

Hatley Parish Newsletter March 2017

Your Parish Council Needs You!

The Parish Council will be joining the Community Highways Volunteering Scheme initiated by Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC), which will enable some aspects of maintenance along footways, footpaths and bridleways to be carried out by local volunteers rather than remaining a low priority task for CCC. We would be grateful if you would consider helping us to form a community group for Hatley. The more volunteers we have signed up, the less of an effort it will be for all involved. We could call ourselves The Hatley Lengthsmen! The group will be responsible for deciding what works to undertake in the Parish each year, who will be involved and when the work should take place. All intended works require the approval of CCC's Highways Team. Volunteers will need to ensure they meet with the criteria set out by CCC in terms of safety and any limitations of works. Tasks include litter picking, cleaning signs, cutting back vegetation and removing grass growing over footpaths. You would not be obliged to help with all the jobs, just those that you feel able to do. Please register your interest with or seek further information from the Parish Clerk.

Road Closure between East Hatley and Gamlingay – starting Thursday March 16th

Carriageway patching and preparation works are scheduled to begin on Thursday March 16th, in advance of carriageway surface treatment later in 2017. Works are anticipated to last 6 working days and whilst the work is in progress, during operational hours (8 am to 4 pm) the road will be closed and vehicular access will be restricted. To complete the work with minimum disruption, it is essential that no vehicles are parked on the road. Please look out for information and diversion maps on the village notice boards and the Hatley website (www.hatley.info) and on the roadsides nearer the time.

Community Litter Pick – Sunday March 19th

This annual event is organised by the Parish Council to help make Hatley's verges cleaner and more attractive. If you are able to join the Councillors your helping hands and company will be much appreciated. Please can all volunteers meet outside Hatley Village Hall at 10.30 am, wearing suitable gloves and footwear. Pickers and refuse sacks will be provided by South Cambridgeshire District Council.

Play Area

With the help of South Cambridgeshire District Council's Community Chest Grant, new junior swings were purchased and installed in the play area over the winter. The Parish Council hopes to make further improvements in the coming year to ensure that the play area remains a safe and exciting space for families to enjoy. This will be a long-term project as the costs of replacing the current greatly exceeds the Parish Council's annual precept for all Parish expenditure. If you have any fundraising ideas that may help with the purchase of new items for the play area, be they big or small, or would like to get involved with this project in any way, please do get in touch with the Parish Councillors or Clerk.

New Mobile Speed Sign

The Parish Council has considered a range of traffic calming solutions over the last ten years in its attempt to tackle the problem of vehicles speeding through Hatley. It was agreed that a mobile speed sign offered the most flexible and affordable solution. The Parish Council's application to Cambridgeshire County Council's Local Highways Improvements scheme was a success and as such funding and project support were granted. The new LED sign is expected to be installed by the end of March and will warn drivers to slow down if they are exceeding the speed limit. It will also record the volume and speed of traffic that passes through Hatley, which may be of use to the Parish Council and South Cambs police if speeding patterns are identified. A small team of volunteers will be required to assist with transporting and erecting the sign across four different locations during the year, so if this is something you can help with please contact the Parish Clerk.

More Speeding!

It has been brought to the Parish Council's attention that certain parcel delivery vans have been seen driving at dangerous speeds in East Hatley, which is a 30 mph zone. If you witness any commercial vehicles speeding on this residential road, or any other areas of the Parish, please note the company name and vehicle registration if possible and let the Parish Clerk know, so that any repeat offenders can be reported to the company involved, if not to the police.

New Dog Poo Bins - At Last!

Hatley is now the proud owner of two green dog poo bins. They can be found on the edge of the Hatley St. George playing field and close to the popular dog walking paths not far from the Old School House. Please continue to clean up after your dog to ensure the paths, verges and playing field are kept clear of such waste for the benefit of all.

Protecting Grass Verges in East Hatley

Over the last few years many residents have expressed their concerns about the damage caused by an increasing number of vehicles parking on or driving across the well-kept grass verges. Please encourage your visitors to park with care and consideration.

Hatley St. George Church

Services will be held on 12 March, 26 March and 16 April. Details are on the village notice boards and the Hatley website.

St. Denis' Church

The Parish Council is hoping to meet with the Friends of Friendless Churches and South Cambs District Council in the spring to discuss plans for a formal handover ceremony at the church. The notice boards and website will be updated with any developments in due course.

Coffee Mornings

This community event is proving to be a huge success, offering an opportunity for residents and their friends to catch up over a cuppa and cake at the Village Hall on the first Tuesday of each month, from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm. Any profit generated is donated to local projects, so what better excuse to head out for some good company and tasty refreshments each month?!

Future Communications

This newsletter is available on the Hatley website. If you prefer a 'greener' version of the newsletter to be sent to you by email in the future, please let the Parish Clerk know. Your email contact details will only be used for this purpose and will not be shared with any other individuals or organisations. Please also get in touch if you have any notices or event dates that you would like us to share in the next newsletter, due to be distributed in June.

And finally, **THANK YOU to Philippa Pearson** for keeping us all so well informed with her production of the Hatley Newsletter for so many years!

Dates to Note

- Wednesday 1st March – New bin collection starts for Hatley (green and blue bins)
- First Tuesday of every month, 10.00 am-1.00 pm – Hatley Coffee Morning at the Village Hall
- Thursday 16th March – Road closure through Hatley, see website and local notices
- Sunday 19th March, 10.30 am – Hatley Litter Pick, meet outside the Village Hall
- Tuesday 21st March, 7.30 pm – Hatley Parish Council Meeting at the Village Hall
- Thursday 4th May – Mayoral and County Councillor Elections, Polling Station at the Village Hall
- Tuesday 16th May, 7.00 pm – Hatley Annual Parish Meeting, to be followed by the Annual General Meeting of Hatley Parish Council, held at the Village Hall
- Sunday 9th July, 2 pm to 5pm Hatley Fête – Save the date!