

# ELSWORTH TIMES

THE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER FOR ELSWORTH

DECEMBER 2022

400 COPIES DISTRIBUTED EVERY TWO MONTHS

Issue 22 - 06

## Elsworth Pre-School Christmas Fayre

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 3pm onwards

Join us for some festive cheer and support  
our Village Pre-School to raise funds for  
essential repairs

Mulled Wine

Hot Chocolate

Festive biscuits

Minced pies



Spin the wheel tombola

Lucky Dip

Handmade Jewellery

Songs around the Christmas tree



## Christmas Lights Switch-On

Elsworth is going to have a Village Christmas Tree again this year and so there will be special event to switch on the lights. Come along to the shop car park on

**Friday, 16th December 6 – 7.30 pm**



We will have mulled wine, mince pies and other goodies to enjoy in the Sports Pavilion. There will be a raffle in aid of a local charity so come along with family and friends and enjoy the festive occasion!



**Elsworth Parish Council**

WE CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO THE  
**ELSWORTH PTA  
CHRISTMAS  
FAYRE**

Featuring stalls,  
Xmas Carols, and  
Santa's Grotto

RAFFLE PRIZES:  
CHAMPAGNE AFTERNOON TEA AND  
RIVER THAMES CRUISE  
FOOD HAMPER, MOT'S, FOOTBALL  
EXPERIENCES, FESTIVE FLORAL CREATION  
AND MUCH MUCH MORE

**FREE ENTRY ONE AND ALL**  
**ARTS & CRAFTS - FESTIVE FOOD AND DRINK -  
- FRESH WREATHS - UNIQUE GIFTS & MORE!**

**BE SURE TO GET THERE EARLY!**

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
ELSWORTH.PTA@GMAIL.COM  
FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

**See You  
at the School**

## USEFUL NUMBERS

### Elsworth Times Editor

Sue Taylor – set.taylor@btinternet.com

### Elsworth Times Adverts

janetpendrill@gmail.com

### Police Community Support Officer

Non Emergency - 101

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

Secretary - Chris Woodbury

secretary.esc@outlook.com

Bookings for the pavilion Kim Pleszko

bookings.esc@outlook.com

### Swavesey Village College

01954 230366

### Elsworth Shop

01954 267951

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

### Tree Warden

Paul Harding – 01954 267218

### Fardell's Lane Nature Reserve

Louise Hanzl - 07785 614303

### Samuel Franklin Fund

Contact Chaya Robertson

chayarobertson@gmail.com

## From the Editor

If you know someone in the Elsworth Parish who doesn't get the Elsworth Times delivered please let me know as it is intended that the magazine is delivered to all residents. The shop, the pubs, the school and preschool will all have a number of copies that can be picked up if wanted. Set.taylor@btinternet.com

## Dates for your Diary for 2023 from the ACCESS team

**Access Elsworth: A project to make the church more accessible to the community.**

### Safari Supper - Saturday 4th February

A round-the-village Safari Supper of three courses. All participants will need to host one course for 6 people. If you'd like to take part, register in January.

### The Great Elsworth Potato Growing Challenge Kits

11th March and Saturday 1st July

Grow bags on sale from the shop in March with the weigh-in at the Church.

### Easter Egg Drop - Saturday 25th March

Can you wrap a hen's egg to stop it cracking when it's launched from the Church Tower?

### Plant Sale - Saturday 20th May

Come and join us in the churchyard for tea, coffee, cake and, of course, fantastic plants.

### Concert - Saturday 9th September

Details to follow

### Apple Pressing Day - Saturday 7th October

Bring your apples to the Churchyard

## Next Elsworth Times Deadline and Publication Date

Editorial Copy and Notices by 25th January 2023

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Mobile Library – The Poacher, Second Thurs of the month 2.35pm - 2.55pm**

**Post Office services from the pavilion: Tues 2-4, Thurs 12-2pm**

## BIN COLLECTION DATES

| Bin Dates       | Black Bin | Blue Bin | Green Bin |
|-----------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Bin Dates       | Black Bin | Blue Bin | Green Bin |
| Thu 1 Dec 2022  | ✓         |          |           |
| Thu 8 Dec 2022  |           | ✓        | ✓         |
| Thu 15 Dec 2022 | ✓         |          |           |
| Thu 22 Dec 2022 |           | ✓        | ✓         |
| Sat 31 Dec 2022 | ✓         |          |           |
| Sat 7 Jan 2023  |           | ✓        |           |
| Fri 13 Jan 2023 | ✓         |          |           |
| Thu 19 Jan 2023 |           | ✓        | ✓         |
| Thu 26 Jan 2023 | ✓         |          |           |
| Thu 2 Feb 2023  |           | ✓        | ✓         |
| Thu 9 Feb 2023  | ✓         |          |           |





## Elsworth School

### Elsworth Band

Our children at Elsworth CE Primary School have many talents both in school and outside of school and we celebrate these in our weekly Celebration assembly.

We had a real treat during one of our Celebration assemblies this term. The children who have been part of the Elsworth Bands and rehearsing each week performed their songs to the rest of the school.

There were vocalists, drummers and keyboard players in the bands and they performed in harmony and with confidence. There were some nerves beforehand, but they were soon replaced with smiles of pride and enjoyment.

The audience commented that, 'they were like a real band', that 'they made you want to sing along' and that 'they were better than Strictly'. The children taking part said, 'I was fairly nervous before I performed but I was proud of myself



once I'd done it', 'I enjoyed it very much and wanted to do it again', 'I loved it! It was great performing in front of people' and 'I don't always believe I can do it but then I do it!'.

We are already looking forward to our next show of talent at the end of this term.

*The focus for our Collective Worship  
this half term is 'Respect'*

**Prayer by Felix**

Dear Lord,

Thank you for making us show respect to humans and animals and all living things.

Thank you for helping us to show kindness, love and how to share.

Please help us to show respect in everything we do.

Sorry for when we don't respect each other and our parents.

In your name,  
Amen.



## ELSWORTH PRE-SCHOOL



Christmas has landed at Elsworth Pre-School! It is a magical time with the children, filled with excitement, happiness and laughter, a perfect recipe for the best kind of learning!

Santa has

written to us asking each child to make a Christmas list, encouraging a love of literacy and providing a first-hand experience of posting their letter too. We can't wait to see the replies soon! It wouldn't be Christmas without a chimney and fireplace for Santa to visit so the children have been busy making one. After all of their creativity decorating and making as they develop their fine motor skills, we went on a stick hunt to find the best ones for the fire, comparing the size and developing our descriptive language too. We were careful not to put Stickman on the fire though, phew!

Still to come are some brilliant opportunities for our families to join in with some festive cheer as Pre-School becomes a blend of Santa's workshop filled with craft making whilst

remembering the Christmas story with a roleplay Stable complete with manger, gold, frankincense and Myrrh as the children learn about the origins of Christmas in the Christian faith. We can't wait to welcome our parents for our Decoration Day on 23rd November and for our Songs around the Christmas tree on 15th December.

After the success of our summer term Forest School open session, we are delighted to be hosting another open session on Friday 25th November at 10am. You are welcome to join us and experience the magic of play in the woods as we make festive woodland decorations and plant our own Christmas trees.

If you are interested in your child attending our Outstanding Pre-School, our caring and professional staff are always happy to welcome you and to answer all of your questions. To book a visit please contact us on 01954 268050 or email us at [elsworthpreschool@outlook.com](mailto:elsworthpreschool@outlook.com)



# HOLY TRINITY CHURCH - ELSWORTH



## 'Blessed are the peacemakers...'

2022 has forced people all over the world to realise that peace is more than the absence of conflict. As a teenager I was part of a Youth Club where one other member made a habit of annoying and even taunting others; his presence brought unease into the group.

Neville Chamberlain's infamous 'Peace for our Time' declaration was an effort to keep an uneasy peace for a few months and did nothing to settle the underlying issues. Such moves are often an essential element in the overall scheme of creating peace; yet inadequate if not a means of allowing the work of making and establishing lasting peace a reality. During the tumultuous months of 2022 a number of military and political analysts have been heard saying the relatively unopposed annexation by Russia of Crimea in 2014 made the attempt to overrun Ukraine this year an inevitable next step.

The whole thrust of the Bible for Christians explains how God's heart is to rescue people, refusing to settle for an uneasy truce or keeping our sinfulness under some degree of acceptable control.

Jesus says peacemakers are God's children. He means making peace is a mark of those who carry the same DNA and are members of the same family. The question then becomes what does peace-making look like?

In the Old Testament, or Jewish Bible, we hear of a man called Nehemiah. He was a Jew in the 5th century BC, living in exile who, having gained relatively high office in his adopted country, hears of the devastation of Jerusalem and - given unusual favour - returns to rebuild the city walls. It turned out to be no small feat; achieved in the midst of such conflict that his workforce ended up being divided into 2 groups - one working with trowels and stone whilst the other stood guard - weapons ready and poised to protect their colleagues' work. When the rebuilding was completed, the text declares, in effect, 'the walls were shalom-ed'. They were at peace once more - the security and boundaries of the city and its' people intact again. It is an evocative picture or metaphor for what peace-making involves; much more radical and lasting to settling for keeping an uneasy truce or peace.

Making peace as an expression of God at work; restoring safety as well as secure boundaries for the territory or relationships we can influence. This often has three elements or integrated steps:

- caring enough about the threats and disturbance to insist on bringing about change;
- getting our hands dirty and soiled with the messiness of how things have become to ensure the work of full restoration is brought about, also
- putting in place the essential brickwork, mortar and reinforcing ties to fill the gaps exposed or made by the forces of destruction and evil.

Peacemakers are needed more than ever - in some homes, many communities, between workers and employers, to help politicians unite round the common good as well as promoting goodwill, and mutual respect between cultures and nations.

**Nigel di Castiglione - Team Rector**

## Services at Holy Trinity Elsworth for December and January

Sunday 11th December  
Holy Communion at 11.00am

Saturday 17th December  
Carol Service at 6.00pm

Saturday 24th December  
Christmas Eve Holy Communion at 10.30pm

Sunday 8th January  
Holy Communion at 11.00am

Sunday 15th January  
Morning Prayer at 11.00am

## Elsworth Parish Church of the Holy Trinity

From Rogues Lane, the tower of Elsworth's parish church is clearly visible even in summer over the tree tops. The church was built on the highest ground in Elsworth to the east side of the village. Until the dissolution of the monasteries, the church belonged to Ramsey Abbey.

The Church of the Holy Trinity was built of field stone and local limestone rubble in the early 14th century "decorated" style. Reused stonework suggests an original 12th century stone church. The chancel arch is 13th century and the south porch, including two restored windows is late medieval.

There is a colourful window over the altar but remaining



windows are of plain glass with a coloured border or a patterned inset in the tracery top.

The West Tower with its clock, has a moulded plinth and embattled parapet. A projecting part-octagonal stair turret is finished at the base of the bell chamber with a pyramidal stone capping. Three of the bells are dated respectively 1675, 1616, 1628 (the inscription of the fourth is illegible).

The nearly flat roofs of the chancel and nave aisles are 16th or 17th century. The roof of the nave is modern but eleven carved wooden figures placed on small stone corbels in the clear-storey seem to be mediaeval.

On north wall of the chancel are the names of Rector Matthew Holworthy, and members of his family, inscriptions to members of the Disbrowe (Desborough) family, the names of various rectors of the church and various other worthies of the day. It should also be noted that the creator of Thomas the Tank Engine, the Rev'd Wilbert Awdry, was rector at Elsworth and Knapwell, 1946-1953.

The building has experienced subsidence and rebuilding—not always completed sympathetically as to the over-all effect. The north aisle was rebuilt by W.M. Fawcett in the late 1800s. The church is Grade I listed, in need of restoration. The present team rector is the Revd Nigel di Castiglione, and Mr James Howell is churchwarden.

**Written by Ruth Fleischer**





# Harvest Supper – 15th October

**James Howell**

Thanks to everyone who attended the Harvest Supper and especially to Harriet Rhodes and the Access Committee for arranging it. There were fabulous contributions from many, but particularly from Julie Robinson (Shepherd's Pie), Charlotte Boyd (Black Bean Chilli) and a wonderful variety of quiches, dips and salads from Ken Rhodes. Bridget Gaskill and Sue Taylor baked potatoes for all. For pudding there were seasonal crumbles from Harriet Rhodes, Clara Davies and Anthony Taylor, fruit salad from Julie and a magnificent chocolate roulade from Debbie Witherow.

I made a beef casserole and Boston Baked Beans from a recipe I got from Diane Bridgwater who used to live in Turners Cottage on Smith Street and was my co-churchwarden in the early 2000's. She had made a vegetarian version for a Harvest Supper but had explained how an authentic version would have chunks of belly pork or smoked bacon. So this year I called her up, at her home in Portishead, and asked for the recipe to see if I could replicate it. Those who know me will not be surprised that I went for the non-veg version and several people have asked me to share the recipe (see below).

The Harvest Supper made £604.35 half of which will go to the Access Elsworth project which hopes to open up the back of the Church and provide a disabled lavatory and a new vestry in the base of the tower, with a ringing chamber on a balcony above it, and new kitchen facilities. The other half of the proceeds will go to support the Papworth Team's initiative to build a new laboratory for the Leprosy Mission in Nepal, following damage caused to the existing buildings in an earthquake.

## Boston Baked Beans

If you want to make this at home, I suggest you halve the quantities (at least) as this recipe made enough for 30-40 servings. Had I known there would be a demand for the recipe, I would have taken a photo of it before serving... I got this one off the internet.



### Ingredients

1kg dried haricot beans, soaked overnight, drained and rinsed

600g piece smoked bacon, cut into thick chunks

200g pancetta, in small pieces

2 large onions, finely chopped

200ml Marsala, red wine, sherry or even bourbon

2 X 400g tins chopped tomatoes

5 tbsp molasses or black treacle

2 tbsp English mustard

4 cloves

1 blade mace

1 bay leaf

1 thyme sprig

Tabasco or Chipotle paste (to taste)

salt and freshly ground black pepper

After soaking the beans overnight, put them in a large pan and add enough cold water to just cover them. Bring to the boil and skim off any foam that appears on the top, then boil fiercely for 20 minutes. Turn down the heat and simmer for a further 40 minutes.

I got a large slab of freshly smoked bacon from David Baker at Rosegate Farm in Swavesey and, after removing

the rind, cut it into large half inch chunks. Together with the pancetta, it went into a frying pan over a medium heat, until the fat started to render and the meat browned. It is added to the beans and then the onion is fried in the same pan. Once it's softened and starting to caramelise it is also added to the beans and then you deglaze the pan with the booze, scraping up any brown bits and add this to the pan.

You could tie the cloves, mace, bay and thyme into a piece of muslin and drop into the casserole, but I just chuck them in, along with the tomatoes, molasses and mustard. Add as much Tabasco/Chipotle as is appropriate for your household and season well with salt and pepper.

Cover the casserole and place in a preheated oven (150C/130C Fan) for 3 hours, then remove the lid and cook for a further hour or more until the beans are tender and the sauce has thickened. It can be eaten on its own, on toast, with crusty bread or in a baked potato and it is just as good re-heated the next day. Enjoy.





# theWI

## ELSWORTH KNAPWELL AND CONINGTON

### INSPIRING WOMEN

The WI has been fortunate in its choice of speakers this year and particularly in the last three months which have hosted speakers on a wide variety of topics, each talk fascinating in its own way and well received by our (growing) number of members.

At the September meeting a very impressive lady called Lucy Lewis, ex army and first female bomb disposal operative, gave an interesting insight into army life with amusing anecdotes about the rules and regs which dominate army training and the anomalies still existing in the late 80's and 90's for women trainees. For example during winter parades the men wore layers of fleecy trousers while women shivered in skirts and 15 denier tights. Lucy has written a book on her army bomb disposal experiences called "Lighting the Fuse".

## FARDELL'S LANE NATURE RESERVE

We had a work party in October to remove a lot of the scrub and brambles that had regrown over the year and made good progress. We will be holding another one or two sessions this year to carry on the work and also put up some bird/bat boxes. If anyone would like to help out, let me know.

Paul Harding has sourced and planted an oak tree in the reserve to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee and the life of Queen Elizabeth II and also the 46th anniversary of the Elsworth Jubilee Club which is a contribution to the Queen's Green Canopy. Paul is in the process of sorting out a plaque to mark the occasion.

We are in need of wood chippings as they are used on the paths to keep them passable in the winter so if anyone is able donate some, please get in touch.

Louise Hanzi – thehanzis@gmail.com



In October fashion was the theme as Amanda Sutherland, who previously worked on costumes in shows such as Eastenders and the Bond series before launching her own fashion accessory business, talked about her "Creative Journey" in designing amazing jewellery from recycled drinks cans, and beautiful hats, alic bands and scarves from tights and underwear! The fashion items Amanda brought for sale were extremely popular.

Our November meeting hosted Geoff Heathcock who has been a fund raiser for the RNLI for over 50 years and gave us a uniquely informative view of the work of this charity which receives no donation from the UK government. There are 6000 miles of coast round the the British Isles and 238 lifeboat stations with over 400 lifeboats all manned by local volunteers. It was interesting to hear that the busiest of these is the Tower station on the Thames as inshore stations in the UK have the most calls on the service. Geoff also talked about the dangers to the lifeboat crews and about the Penlee disaster in December 1981 off Mousehole in Cornwall when 8 crew members were lost trying to save passengers from a stricken coaster in hurricane-force gales. Geoff brought a wide variety of RNLI Christmas cards, jigsaws, diaries and other items and sales for the RNLI that evening amounted to an amazing £339 for this very worthwhile charity.

Each year our WI members donate to the British Legion Poppy Appeal by purchasing a wreath which was laid this year by Sylvia Moore on behalf of the WI at the Remembrance service in the grounds of Elsworth Holy Trinity Church. Sylvia also hosted a coffee morning on 17th November which was well attended despite the terrible weather and raised £50 for MAGPAS (Mid Anglia GP Accident Service) to add to the £200 raised over the past three years by the WI for this local charity.

If you are interested or would like more information please email Margaret Stevenson on margms@hotmail.co.uk or call me on 07784395382.



Registered Charity  
No: 1044680

## Peter Day

At the time of writing we are very much looking forward to a performance from Peter Day (pictured at the Varrier Jones Club), Duke Box Legend, singing songs from the 50s and 60s. His performance will have been on Tuesday 29th November.



We are also looking forward to having a carol service with David and Anne Potter on Tuesday 13th December and our Christmas Dinner on Tuesday 20th December, with entertainment from Billie G. A picture of our Dinner and a report will be in the next edition of Elsworth Times.

Highlights of October include Carol falling over and banging her head and knees. No lasting damage: just a few bruises. Some

## Food Park – some further details

*Written by Peter Deer*

At the public meeting on 22 September, it was agreed that the PC would seek further details from Anthony Davison about the proposals for the Avenue Food Park and publicise these. Set out below are his responses to a series of questions (edited down to save space).

### Traffic through the village

**Q:** Have you any projections that you could share of footfall that could be attracted to the Food Park once it is established and the volume and direction of flows of traffic?

**A:** I am afraid it is impossible to predict the volume of traffic. Of the large conurbations I expect Burwash will attract many more Cambridge residents whereas Elsworth may get more from Cambourne. I expect residents from 6 of the local villages that have lost their butchers and bakers will provide traffic.

As most of these villages are on the Cambourne and Rogues Lane side of the FP traffic should not be too bad. It is worth noting that if a butcher and baker opened on Elsworth high street both traffic and parking would be a bigger problem than having them in the FP.

### Vehicular access to the proposed park from Rogues Lane and pedestrian access to the site

**Q:** Have you now been able to speak with Highways about this? In the event they do not approve, what plans are there for an alternative access from Rogues Lane or would entry and exit be wholly from Brockley Road?

**A:** We have not spoken to Highways during this 'scoping and proposal' time. It seems very obvious to me that an entrance can be made but may require the family giving up some land on the field adjacent to the road so that access is not on the corner.

### Car parking

**Q:** Are you assuming that the existing car parking at the Avenue Business Park would otherwise be adequate to meet the needs of the FP or do you propose to create more parking spaces and, if so, where?

more readings by Margaret from a Pam Eyres poetry book. We are lucky to have Sylvia, one of our members, make cakes each week, making afternoon tea a treat.

The aim of the Day Centre is to provide a social event and a meal for elderly, isolated clients; in addition a day off for their carer, if applicable. There are no minimum age or ability requirements.

We offer a taster day for £5 (normal price is £13). Or you are very welcome to just come and see what we do and have a cup of tea. Please contact Jenny (number below.)

If you are interested in joining the Day Centre or finding out more please phone Jenny (number below). Please note it is not now necessary to be referred by your G.P. just give us a call.

The details of how the Day Centre runs are below:

The cost is £13 per day including tea and coffee and a delicious two course meal cooked by our resident chef, Jane. We meet every Tuesday between 10am and 3pm in The Community Centre, The Close, Papworth Everard. The Centre is fully wheelchair accessible. Transport is available in certain cases.

Contact: Jenny on (01480) 492697 for further details, if there is no answer please leave a message or your name and number, and I will call back.



**A:** We propose adding more 'gridforce' type parking on the grass and perhaps the field to the left of the Avenue entrance road from Brockley Road.

### Flood risk assessment for the whole site

**Q:** It is understood that the existing gravelled parking area is to be turned into defined, hard standing parking spaces. Will these parking spaces have an impermeable or a permeable surface? Has a flood risk assessment been undertaken for the site as a whole?

**A:** The existing parking will NOT be turned in to impermeable surface and increase run off.

The pond we have constructed will hold back the water that is channelled from the field through the Business Park then the village. We estimate that during flood risk time this should reduce the flow from our land and the Business Park in to the village by 50%+. As there will be no concrete poured for the FP there will be no increase flood risk. If the FP is a success the land around the FP will be converted to food growing and require water. This means as much water retention facilities as possible and help alleviate flooding.

### Lighting

**Q:** We understand that there is to be floodlighting for the FP. Could you give some further details as to how this is to be achieved, for example, type of lighting to be used, where lights will be fixed (poles or buildings, etc)?

**A:** NO floodlighting. We have set up 'moonlight' type lighting on most of the building as well as security cameras. Please check it out.

### Planning consents

**Q:** Can you say what kinds of consents you believe you might have to seek? Also are you aware of the designation in 2013 of the area between Brockley Road and Avenue as a Local Green Space and whether this may impact your plans?

**A:** This should not affect our plans. The Park will remain a green space for grazing livestock. We may however bring in cattle and even a small Calf at Foot Dairy.

[Comment – see <https://www.thecalfatfootdairy.co.uk/>]

**Q:** Are things moving forward on the planning application?

**A:** I am hoping the application will be put in over the next few days.

[Comment – this was written on 4 November].

I have been messed about...so I have a different team working on it. If everything goes ahead as we hope, and the SCDC planners approve the Food Park, we will be looking for full time and part time staff for the cafe as well as other food enterprises.

### Polytunnels/greenhouses

**Q:** Are you able to say anything more about the likely location of these structures and their screening?

**A:** These will be in the field above the FP with the ponds and will be screened by wind breaks and orchards.

### Graphics

**Q:** Do you have any graphics/drawings (the sort of things that usually accompany planning applications) of the proposed FP that you could share?

**A:** Most of the park will look exactly the same as it is now. The difference may be the cafe/roastery that may have an outside patio area in the summer depending on footfall.

[Comment - If a planning application is submitted, one would expect some graphics/drawings to accompany it].



# CLERK'S COLUMN

LIZ SIM PARISH CLERK

Telephone: 01954 267664

e-mail: clerk@elsworthvillage.com

## Happy Christmas to all parishioners and Happy New Year for 2023

### CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING UP

This year we are once again going to be able to meet up and enjoy mulled wine and mince pies when the Christmas tree lights go on. After a year when the tree could only be decked with Christmas-wish ribbons, followed by a year when the event could only be held in the open air and not inside the sports pavilion, this year will see a very much happier gathering for all. Make sure you save the date!

New member for the Parish Council

Richard Hyde was welcomed onto the Parish Council as a co-opted member at the November Parish Council meeting, bringing the total number of members to seven.

### PARKING:

Onsite meetings have taken place with County Officers. In Broad End various suggestions were put forward for alleviating the congestion problems during school drop off and collection hours including investigating whether land might be available for parking behind the school or the possibility of parents parking away from Broad End and walking the children to school. The school had undertaken a survey of where children attending the school live. This has confirmed that the majority are from outside the village.

A second on-site meeting was held with a CCC Interim Project Engineer and looked at areas in the village including Fardell's Lane and Broad End; Boxworth Road near the junction of Rogers Close/ The Drift; and Boxworth Road in front of the George and Dragon Pub/Duncock Lane, that might be considered for possible inclusion in a Local Highways Initiative bid. Cllrs agreed that the deadline for the current bidding round was too tight to enable wider consultation and a considered bid to be progressed. The PC will invite interested parties to volunteer to participate in a small PC working group to look into traffic issues in the village and put together a proposal for an LHI bid to go forward in the following year's round. LHI funding is unlikely to cover the full cost of a successful bid and a substantial contribution by the PC would be expected, which would affect the precept request for the coming financial year.

### COMMUNITY FLOOD GROUP

Philip Sleightholme detailed the requirements to be met for grant aid, including a detailed flood report (which Peter Ward is in the process of writing) and the provision of a trigger flood warning device linked to emergency response by individuals with defined roles and responsibilities. The need for a proposed relief channel behind the school is being pursued and there is more need for further brook clearance, in particular between Smith Street and Fardell's Lane. A shed is required to store equipment and discussions are being held over the possibility of using one of the sports club's sheds rather than purchasing a new one. Cllrs unanimously agreed that £3,000.00 would be allocated to the provision of items for flood relief in the current financial year and that Flood Relief should be an itemised cost in future budgets.

### PLAY AREA.

Suitable seating furniture for the area (made from recycled materials) has been identified. Cllrs agreed unanimously to the purchase of one picnic table and one bench up to the value of £800.00 plus VAT to be sited in the play area.

### PLANNING

*Planning Applications considered.*

- 22/03801/FUL. The Avenue Business Park Brockley Road Elsworth Cambridgeshire CB23 4EY. Erection of office extension to Units 17-18 Avenue Business Park and associated external works. PC recommendation: No recommendation, Comments submitted

- 22/04108/ 5 Church Lane Elsworth Cambridgeshire S73 to vary condition 2 (drawings) of ref: 21/05616/ FUL (Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of 1no. replacement dwelling) to show amendments to the original scheme. PC recommendation: Support

- 22/04119/HFUL 41 Brook Street Elsworth Cambridgeshire

free standing pergola in the rear garden. PC recommendation: Support

- 22/04519/HFUL & 22/04520/LBC 15 Cotterells Lane Elsworth Cambridgeshire

Single storey rear extension following demolition of existing rear entrance porch and internal and external alterations. PC recommendation: Support

- 22/1280/TTCA 1 The Causeway Elsworth Cambridgeshire 4HX

T3 Hawthorn of MWA Arboricultural Report

Remove (fell) to near ground level and treat stump to inhibit regrowth.

T4 Rowan of MWA Arboricultural Report

Remove (fell) to near ground level and treat stump to inhibit regrowth.

Reason: Clay shrinkage subsidence damage at neighbouring property The Old Plough, 17 Brook Street. PC recommendation pending.

Notification of Planning Application - For Information only

- 21/05616/CONDB 5 Church Lane Elsworth Cambridgeshire

*Applications determined/closed by SCDC*

- 20/04791/CONDB Land to The South Of 29 Brook Street Elsworth Cambridgeshire CB23 4HX

- 22/03268/HFUL 18 Paddock Row Elsworth Cambridgeshire CB23 4JG Granted permission

- 22/03227/HFUL 15 Church Lane Elsworth Cambridgeshire CB23 4HU

- 22/00534/HFUL 8 Spigot Lane Elsworth Cambridgeshire Granted permission 15/10/2022

- 22/1068/TTCA 41 Brook Street. No objections to application

### DATES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS IN 2023.

|              |            |                                    |
|--------------|------------|------------------------------------|
| January 18th | March 15th | April 19th (Annual Parish Meeting) |
|              | May 17th   | July 19th                          |

September 20th November 22nd .



## Papworth Surgery

### Pressure

The NHS is under extreme pressure at the moment, and our surgery is no exception, with very high demand for appointments. We understand how frustrating it can be in trying to get an appointment and always try our best to help.

Pre-bookable appointments for non-urgent matters are usually available 2-3 weeks ahead. We have a limited number of urgent 'on the day' appointments which are released at 8.30am for a morning appointment and 1.30pm for an afternoon appointment. All 'on the day' appointments are for medically urgent issues only. Our reception team is trained in what is medically urgent and what isn't. If they are in any doubt then they know to refer to the Duty Doctor. The number of requests for urgent 'on the day' appointments varies hugely from day to day so on busy days you may be asked to call back in the afternoon or the next day.

Whilst we do understand patients getting upset if they find it difficult to book an appointment we cannot tolerate the increased level of abuse from some of our patients that is aimed at our reception team. Abuse of our staff results in a warning letter from the surgery, advising that if there is a repeat of similar behaviour then the patient will be removed from our list and required to register elsewhere. This is not something we do lightly but we have to protect our staff.

Our practice staff are here to help you. Our aim is to be as polite and helpful as possible to all patients. If you consider that you have been treated unfairly or inappropriately please ask reception staff to contact the Practice Manager or Assistant Practice Manager who will be happy to address your concerns.

### Changes to late night surgeries

From Monday 31st October we will no longer be holding late night surgery at Papworth on a Monday or Wednesday evening. Instead West Cambs Federation have been given the contract for extended hours provision by the ICB (Integrated Care Board), and they will be offering appointments with GPs, nurses and healthcare assistants every evening between 18:30 til 20:15 Monday to Friday and from 08:30 til 12:15 on a Saturday and Sunday. These appointments will be either at Roman Gate Surgery in Godmanchester or the Acorn surgery in Huntingdon.

These appointments can be booked via our reception team by calling the usual number for Papworth Surgery – 01480 830888.

We hope in the New Year to be able to offer West Cambs Federation appointments located at Papworth Surgery on at least a couple of days a month, but the details are yet to be confirmed.

### Flu & Covid Vaccination Clinics

We have had a great turnout for our Flu and Covid vaccination clinics over recent weeks. We have no plans for further Covid clinics, but we may put on another couple of flu clinics if we have sufficient demand. If you still need a Covid jab please call 119. We are happy to do flu vaccinations opportunistically, so if you already have an appointment and have not yet had your flu jab, please ask the clinician for a jab at the same time. Alternatively please call reception and see if you can be squeezed in anywhere for a flu jab and we will try and accommodate you.

### Nurse Muriel

Sadly Nurse Muriel will be leaving us at the end of November. Muriel has been with us for many years and is taking well-earned retirement. We will miss her hugely as I'm sure will many patients. Nurse Kelly will be doing an extra day each week and we have a vacancy for another Practice Nurse for 16 hours a week which is proving difficult to fill. If you know of anyone who may be interested, please send them our way!

## Papworth Surgery Patient Link Update

Christmas Opening hours: The surgery will be open as usual 8.30am – 12.30pm and 3pm – 5.30pm in the week leading up to Christmas and then on the 28th, 29th, 30th December and then back open on Tuesday 3rd January 2023. On the day appointments for medically urgent problems are released at 8.30am and 1.30pm.

The surgery is still experiencing unprecedented demand for appointments so please do take the advice of the receptionist if they direct you to a different service from the one you were expecting. The practice is making full use of all staff and types of appointments to manage patient demand to try and get as many patients seen as possible.

From Monday 31st October the surgery stopped offering late night surgery appointments at Papworth. West Cambs Federation have taken over the contract for extended hours appointments, offering evening appointments between 18:30 and 20:15 every weekday and morning appointments from 08:30 to 12:15 on Saturday and Sunday. These appointments are at Roman Gate Surgery in Godmanchester or the Acorn Surgery in Huntingdon. The surgery hopes to offer extended hours appointments in 2023 but this is still being finalised. These appointments can be booked by Papworth Surgery reception staff on your behalf.

The NHS is under extreme pressure at the moment both with demand and financially, how can we do our bit to help I hear you ask?

Staff are leaving the service for a variety of reasons so please be kind to the staff you engage with. All staff, and in particular our reception staff at Papworth, are getting more verbal abuse from some patients, the surgery will not tolerate this and will take action if there is a repeat of behaviour.

Unused prescription medicines cost the NHS £300 million every year! – 40% of people admit to binning them potentially wasting up to an estimated 445 million prescriptions a year.

At a time when all our public services are under enormous financial strain and we as individuals can feel pretty helpless, this is an area where we could make a difference. Please only order what you need, when you need it to do your bit to help.

If you have any concerns/feedback you would like discussed with the surgery or would like to join the Patient Link Group please email [cpicb.papworth.patientslink@nhs.net](mailto:cpicb.papworth.patientslink@nhs.net)



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# Best Kept Village in 1994 – Really?

*Written by James Howell*

How much do you care about our Village? There are already several voluntary groups working to improve the environment around our village. Louise Hanzi and Gaynor Clements have done wonderful jobs motivating parishioners to do something to improve the state of the Fardell's Lane Nature Reserve and the litter that inconsiderate motorists dump on the road verges around the village. Thank you to all those who have given up their time to take part in these initiatives. There is however so much more that could be done to smarten up our village.

At the October Parish Council meeting several maintenance jobs were brought to the attention of Councillors along with a proposal to identify a contractor who might take them on. Rather than spend our precious resources on getting these done, I volunteered to see if I could mobilise support from within the village to see if we could get some or all of these done by the community. The Parish Council will, of course cover any materials costs that we would incur.

These jobs include keeping the pavements and footpaths within the village clear of vegetation; keeping the Brook clear; clearing gullies or grips in Brockley Road, Brook Street, Paddock Row to allow run-off to escape from the roads into the waterways; painting metal railings and white concrete posts on bridges over the Brook; maintaining the Bus Shelter, the Notice Board and the Telephone Box and keeping the area around them clear from weeds; and painting the slide in the newly renovated play area.

If anyone would be prepared to give up a little time to tackle some of these jobs, I have a comprehensive list of all the jobs that need to be done. I'm also planning to establish an informal mailing list/WhatsApp group of willing volunteers, who might be prepared to give up some of their precious spare time to join working parties to get some of the larger jobs tackled.

If you think you can help, please drop me an email at [jas\\_hotwell@hotmail.com](mailto:jas_hotwell@hotmail.com), text me on 07974 424011 or give me a call on 01954 267324.

It's almost 30 years since Elsworth last won South Cambridgeshire's Best Kept Village competition. Isn't it time we tried to put our village in the running again?



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