

Hatley Parish Newsletter

February 2018

Community Litter Pick – Can You Help?

The annual litter pick is organised by the Parish Council to help make the verges in Hatley cleaner and more attractive. Please consider whether you can spare an hour or so to join the Parish Councillors collecting litter and possibly undertaking some other minor improvements along the Highway. Volunteers should meet outside Hatley Village Hall at 10.30 am on **Sunday 18th March**, wearing suitable gloves and footwear. Pickers and refuse sacks are provided by South Cambridgeshire District Council.

Play Area Project – Funding and Donations

The Parish Council is still striving to make further improvements to the Play Area but funding remains an obstacle to swifter progress. As noted in November, we are grateful to South Cambs District Council for a Community Chest grant of £1,000 which will allow us to purchase a new roundabout in the coming months.

Other good news is that the Play Area Project has recently been shortlisted for a public vote in **Tesco's Bags of Help** initiative. Tesco has teamed up with Groundwork to launch a community funding scheme which sees grants of up to £4,000, £2,000 and £1,000 – all raised from carrier bag sales in Tesco stores – being awarded to local community projects. Our Play Area Project will be competing against two other projects in the region and voting will take place at Tesco stores located in Potton, Sandy and Shefford. To vote you will need to make a purchase of any value for which you will be rewarded with a voting token. You do not need to purchase a carrier bag to receive this token. So, if you are passing any of the above-mentioned stores and can pop in to make a purchase, please remember to collect a token and to vote for the Hatley Play Area Project. If you have family and friends that regularly use these stores please ask them to give our project their vote too. **Voting takes place from 1st March to 30th April 2018.** We need to hit the £2,000 target to ensure that we have sufficient funds to proceed with the proposed purchase of a new double swing bay with two new toddler swings. Please spread the word to generate as much support as you can. Thank you!

You may have noticed the new bench in the Play Area which has been placed in memory of Robin Harris; Robin had strong links with the Hatley Park Estate and was a familiar figure there during his lifetime. He sadly passed away last year. The Parish Council is very grateful to Mrs Harris and the family for this fitting gesture and also to Harold Nickerson for helping to install the bench.

And finally, thank you to Linda Hudson and Mervyn Lack for kindly donating £290.85 towards the Play Area project from funds raised during their Coffee Morning events (and not forgetting all of you who join them each month!) plus thanks to the families who attended the Pancake Race on Sunday 11th February, which generated a further £21.70 for this project. If you have any fundraising ideas that may help us to purchase further equipment, please do get in touch. We have the largest goal still to meet – the replacement of the popular play tower

St Denis Church – News from The Friends of Friendless Churches

Work has begun! The boarding has been cleared from the nave floor and we have discovered the former medieval roof timbers used as floor joists to be in pretty good shape. We can keep them all and will not have to add as much new reinforcement as planned. There will be some hatches in the new floor to view the timbers which have been fully recorded. Under the loose porch tiles was one huge York stone slab which will be exposed again. The tile pavement inside is in a poorer state, but we can find new tiles to replace the broken ones. The cold weather might postpone the window conservation work a little, but so far, so good!

Local Planning Update – Moat Farm

The Parish Council has received amended plans and new documentation regarding the planning application to change the use of domestic outbuildings to two dwellings at Moat Farm, East Hatley. This application was previously considered during meetings held on 16th January and 30th January 2018. The consultation has been re-opened by South Cambridgeshire District Council and has a [new deadline of Monday 12th March for comments](#). All documentation is available on the SCDC website under planning application number S/4601/17/FL. Hatley Parish Council will be considering this application once again during an Extraordinary Meeting which is due to be held on **Tuesday 27th February at 7.30 pm in Hatley Village Hall**.

New Website – Nearly There!

The development of a new Hatley website is well underway – with thanks to Peter Mann. It has been designed by Peter to be easy to navigate and read whether on a PC, iPad or mobile – a requirement that topped the list in the survey Nicola Jenkins carried out. Most of the material on the current site is being carried over and much thought has gone into where to find things, both existing and future information and data. The launch date is not yet known, however with the very important foundation coding now underway, and populating the site starting in early March, it won't be too long now.

Parish Council Election – Could You Become a Parish Councillor?

Thursday 3rd May is Election Day and you may be considering joining the Parish Council. Officially we meet five times a year, but extraordinary meetings can be called, for instance when a planning application needs consideration. The Parish Council is the authority closest to the people and a vital part of the community. We have limited decision-making powers but do have the ability to influence and negotiate with our District and County Councils when they are making decisions.

Being a Parish Councillor requires patience and listening skills, but one of the most important attributes is remaining impartial. It is a challenging role and is never boring! If you are considering standing and want to talk to a current Councillor our details can be found on the village website www.hatley.info. And if you then decide to stand for office you will need to contact Jo Cox, South Cambridgeshire's Electoral Services Officer for the appropriate paperwork. She can be reached by phone 01954 713287 or by email jo.cox@scambs.gov.uk.

Speeding Traffic

The speed monitoring sign continues to provide us with startling statistics about the speed of vehicles passing through the Parish. The reports, which are generated using the data recorded by the sign, will be available to review on the new Hatley Website in due course. The reports provide details of the volume of traffic at hourly intervals and a breakdown based on the speed of the passing vehicles. It is of great concern just how many drivers find it acceptable to pass through our Parish at speeds of more than 60 mph. The Parish Council has shared these reports with South Cambs Police and is seeking their advice of how best to tackle this problem. This subject will be discussed in more detail at the Ordinary Meeting of Hatley Parish Council on Tuesday 20th March.

Hatley Coffee Mornings

There continues to be a great turn out and a very warm and welcoming atmosphere at the monthly Coffee Morning held at the Village Hall. As mentioned already, these events help to raise much needed funds for projects in Hatley such as the Play Area and improvements to the Village Hall, so please encourage your friends and family to meet you there for coffee, cake and a good catch up. It's held on the first Tuesday of the month from 10 am to 1 pm.

The Annual HVA Quiz Night

Well done and thanks to the Hatley Village Association (HVA) for organising another fantastic Quiz Night earlier this month. The Quiz Night was held at the Village Hall and was exceptionally well attended. 63 contestants enjoyed themselves, raising £536 for community projects in Hatley. Full details and photos of the Quiz Night and the Pancake Race can be found on the Hatley website. The HVA is a small team of volunteers which organises a wide range of events throughout the year - providing great entertainment for Hatley's residents (and often a wider circle) with the aim of raising funds for local projects. New members are welcome. Or if you have any suggestions for future events please do let them know. Contact details for the HVA are available via the Parish Clerk.

News from Hatley St George Church and St Mary the Virgin, Gamlingay

The church at Hatley St. George relies on three people to clean it, open and close it and prepare it for services. They are helped by people from Gamlingay when necessary, but they would love the support to come from the village of Hatley itself. Without the practical support and interest, the future of the church could become uncertain. If you feel you could help our diligent volunteers in any way, please contact Penny Hewlett (650278) or Philippa Pearson (651253).

Church services for March – All welcome

4th 8 am: Holy Communion (G); 10 am: First Sunday (G)

11th (Mothering Sunday) 9.30 am Parish Eucharist (G); 11 am: Holy Communion (H)

18th 9.30 am: Parish Eucharist (G)

25th (Palm Sunday) 8 am: Holy Communion (H); 9.30 am: Parish Eucharist (G); 6 pm: Evensong (G)

Holy Week – All welcome

Monday 26th, Tuesday 27th, Wednesday 28th 7 pm: Service of the Word (G)

29th (Maundy Thursday) 8 pm: Parish Eucharist (G)

30th (Good Friday) 2 pm: Liturgy with Holy Communion (G)

Church services for April – All welcome

1st (Easter Day) 8am: Holy Communion (H); 9.30 am Parish Eucharist (G)

8th 9.30 am: Parish Eucharist (G); 11 am: Holy Communion (H)

15th 9.30 am: Parish Eucharist (G)

22nd 8 am: Holy Communion (H); 9.30 am: Parish Eucharist (G); 6 pm: Evensong (G)

29th 4 pm: Pet Service (G)

(G) = Gamlingay; (H) = Hatley

Key Diary Dates

- Tuesday 27th February, 7.30 pm – Extraordinary Meeting of Hatley Parish Council for Planning
- Thursday 1st March to Monday 30th April – Voting period for Tesco's Bags of Help Fund for the Play Area Project
- Sunday 18th March, 10.30 am – Community Litter Pick, meet at Hatley Village Hall
- Tuesday 20th March, 7.30 pm – Ordinary Meeting of Hatley Parish Council at the Village Hall
- Thursday 3rd May – Election Day, Polling Station at Hatley Village Hall
- Tuesday 15th May, 7.00 pm – Annual Parish Meeting followed by Hatley Parish Council's AGM
- Sunday 1st July – Hatley Fete, save the date!
- First Tuesday of every month, 10.00 am – 1.00 pm – Hatley Coffee Morning at the Village Hall

The newsletter will be available on the Hatley website. Please get in touch if you have any notices or event dates that you would like shared in the next newsletter, which is due to be distributed in June.