

# Open Field

£1

May 2021



*Flags flying at half mast in Laxton and Moorhouse to mark the death of HRH The Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh on 9th April 2021*

The monthly publication of the  
parish of Laxton & Moorhouse

[www.openfield.org.uk](http://www.openfield.org.uk)



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# Open Field

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**Flowers and Brasses Rota** - suspended until further notice

Mr & Mrs S Clarke  
Mrs M Beckitt & Mrs B Noble  
Mrs S Rose & Mrs R Creighton

**Coffee Morning Hosting Rota** - will be published when they are resumed

**We always welcome contributions and can help if you are not sure how to write what you want to say.**

**Contributions for the next edition TO BE WITH THE EDITOR BY NOON ON 16th MAY 2021 PLEASE. EARLIER PREFERRED. You can send at any time.**

# A Message from our Churchwarden, Brenda.



Our churches opened up again for Easter and hopefully will continue to be so. On Easter Sunday we joined Egmonton for their Communion service. We held our first service on April 11th, which was taken by the Revd. Alistair Littlewood.

Our next service will be on May 9th, when it will be our Rogation Service. The first part of the service will be held in church, then we will go out to the churchyard. Everyone is welcome.

We have news from the Diocese that a new Archdeacon of Newark has been appointed. Her name is Revd. Victoria Ramsey and she has been working in our Diocese since 2018. She grew up in Wales, studied in London, was ordained in 2011 and moved to Exeter Diocese to work before coming to Southwell.

The Archdeaconry of Newark covers 135 parishes with a population of 475,000. The Newark Deanery was formed in 1912.

We will also be having a new Area Dean as from this month. His name is Revd. Canon John Chambers. He was formerly Area Dean of Richmond until his retirement, when he moved back to the Newark area, where he served his curacy. He will have no parishes to look after so he will have more time to devote to Deanery work.

The next thing we hope for is a new vicar for our parishes ..



*Brenda*

# Sympathy - Max Mc Naught

We were saddened to hear of the sudden death of Max McNaught on 24th April at Coddington. Max and his wife, Linda, had lived in Laxton for many years. Linda was a lifelong resident until they moved to Coddington a few years ago.

Max was a great lover of walking and occasionally wrote about his long walks locally and further afield for 'Open Field'. He also loved his garden. Who hasn't enjoyed the daffodils outside the hedge on the corner by the Dovecote every year? Perhaps less known was that he was a keen follower of Johnny and Lynnette and their country music and often had a mention on BBC Radio Nottingham.

We send sympathy and prayers to Linda and to their son John wife Nicola and daughters Skye and Lily.

Linda had arranged for the cortège to drive through Laxton on Thursday 15th April for the journey to Ollerton crematorium for Max's funeral.



Many villagers who remembered Max, and who would doubtless have attended the service but for Covid restrictions, lined the village streets and gathered on the green at Cross Hill to pay their final respects.

*Brenda*



## Thank You - Bell Ringing

I would like to say a big 'Thank You' to David Chambers for coming to ring our church bell in memory of HRH Prince Philip.

David is the brother of John Chambers, Chairman of Laxton History Group and after growing up in Egmonton, has kept in touch with Laxton all his life. He now lives in Lambley and as someone was ringing the bell in their church, he kindly phoned and offered to ring here.

Thank you David.

*Brenda*

## Max McNaught

It was very sad to hear about the passing of Max, a long time resident of Laxton until their move to Coddington 2-3 years ago. He was a very recognisable figure walking around the village and Open Fields and a very regular at the Dovecote where you could always expect a lively conversation with him.

The sympathies of us all go to Linda, John and family.

*Michael Manning*

## The Dovey - Sam & Sophie

On a much happier note, congratulations to Sam and Sophie at the Dovecote for winning the recent 4 in a bed channel five B and B competition.

It was aired in the week beginning 5th April, 30 mins over five days Mon to Friday, Thursday featuring the village, castle site and Dovecote Inn. If you missed it, it should be available on catch-up My5.

We wish them much success and hope the programme helps promote the excellent pub and posh accommodation.

And the good news continues, as the Dovey is now open 5 days a week, outdoor settings for food and drinks.

Lets all hope for some really good weather!

*Michael Manning*

# Church Help

What a good afternoon we had in the churchyard on Saturday 10th April. Everyone turned up with wheelbarrows, loppers and rakes. Thanks to Roy H and Mike J who brought their tractors and trailers.

We filled two and a half trailers with yew, ivy and wood in less than two hours.



It was a real team effort. We managed to get all the Glebe Field side tidied up and trees cut back from the Twitchill to the vicarage end.

Thanks to Sandra who spent a long time cutting back all the ivy off the three tombs on the vicarage path. Now

we can see them, which we haven't done for years.

Our thanks to Chris and Karen, who have just moved into the village and came and helped.. When we had finished they kindly provided us all with tea and chocolate biscuits.

Once again thank you to



# May Council Elections

As mentioned last month, the Village Hall has been booked some time for County Council elections on 6th May. We still have not received any details about how this is going to be managed by the Council but our advice is still to take your own pen/pencil and facemasks if it happens!

*Michael Manning*

## Parking in Laxton

Please would it be possible to have some consideration in the parking of cars on the High Street and Main Street?

Please try not to double park as it makes the road very narrow and it is very difficult for the farmers to get through with their tractors or machinery.

Thank you



Thank you,

*Brenda*

all those who turned up to help. With George and myself there were 16 of us. What's that saying? 'Many hands make light work'? It certainly did on this occasion.



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## **APRIL CONGRATULATIONS**

*Congratulations to everyone celebrating a birthday, anniversary or other special event this month.*



*The birthday roll of honour for this month is: Roger C, Lesley B, and Elizabeth B.*

*Special congratulations to Alison B, who will celebrate one of those 'big' birthdays ending with a zero!*

*We wish a happy anniversary to anyone celebrating this month. Do send in details so we can celebrate your special day*

*If you are celebrating a special date, we send best wishes. If you know someone we have missed, please tell us in time for next month.*

*We would love to give a mention to everyone for their special day, so please let Jean or Brenda have details with dates in good time.*

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Classes now held at Laxton Village Hall Mon 18.30 & Thu 09.15 and at Hall Farm, Weston, NG23 6SY. Please call if you are interested.




**Coffee Mornings**

The Coffee Mornings remain suspended for the time being. We will let you know when we can start again. The rota on the inside cover will remind hostesses so that we can start as soon it is right to do so.



## **“Now that I’m older” Part 3**

- ☆ The 2020 brain teaser! “If you’re going down a river at 2 mph and your canoe loses a wheel, how much pancake mix would you need to re-tile your roof?”
- ☆ I see people my age climbing mountains; I feel good getting my leg through my underwear without losing my balance.
- ☆ I’m at that age where my mind still thinks I’m 29, my humour suggests I’m 12, while my body asks why I’m not dead yet.
- ☆ You don’t realize how old you are until you sit on the floor and then try to get back up.
- ☆ We all get heavier as we get older, because there’s a lot more information in our heads. That’s my story and I’m sticking to it
- ☆ Coronacoaster: noun; the ups and downs of a pandemic. One day you’re loving your bubble, doing work outs, baking cakes and going for long walks and the next you’re crying, drinking gin for breakfast and missing people you don’t even like.

## **Eating in the UK in the 50s, Part 2**

- ☆ Brown bread was something only poor people ate
- ☆ Oil was for lubricating, fat was for cooking
- ☆ Tea was made in a teapot using tea leaves and never green.
- ☆ Coffee was Camp and came in a bottle.
- ☆ Cubed sugar was regarded as posh.
- ☆ Only Heinz made beans.
- ☆ Fish didn't have fingers in those days.
- ☆ Eating raw fish was called poverty, not sushi.
- ☆ None of us had ever heard of yoghurt.
- ☆ Healthy food consisted of anything edible.

# The Show Must Go On

Why, oh why, in the early 1980s was I standing wearing an ill-fitting white show coat and attempting to maintain control of a maniacal goat kid in full public view? Making a mental pledge to personally rend limb from limb the creator of the situation, I tried to be philosophical.

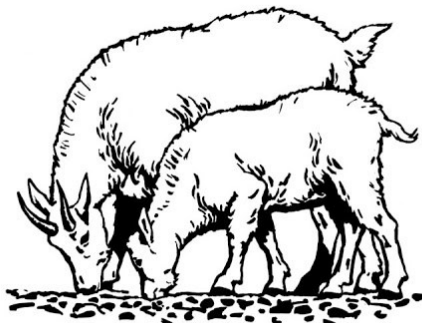
It all began when, after moving into our first house in rural Holmfirth, we made firm friends with our new neighbours and discovered the perfect antidote to our fairly demanding jobs. It was two goats to milk and tend, and the company of a cackle of sociable free range hens. We even enjoyed mucking out. It wasn't long before we found the ideal place.

We decided the breed of goat we needed was the Pure Toggenburg, a small hardy type who have a moderate amount of milk over a long lactation on good basic food. No need for fancy nosh and high protein diets, the ideal cottager's goat. Plus they were pretty, often long haired in shades of silver to mouse brown with white Swiss markings. There was only one snag – there weren't any. They were scattered up and down the country in small groups and we couldn't find any for sale.

We waited and we pined, and spent the winter sorting out the newly acquired house, like the leaking windows which deposited good sized snow drifts in the bedroom and other minor problems. It was a bit bleak.

Then out of the blue when Steve was at one of the outlying newspaper offices a man turned up. "I've heard there's a chap here who wants to buy a goat. I've got one for sale, but he won't have heard of it. It's a Pure Toggenburg." Enter Mike, outspoken, quixotic, volatile mentor Mike, show-going mad Mike.

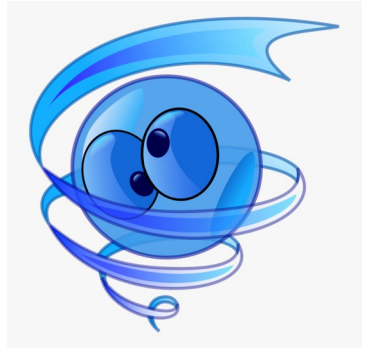
Celia was beautiful and had been bought by Mike as a goatling to be his show stopper, then she blotted her copy book and on kidding developed a dreadful udder.





From show goat to cottager goat in one move. It suited us fine. She was in kid to Mike's great hope, a male kid he had bred himself and her kids were to be Roc's first and very, very special. Celia became ours.

We felt we had been picked up by a whirlwind as Mike instructed us and made sure we could cope. He drove us to paranoia and nervous debility about the coming of those superb female kids (males would be no good at all). During that time he had forgotten to mention that Celia could teach Houdini a thing or two and was the bucket hurling champion of Huddersfield. It would be fine, he said. It was very exciting.



Came the night, we had all but moved into the barn. We paced and fretted while Celia calmly got on with it. Everything went well and three lovely perfect kids were born – all male. There could be no mistake, apart from other dangly things, Pure Togg males have very distinctive heads. But who would break the news to Mike? I drew the short straw.

“Er, Mike? Erm, she's had them. Er, yes, three. She's fine.... um, they're grand. All male though.” The expected explosion cannoned down the phone. “So and so beginners... hopeless. Can't be right... incompetent tyros... Shouldn't set a boy to do a man's job.” Eventually ending in a bellow: “I'm coming over!”

It wasn't too long before the sound of his elderly VW raced into the yard. The barn door was thrown open and Mike flung himself in. Taking in the tableau of the happy family at the far end of the barn, he stopped short in his tracks and moaned. “B\*\*\*\*\* H\*\*\*!”

In time, Mike had a solution. One of his female Togg kids had (for show purposes) poor back legs. We could have her and even choose the name. Done deal – Claudia moved in.

Steve immediately went into action, deciding that those back legs only needed exercise to become fine and set up a regime that made Jane Fonda look a slacker. He spent hours with Claudia while she ran up obstacles, climbed hay bales and generally hurtled about under his guidance. The results were amazing – she became totally deranged.

The back legs were fine. Mike hadn't seen her in some weeks and when he did he became very quiet.

Then the pressure began. "Too good to stay at home. Needs showing. Just once, it can't hurt," and he went on and on, which is why we were at Congleton Male and Youngstock Show going through torture.

Claudia had been put in a pen looking very small and we wandered round the cattle market. Lovely kids, goatlings and bucklings, and the magnificent adult males. People were friendly and we began to relax. A bit later, returning to Claudia's pen, we found it empty. She was nowhere to be seen, and with rising panic we scoured the extensive grounds. We seemed to be looking for ages when we saw a knot of people clustered round a pen in the male section.



Adult Anglo-Nubian males are huge, often standing taller than me. With their jutting Roman nose and pendulous ears they are not pretty. Their shoulders are powerful behind their arched necks. Some would call them impressive.

Not this one – he was cowering, eyes rolling with fear as he tried to squash himself into the corner of his pen, hiding himself as far under his hay rack as he could. He wasn't

impressive, he was terrified and wanted his mummy.

There in front of him, every sinew strained with aggression, head poised, stood his nemesis, only a tenth of his size. The message was clear: "Come on, punk, make my day." It was Claudia.

We picked her up and crept away to deposit the little horror in her pen. The humiliation was profound, and the ring ordeal still to come.

The judge was a thickset no-nonsense older lady with a pudding basin haircut and sensible shoes, her voice a stentorian bark. Her name was Mrs Paine. It seemed fitting.

We marched to and fro, round and round. It seemed to last forever. The others in the large class, including Mike, conducting themselves like super models while Claudia did her well-known impersonation of Rudolph Nureyev and brought a new dimension to the word fidget. To

my absolute astonishment, we were placed quite high up the line-up, no rosette but not bad at all. Mike was placed just below me. We all stood to attention (except Claudia) while Mrs Paine told us in turn her



reason for her judgments. "Promising kid, good top line, needs more training," she said to me. I forebore to tell her what I thought Claudia needed.

Mrs Paine stood back and fixed Mike with her gimlet gaze, then barked out loudly: "Your goat's too thin – and you are too fat." And stomped on.

I waited for the explosion, and indeed when I took a quick look at Mike he was a funny colour and his face was working with subdued emotion. The judge left the ring and Mike erupted with gales of laughter, as did others. It had been another Mrs Paine stellar performance.

Then I got it. Showing! We were hooked.

*Lesley Booth*

## Pat's Plant Stall

The Stall will emerge by the end of April. However, the weather has been unhelpful and has slowed down the development of bedding, tomatoes and most kitchen garden plants. I anticipate early May, perhaps the end of the first week. A small range of herbaceous plants will be available as these are already hardy.



There is still time to phone through orders on **01777 870601**

*Pat*



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## Laxton History Group



We have sent a PowerPoint presentation of old photos of Laxton to the online Great Nottinghamshire History Fair, which this year will be virtual and will run free of charge for the whole month of May.



The organisers say “In addition to photographs, video, talks and presentations from groups and organisations from all over the county,

the highlight will be a live, online interview with author, broadcaster, curator and former Nottinghamshire resident Lucy Worsley.”

“We'll be highlighting them all on social media throughout the month of May and we'll list them by group, for you to take a look through. Watch this space!” ([www.inspireculture.org.uk/heritage/great-nottinghamshire-history-fair-2021/](http://www.inspireculture.org.uk/heritage/great-nottinghamshire-history-fair-2021/))

## Nottinghamshire and the History of Vaccination

*Many thanks to Janet Carr for kindly allowing us to use the following article, which she wrote for The Parish Magazine serving Ossington. It reveals a surprising local connection to the history of vaccination.*

Now that the national programme of Covid vaccination is well underway, you may be interested to know that the history of vaccination really began in our county, with the birth of Lady Mary Pierrepont in 1689!

Lady Mary was the eldest child of Evelyn Pierrepont, 1st Duke of Kingston, and his wife Mary, and was born at Holme Pierrepont Hall. After the early death of her mother, she was in her father's sole care and, aside from a rather unsatisfactory governess, educated herself in her father's library at Thoresby Hall. She taught herself Latin to the standard of most men by the age of 13 years, read extensively, wrote poetry and prose, and corresponded with two bishops, whilst still in her mid-teens!

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After a clandestine courtship, Lady Mary eloped and was married to Edward Wortley Montagu in 1712, and soon became prominent at court. In 1715 she contracted smallpox but luckily survived, although with facial disfigurement. (Her brother died of the disease in 1713). In 1716 her husband was appointed British Ambassador to Turkey, and Lady Mary accompanied him. She wrote 'Letters from Turkey', full of lively descriptions of Ottoman life, during their time in that country.

Whilst in the Ottoman empire, she visited women in their segregated quarters and learnt about Turkish customs. In 1717 she witnessed the practice of inoculation against smallpox ('variolation'), whereby live smallpox virus in the pus taken from a mild smallpox blister was introduced into the scratched arm or leg of a

previously uninfected person to promote immunity to the disease. Consequently, that person would develop a milder case of the disease than might have been contracted otherwise

Eager to spare her children, she had her own four year old son inoculated in Turkey in 1718, and her daughter in London during a smallpox epidemic in 1721 – the first time inoculation had happened in this country. Lady Mary encountered a great deal of resistance from the medical establishment and others, but nevertheless persuaded the Princess of Wales to have her two daughters inoculated. Other Royal families followed suit, and in response to the general fear of inoculation, Lady Mary published an article in 1722, under a pseudonym, describing and advocating for inoculation.

Subsequently Edward Jenner developed the much safer technique of vaccination using cowpox, and it is he who is most often cited as the 'father' of vaccination. However, it was Lady Mary Wortley Montagu's introduction of smallpox inoculation and her tenacity in 'spreading the word' that eventually led to the development of vaccines and later the eradication of smallpox.

Thus we have the intellectual curiosity of a young woman and the library at Thoresby Hall to thank for the introduction of inoculation to this country!



## CHURCH SERVICES FOR OUR VILLAGE CHURCHES

HC = Holy Communion   EP = Evening Prayer   MP = Morning Prayer  
Es = Evensong   WfA = Worship for All

### 2<sup>nd</sup> May

9.00am	Kirton	<b>HC</b>	Margaret
4.00pm	Wellow	<b>EP</b>	Janice

### 9<sup>th</sup> May

10.30am	<b>Laxton</b>	<b>Rogation Service</b>	Alistair
4.00pm	Egmanton	<b>EP</b>	Heather

### 13<sup>th</sup> May   Ascension Day

Online service of Holy Communion

### 16<sup>th</sup> May

9.00am	Egmanton	<b>HC</b>	Alistair
10.30am	Wellow	<b>HC</b>	Margaret

### 23<sup>rd</sup> May   Pentecost

10.30am	Kirton	<b>Word Service</b>	Heather
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### 30<sup>th</sup> May   Trinity Sunday

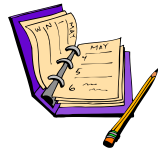
9.00am	Kirton	<b>Patronal Festival HC</b>	Margaret
10.30am	<b>Laxton</b>	<b>HC</b>	Margaret

For any enquiries about baptisms, weddings etc, please contact our churchwarden, Brenda, in the first instance (**870541**)





# *DATES FOR YOUR DIARY*



**2021**

25<sup>th</sup> May

Parish Council

## **Forward Planning**

*Suspended during the pandemic*

## **Regular Events:**

*Parish Council*      4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of January, March, May, July,  
September and November

*Quiz Nights*      1<sup>st</sup> Friday of December & March tbc

**Copy Date for June: 12 noon, 16th May**

*Please let us have your contributions in good time. We do what we can to include last minute items, but it is not always possible. Late arrivals are unlikely to make it into print.*

## **COVID-19 Vaccinations**

Nottinghamshire's good progress in getting everyone vaccinated continues. The process of inviting all 'Over 50s' for their first jab has been completed and if you fall into the 'Over 45' age group, you are invited to book an appointment. More of our older residents are currently receiving their second jabs.

Local experience shows that using the following routes are the best way to book yours. You can also use the web site to check if the age range has been extended.

**Book online:** [https://swiftqueue.co.uk/  
nottinghamc19vpatient.php](https://swiftqueue.co.uk/nottinghamc19vpatient.php)

**Book by phone: 0115 883 4640**

# An Uplifting Outing



How lucky am I? A lovely Spring-like day.

Vi came round and said 'Come on, Gran.' I was helped to a wheelchair and Mari joined us. They pushed me down Green Lane to Hop Yard junction, and wended the way carefully through the pot-holes in front of David's,

over Beck bridge, passed the 'Rec', and on to Grandad's bridge; then on to the inn (the house formerly the Ship Inn), where my great, great granddad, Thomas, was both farmer and publican.

They took it in turns to push me up Ship Hill to North Park farm, where my great granddad, John Thomas, farmed and my granddad spent his early years, on as far as Lake Plantain.

The Hawthorn hedges showed their first glimpses of green, a pair of buzzards flew over and the world was a beautiful place. I wished we could have got down to the lake.



On the way back we went past Speaker's Plantain and negotiated the 'ford' where the water has been running across the road this past winter. The water has now receded, leaving terrible pot-holes.



From the top of the hill there was a panoramic view, as far as East Park, Hagg's Farm, Gypsy Lodge and Ladywood.

I wished we could have shared it with everybody. Vi did a grand job.

# Laxton WI



April has passed by and we should have had our AGM at our April meeting, when subs should have been paid, but we are still in the same situation.

Let's hope that if we are free of restrictions and still out of lockdown by June 21st, we could possibly start to meet again in July.

County House have been busy again trying to organise Zoom talks and demonstrations.

In May we have:

- 'What is Climate Change?'
- Bingo Night on 6th May,
- 'Mad May', seasonal plant and flowers, and 'All Things Bees',
- 'Junk Journal',
- Women in Radio/ with Sarah Julien from BBC Radio Nottingham,
- 'Walking Challenge' with Deke Hardman who walked 100,000 steps in 24 hours
- Chris Weir, Notts Archivist, on 'Women in Notts 1550 - 1950 and
- Banksy and his Work

Also would you like to write a poem on the theme of 'Freedom'. It's coming. It's not here yet, but it's coming ...Freedom.

Freedom comes in many ways - getting a job done, a breath of fresh air, going for a walk, being by the sea or somewhere else. After lockdown probably anything will feel like freedom. It can rhyme or be free verse.

Also in May, there's a county walking challenge,



PTO

called 'Miles for May'.

The challenge is to walk anywhere: round the garden, down the road, anywhere. Just record your steps or miles then send the results to County Office and they will add them up to see how many miles have been clocked up round the county. This is to focus on 'Mental Health Matters' as they say walking is good for fitness, mental health and general wellbeing.

For an average person:

1 mile = 2,000 - 2,500 walking steps

1Km = 1,250 - 1,550 walking steps

10,000 steps = 4 - 5 miles

When you have finished and your results are in, Wendy, our Sports Committee Chairman, will add up the steps or miles and see how many the whole WI County members have walked.

*Brenda*



## Recent Bonus Ball Winners

Date	No	Name
20/3/21	21	Alan and Anna
27/3/21	29	Ian and Elaine
3/4/21	05	Ian and Jackie
10/4/21	30	Harold .Harwood

We have various numbers available. Here is the up to date list of the 14 spare numbers: **1,2,7,11,20,23,26,27,34,51,52,56,57,59 (14)?**

Please contact Mike Manning 870844. Thank you.

*Michael Manning*

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# Minutes of Laxton & Moorhouse Parish Council Meeting held on 7.30 pm on Tuesday 23 March 2021 via Zoom

**Present:** Councillors: M. Manning (chair), S. Hill, R. Hennell  
M. Hennell, J. Hill, S. Rose, J. Godson (by phone)

## *In attendance at parish council meeting*

C. Millward (Clerk), M. Pringle (County councillor)

- 1. Apologies for absence:** All present. Councillor Michael had not been able to access the meeting.
- 2. Declarations of interest:** The chair declared an interest as a member of the sports field committee in item 12 (Property matters – including sports field and Glebe Field and sub-tenancy).  
There were no other declarations of interest, direct or indirect, in any items of business on the agenda.
- 3. Dispensations:** None required.
- 4. 10 Minutes public speaking:** No public present. Nothing raised
- 5. Minutes of the parish council meeting held on 26 January 2021:** The minutes of the meeting held on 26 January 2021 were agreed as a true record to be signed by the chair at a later date when face to face contact is possible.
- 6. Matters arising:** No other matters arising which were not otherwise on the agenda.
- 7. Reports from district and county councillors:** Mr Pringle was prevented from providing a report because he was subject to pre- election purdah.
- 8. Reports from councillors:** It was reported that a resident had asked to relocate to a Newark & Sherwood Homes bungalow. The chair will make enquiries of Mrs Michael regarding the application process.

Whilst councillors welcomed the improvements to The School House, concerns had been raised regarding site contractors' parking practices which were causing significant damage to the verge. The clerk will raise the matter with NCC Highways and the PCSO.

Concerns were also raised in relation to mud on the road, damage to the verge and possible roadside storage of a trailer on Green Lane. The clerk will report the matter to NCC Highways

9. **Remote/virtual meeting arrangements - Return to physical meetings from 7 May 2021:** Councillors noted that the statutory dispensation to meet remotely had yet to be extended beyond 7 May 2021. They will await developments. However, they also **agreed** that, if remote meetings are to continue, the council should share a month by month Zoom subscription with Rufford Parish Council. This would ensure unbroken meetings, flexibility to cease payment as regulations change and good value.
10. **Annual Parish Meeting 2021 – Arrangements including speaker:** Councillors noted that, as matters stand, the Annual Parish Meeting would take place physically and was scheduled for 25 May 2021. After discussion, it was **decided** that:
- a. The meeting should commence at 7.00 pm, with the parish council annual meeting commencing at 6.30 pm.
  - b. Mr G Pierrepont of the Thoresby Estate should be invited to speak
  - c. An offer from the NCC broadband access officer to attend a meeting to discuss superfast broadband for Moorhouse should be accepted for the July 2021 meeting.

**11. Financial Matters:**

- a. **Financial position as at 28 February 2021:** Councillors considered and noted the clerk's report showing the precise financial position at 28 February 2021 (incorporating the 2020-21 budget figures). Councillors viewed the balances as stated in the bank statements on line.
- b. **Approve 2021-22 dog bin emptying contract:** Councillors unanimously **approved** the 2021-22 dog bin emptying contract.
- c. **Accounts for payment:** The council unanimously **approved** eight payments totalling £766.18.
- d. **Use of reserves:** Councillors discussed potential uses for the council's reserves, noting that £2759.50 derived from the clothing bank, an unpredictable source of income, rather than the precept. They **agreed** that, if they proceed with the installation of an electricity supply, the reserves will be required to fund the cost.

- 12. Property matters including sports field and Glebe Field and sub tenancy:** The clerk reported that she had contacted Tallents in Southwell to instruct them in relation to Glebe field and the tenancy/sub-tenancy. However, they had declined to act on the basis that they were too busy at this time. After discussion, councillors **decided** that the clerk should instruct Larken & Co to act instead.

- 13. Future of Newark livestock market:** Councillors noted Mr

Matt Lamb of NSDC's reply and that the matter was due for discussion at NSDC. The clerk will request an update.

#### **14.Planning matters:**

- a. **Applications: 21/00130/HOUSE | Conversion of attached outbuilding to residential accommodation | Hollybush Main Street Laxton:** Councillors noted that, although NSDC had granted an extension of time for comments, the extension appeared to have been overlooked: the application had been approved by NSDC on 18 March 2021. The clerk will make enquiries of NSDC.
- b. **To note planning decisions by NSDC:** The approval of 21/00130/HOUSE | Conversion of attached outbuilding to residential accommodation | Hollybush Main Street Laxton subsequent to the circulation of the agenda was noted (see a above).
- c. **Compliance:** No issues raised.

#### **15.Defibrillator inspection report: Mr M Hennell had completed the inspection. There were no issues. Councillors had approved payment of the invoice for the new pads.**

#### **16.Village environment and appearance, including:**

1. **Relocation – 30 mph speed signs to village entries:** Mr Pringle will follow up for progress
2. **Fibre broadband for Moorhouse:** See LMPC/ 29/ 21 (Annual Parish Meeting 2021) above.
3. **Speeding traffic including possible weight limit:** Councillors considered the possibility of signage rather than a weight limit. The clerk will write to the brickyard and Forestry Commission to ask that their vehicles take an alternative route to that through the village.
4. **Bar Farmhouse:** The clerk will seek an update from Mrs Michael.
5. **Electricity for Christmas tree:** The clerk had just received the quote from Western Power for the installation of a supply to the triangle of land at Main Street, High Street and Bar Road which she will circulate. Councillors will consider the quote and alternative sites (including the pinfold and grass area outside the pub)/power sources (including the phone kiosk) for discussion at the May 2021 meeting

#### **17. Service faults:** None.

#### **18. Correspondence:** All items of correspondence noted

#### **19. Agenda items for next meeting:** As above

#### **20. Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 25 May 2021

# **Laxton Sports & Recreation Field**

## **STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT For the period 1/4/20 to 31/3/21**

### **Receipts**

Bonus Ball collections	2,323.00
Field rental LAFC (19/20)	275.00

**TOTAL 2,598.00**

### **Payments**

Bonus Ball payouts	1,300.00
Field Rental (To P/Council) Cx No 111	210.00
Pavilion preserve etc (cash)	65.00
Pavilion Refurb. Cx No 112	200.00
Diesel (Roy-24/4/20)	10.00
Diesel (Roy-27/6/20)	10.00
Diesel (Roy-12/9/20)	10.00
Diesel (Roy-06/3/21)	10.00
Field Rental (To P/Council) Cx No 113	420.00
Mower storage	

**TOTAL 2,235.00**

**Net surplus for the year 363.00**

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**Balance at bank 1/4/20 714.76**

**Net surplus for the year 363.00**

**Balance at bank 31/3/20 1077.76**

**M.MANNING  
Secretary Treasurer**



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## Sherwood Forest Rotary - Cycling 1220 Miles Rome for Prostate Cancer Research.

April has not been favourable for cycling. The weather has been less than perfect for the garden and the bike. Fortunately I am back on schedule to complete the 1220 miles by the 8th July if the weather improves.

April saw my first puncture of the year as I came across the common but yet another Good Samaritan appeared and gave me a lift back to the village. Thanks Tim and Carrie.

I still have about 200 miles to go so 25 miles per week should get me there. Thank you ST for sponsoring my limited April efforts.

In total our Rotary has raised well over £2000 so far for the charity which, in a year when our meetings were mostly cancelled, has given us a focus, albeit a solitary one.

We are hoping come the middle of June to be able to resume our meetings if our venue re-opens.



*Jeff*

## Progress at the 'Little School'



The Old School now has most of its ground floor lintels in place and the walls of the house are beginning to take shape.

At School Farm lintels are being taken out and replaced.

## Group Oil Order

The suggested extra order was placed in the first week of April and once again Chandlers provided the best quote (38.25p/litre) Watsons offered 39.5p and for the first time ever we received a quote higher than the Boilerjuice 1000 litre average price of 40.1p. This came from Watsons, who asked 40.75p.



They also asked if I took a commission. I was shocked to be asked as it has never crossed my mind to do so. I have always said that we all benefit equally from the saving the group negotiates, and that includes Dik and I.

The next order will be the late summer one approx. end July to Mid August depending on need and price. Please let me know if you are getting ready for more as that probably means others are as well.

New residents in the villages are very welcome to join. Please contact me on [oil@openfield.org.uk](mailto:oil@openfield.org.uk) and let me have your full address, contact details (email and phone) and any special instructions.

Please ensure I have your current up to date contact details. If in doubt, please resend and I will check with my list.

Keep safe and warm,

Joy

## Milton Mausoleum

The Mausoleum will be open every Sunday from 2pm – 4pm, beginning Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May until the end of September 2021. The AGM will be held on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June at 2pm when refreshments will be available. We welcome visitors to this meeting which will be held inside the Mausoleum subject to Covid regulations, of course.

As before the building will be open every Sunday but refreshments will only be available on the first Sunday in the month on a trial basis on 4 July / 1 Aug / 5 Sept).

Enquiries, please to Email: [milton.mausoleum@outlook.com](mailto:milton.mausoleum@outlook.com)

Phone Gillian (01777 248310) or Jenny (0779 1527569)

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# Universal Covid-19 Testing

All Nottinghamshire residents over 18 will be able to access free, rapid lateral flow tests (LFDs) for themselves and their families to use twice a week.

From the 9 April, in line with the government announcement, people aged 18 and over in Nottinghamshire will be able to collect 2 boxes of 7 tests per person or 4 boxes per family from our asymptomatic community testing sites. Our nearest is the mobile unit which visits Ollerton on Mondays and Thursdays 10am - 5.30pm in the Forest Road Car Park in Ollerton.

People collecting boxes from community testing sites can also have a supervised test to help ensure that tests done at home are accurate.

People aged 18 and over will also be able to collect the same number of tests from local pharmacies through the Government's new 'Pharmacy Collect' service. Local participating pharmacies can be found at **[Find a test centre \(test-and-trace.nhs.uk\)](https://www.test-and-trace.nhs.uk)**

If testing at home, people will need to register their results online or by calling 119. They should self-isolate if positive and order a confirmatory PCR test.

With rapid testing offered to everyone, people are being encouraged to take regular tests to help prevent outbreaks and get back to a more normal way of life.

The government has expanded its rapid testing programme so that everyone can get themselves tested twice a week. Around a third of people with Covid-19 do not experience any symptoms and may be spreading the virus without knowing.

Rapid testing detects cases quickly, so positive cases can isolate straight away. If everyone uses these rapid tests, more cases will be detected, breaking chains of transmission. This will help to suppress and control the spread of the virus.

Regular, rapid testing for people without symptoms remains available through the following existing routes:

- a home ordering service, which allows people to order lateral flow tests online to be delivered to their home
- workplace testing programmes, on-site or at home
- testing on-site at schools and colleges.

Anyone with symptoms of Covid-19 should book a test online or by calling 119.



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- ☆ With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.
- ☆ The man who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.
- ☆ You feel stuck with your debt if you can't budge it.
- ☆ Local area network in Australia - the LAN down under.
- ☆ Every calendar's days are numbered.



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- ☆ A lot of money is tainted - t'aint yours and t'aint mine.
- ☆ A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.
- ☆ He had a photographic memory that was never developed.
- ☆ Once you've seen one shopping centre, you've seen a mall.
- ☆ Bakers trade bread recipes on a knead-to-know basis.
- ☆ Santa's helpers are subordinate clauses.
- ☆ Those who jump off a bridge in Paris are in Seine.
- ☆ A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.

# Egmanton Village Hall

[www.egmantonvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.egmantonvillagehall.org.uk) / 01777 871171

Please check the EVH web site or call for latest details.

- ♦ **Yoga with Greg** – Suspended. Watch for details of restart.
- ♦ **Egmanton WI** - Suspended at present
- ♦ **Zumba Class** - Cancelled for now **Call 07817 311627**
- ♦ **Computer Problems?** - Call **01777 871171** for phone advice  
If your computer is misbehaving or you need help setting up a new one, please call. Donations to Egmanton Village Hall in lieu of fee.

## Village Notices

Mike Manning maintains a list of email addresses for villagers and other local people who want to receive up to date information.

If you are not already on the list and would like to be kept informed, please contact Mike on **870844**.

## Laxton Defibrillator

The defibrillator in the Visitor Centre, is always accessible as neither the Visitor Centre door nor the cabinet housing it is locked.

Please do remember that the defibrillator must only be used once authorised by a call to 999.

*Michael Manning*



Sandra Clarke is still collecting stamps for Bransby Horses throughout the year.

If you receive any during the year, please collect them trimming the stamp off the envelope, leaving at least a centimetre all around to ensure that the stamp is not damaged.

You can leave yours with Jean Hennell in Laxton or with Joy Allison in Egmanton and they will be passed to Sandra.

Thank you.

## Useful Contact Details

### Defibrillator Contacts:

Neil Randall 01777 871229 & 07710 398745, evenings and weekends  
Pat Naylor 01777 870601, evenings  
Jeff Naylor 01777 870601, as required  
Mark Hennell 07812 908316, evenings  
Stuart Rose 07939 228353, as required  
Jeanette Geldard 07956 959135, daytime in Kneesall,  
evenings / weekends  
Anne-Marie & Geoff Rose 07961 933290 / 07957 991002, as required

### Police

Sgt 2949 Christial Hurley, Sherwood Neighbourhood Policing Team,  
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PC2548 Deborah Bakin supported by  
PCSO 8524 Richard Dunn at Southwell 07595 074292

Web, showing other contacts: [www.nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk](http://www.nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk)

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Newark Hospital 01636 681681  
Bassetlaw Hospital 01909 500990  
King's Mill Hospital 01623 622515

Fire Safety Advice (Tuxford Fire Station) 01777 870381  
MP Mr Robert Jenrick: [robert.jenrick.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:robert.jenrick.mp@parliament.uk) 01636 612 837  
County Councillor: [cllr.mike.pringle@nottsc.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.mike.pringle@nottsc.gov.uk) 0115 977 5661

Parish Council website: [www.laxtonandmoorhouseparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.laxtonandmoorhouseparishcouncil.co.uk)





## Signs of Spring

