of candidates in one go. All nomination papers will be informally checked before being submitted, allowing opportunity for errors to be rectified. For this reason, it is recommended that you do not leave it to the last minute to submit your papers. If you need support with how to complete a nomination paper, please refer to Electoral Commission guidance.

### **Candidate Expenditure**

Spending on campaigning at elections is limited by law. Full guidance can be viewed on the Electoral Commission website. The Returning Officer at the District Council (\*see below) will require all candidates (even at uncontested elections) to submit a declaration of their expenditure – even if it is a nil return.

### **Paying for elections**

Parish and Town Councils are responsible for paying for the full cost of their election. It is likely that any parish election on 5 May will be shared with an election for a district councillor, thus reducing the cost burden. Elsworth Parish Council has had to budget for this expenditure as part of next financial year's precept.

### **\*About the Returning Officer and the Elections Office**

The Returning Officer (RO) for the Parish and Town Council elections is Liz Watts. Liz is the Chief Executive of South Cambridgeshire District Council, but she undertakes the role of RO independently from her role with the Council. The day-to-day running of the election is the responsibility of Andrew Francis who is the Elections Manager for the Council, and is appointed by Liz as Deputy Returning Officer (DRO) for the elections on 5 May.

### **Appointment of Fardell's Lane Nature Reserve Warden**

The Fardell's Lane Nature Reserve is a local refuge for wildlife and an area of tranquillity for local residents. The land is the property of the Parish Council, which is responsible for its upkeep and development. Since 2003 management of the Reserve has been undertaken by the Fardell's Lane Nature Reserve Committee which has periodically provided reports to the PC.

The PC is very appreciative of the sterling work done by the Committee over the years. However, the time had come when a direct link between the PC and work to develop the Reserve was needed. Accordingly, the PC was minded to appoint a volunteer to take on the responsibilities previously exercised by the Committee and report directly to the Parish Council.

We have been fortunate enough to have been able to appoint Louise Hanzi to the role of Reserve Warden. She is being supported by Paul Harding, the Tree Warden, and those members of the community who volunteer to work in the Reserve. Louise is aiming to take forward several projects to improve the condition of the Reserve. If you are interested in becoming involved, please contact her on 07785 614303.

# News from Papworth Surgery

## Covid

Masks: That again! But as rules are relaxing, we remind patients that we still would like everyone to wear a mask in the surgery. Omicron remains prevalent and extremely infectious: it is estimated that someone with Omicron can infect 5-7 un-immunised people; as high as measles. So, whilst Omicron appears not as serious as previous versions of the virus for most people, it does still represent a threat to those who have poor health (who may well be visiting the surgery), and we don't want to be a site of spreading the disease.

Booster campaign: encouraged by the Dept of Health to get involved once more in offering Covid immunisations for the booster campaign around Christmas, we had a fairly successful few days, and in all we gave 708 boosters and second doses, mostly during the Christmas week. We have however noticed considerable and perhaps understandable reluctance for teenagers to have Covid immunisations.

## Staff changes

Nurse Jenny Arshed was ready for a change after 10 years with us, and departed in January to go and work at Bourn Hall. Our loss is their gain! She is replaced by nurse Kelly Darwin, an experienced practice nurse, who starts with us in February.

One of our very efficient secretaries Sarah Ashley has departed too for pastures new, and she has been replaced by internal staff moves: Juliana Westcott-Rudd is taking up the biro and trying to work out what doctors are muttering in their recorded dictations.

Welcome too to Helen Upton who has started on reception. Receptionist Karen Froment is moving sideways and is starting training as a Healthcare Assistant, so she will soon be taking blood, doing blood pressures, ECGs, and dressings.

## And finally:

Many will now be familiar with this news, as I have threatened it for a while! After very

nearly 33 years as a partner at Papworth, I am retiring from the Practice on 31st March. It has been a most satisfying career, full of interest, and lots challenges, and hundreds lovely people. I have witnessed families grow up, shared some of their anxieties and crises, seen their children have families themselves, and seen the elder generation grow older and often wiser. It has been a great privilege to work amongst you all for such a long time.

And how medicine, Papworth, and General Practice, have all changed in those years! In 1989 the village had just 1,500 residents (4,600 now) and consisted largely of Papworth Hall, a line of grey pebbledash houses either side of Ermine Street, plus Papworth Industries in various warehouse buildings in the centre of the village; the last remaining one, the old Printworks, now nearing regeneration and a new lease of life.

There were no mobile phones in 1989, we did our own on-call, and my wife took calls in evenings and weekends. At those times I would leave a list of the visits I was making, together with the home phone numbers, and if I was needed she would ring round to the houses I was visiting and try to catch me.

Life was truly a bit simpler; there were few "guidelines" that had to be followed; NICE did not exist, and people were pretty tolerant of hardship and disability, and managed many illnesses without input from GPs: perhaps as we had little effective to offer! We didn't do many blood tests, and GPs could not order X Rays; CT scans had yet to be invented. So far from the "Amazon Prime" instant gratification that we all experience now!

But with my departure all is not lost! A new partner starts with us in February; Dr Clare Routledge.

All the GPs at Papworth will now be youthful, knowledgeable and thoughtful, so that I am confident that the Practice will thrive and patients will have excellent care.

**David Cronk**





# Elsworth CofE (VA) Primary School

We have had a super start to the Spring term at Elsworth CofE Primary School. The children have started new topics in class, and we have had some new staff join our team. Please see our school website for more information:

<https://elsworthprimary.org/>

We have a broad and balanced curriculum at Elsworth School, and this term Sapphire class have started weekly visits to Forest School led by Mrs Lewis. The children can explore different learning activities organised in Forest School and have lots of fun. The

other classes (Year 1-Year 6) have a Forest School session every 4 weeks.

We are also lucky to have Mr Harding, a sports specialist, from Next Generation who delivers some of our PE curriculum. Mr Harding works with all the classes and this term the children are focusing on learning to develop their balance and coordination skills in gymnastics.

Last term we had a whole school Speed Stacking workshop led by a coach from the School Sport Partnership based at Comberton Village College (VC). This term

we entered the Cambridgeshire Speed Stacking competition at Comberton VC and competed against 10 other schools. We are delighted to announce that Elsworth CofE Primary School were the overall winners of the event! Well done to all the children who represented our school and demonstrated their skills of teamwork, self-belief, and determination all whilst having lots of fun!





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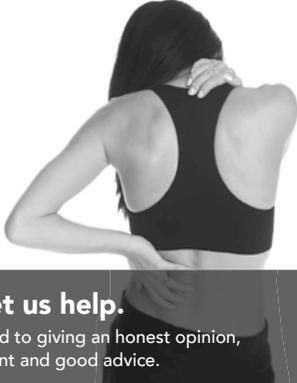
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Please visit [www.annerobsontrust.org.uk/helpline-service](http://www.annerobsontrust.org.uk/helpline-service) to find out more.

Introducing the Anne Robson Helpline - If you or someone close to you is dying, you can talk to us.

At the Anne Robson Trust we aim to be there to listen to anyone who is struggling with the

## Time to get walking again!

At this time of year we start to think about the mud drying up and getting out to walk in the beautiful English Countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Cambridgeshire <http://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/cambridge> has hundreds of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (the custodian of the website) said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Cambridgeshire (part of the Walking in England website – one for each county in England) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.



With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So if you are interested home or away, why not check out the websites and get walking!



## HOLY TRINITY CHURCH -ELSWORTH



### ***'Love is in the air!'*** Nigel di Castiglione - Team Rector

So goes the song; it may be what some are thinking as we approach 'Valentine's Day! For Christians love is an important concept, meant to translate into profound and personal behaviour

because it speaks of sacrifice taking preference over self-fulfilment, service ahead of satisfaction. At its best, love for others is intended to echo and mirror God's love for all humankind.

This helps us to understand a conversation Jesus had when someone approached him asking to know what he had to do to secure his future with God. When asked, the chap said he believed he was already meeting the requirements laid down by his religious background – fulfilling the 10 commandments and loving his neighbour as himself. Then he asks: 'What do I still lack?' In response, Jesus identifies his attachment to material wealth and a comfortable lifestyle as the thing he needed to address – not because they were evil or wrong in themselves, but because they were taking preference over his readiness to love and obey God.

Across the world COVID has forced us to assess again what we value most; as another songwriter put it: 'Don't know what you got till it's gone...' Some of the re-assessment forced upon us has been deeply painful and costly, other parts could well have been liberating and illuminating. A lot of what we have yearned for is in the area of relationships – re-connecting with those from who we have been separated, being able

to book a meal out, perhaps a holiday with loved ones and the confidence to re-start activities which were previously at the centre of what we do with other people.

For some the pandemic has lasted so long things will never be the same again. There have been bereavements, health issues have bubbled up and changed the way we live, jobs and businesses have gone to the wall etc. This is where true, service-oriented, and selfless love can fill a gaping hole; often in seemingly small ways that help those who are struggling to know they are not forgotten, there are others close by who care and can come alongside them.

One of the benefits and challenges of living in a small or smallish village is it's generally easier to see when and with whom we can do something to make a difference. Very often the thing that holds us back from stepping up and offering support is a misplaced (often) anxiety we may be interfering whereas the person in need of help may be crying out, silently, aching for someone to notice and just do something.

Feeling helpless is very debilitating; equally someone else's need can become others' opportunity to make a difference and reflect something of the 'God-shaped dna' embedded in us as human beings. Let's not leave things as sentiments just hangin' in the air; rather let's stir up our capacity to love others genuinely. You don't have to become super-religious to do it; but taking seriously the Christian heritage many of us have can be a valuable wake-up call and source of fresh inspiration.



## Hilton Methodist Church

February 6th. 10:00  
Mr John Green

February 13th. 11:15  
United Service at  
Hilton Parish Church.

February 20th. 10:00 Rev.  
Pam Siddall

February 27th. 10:00  
Dr. Roland Randall

***We regret that there will be no refreshments after the services nor regular coffee mornings for the time being***

## Samuel Franklin Fund Part-time Clerk needed for our Local Charity

Do you have basic book-keeping and office skills? Would you enjoy liaising with the small business tenants at Castle Acres industrial units and attending and minuting Trustee meetings (normally two a year)? If so, you may be interested in the role of Clerk to the Samuel Franklin Fund (Elsworth), a charity that helps residents of the village and the organisations that support them, including the Jubilee Club and the village school.

You would need to be able to spend an average of 8-10 hours per month, though this varies from month to month. In return you would receive an honorarium of £2,400 per year.

If this appeals to you please contact Ian Maddison (267347) to discuss the duties of the post.

## "The Great Elsworth Potato Growing Challenge!"



Be a part of the first ever Elsworth Potato Growing Challenge! This is a fundraising event in aid of 'ACCESS Elsworth'

Look out for advertisements and further details of this exciting event in the coming weeks.

Potatoes and growing bags will be on sale in the village between 6th March and 14th March along with the competition rules. The rest is up to you! You don't need to have a garden, just somewhere to put the bag.

Good luck! And keep your eyes 'peeled' for further information!

*The ACCESS project is raising money to enhance the church and make it a welcoming space used by the community*



Many activities in Elsworth, which make our village a better place to live, rely on the voluntary involvement of parishioners. These include such things as managing the Fardell's Lane Nature Reserve, running the sports club and cricket clubs, clearing the Brook, litter picking, organising the District Show, and serving in the Shop to name only a few. Without villagers' involvement some of these things would simply not happen.

Serving on the Parish Council can also be added to the list above. While the PC has a number of functions, overall our prime objective is to represent the interests of Elsworth as the local authority closest to the community. In order to do that, we are looking to refresh the membership and are always interested in speaking with anyone who might be thinking of becoming a parish councillor.

The Clerk's Column in the ET gives some idea of what is involved. Better still, take a look at our new website at <https://elsworth-pc.org.uk/> and read the latest Council minutes to get a flavour of the wide range of issues it has to deal with. You might also consider speaking with one or more of

the existing councillors whose names are also listed on the website.

Being a councillor involves devoting some time to attend PC meetings (up to 6 p.a.) and the occasional ad hoc meeting in between. The PC needs a range of individuals taking an active role, including younger people with families, so the views and ideas of all villagers can be fully represented in the decisions the PC makes.

However, if the PC doesn't sound quite the thing for you, you might think of getting involved in other community activities; again, the website has details, while some feature in the Elsworth Times. At the present time the Elsworth Sports Club is looking for more people to become involved in the work it does not only on the sports pitches but in maintaining the playing field/grass close for the wider community and in promoting use of the Pavilion for non-sporting activities

**Peter Deer, Chair,  
Elsworth Parish Council**





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