

# Humbleton & Flinton Parish Newsletter

March 2016

## Parish Council News

The Parish Council meeting was held on 19 February at Maple Garage at 7pm, with no residents in attendance. Apologies were received from Harry Jackson.

Highways / Street Services – no change in MUGA erosion; upgrade of 'trod' with ERYC for consideration – not hopeful of success; no speeding vehicles advised to Clerk; ivy on bus shelter - requested ERYC to resolve; concerns about the trees on west entrance to Humbleton reported to ERYC; planter – agreed location can be moved to other side of road.

Parish clock – application for faculty submitted to the Diocese of York.

Police reports – nothing significant to note, except the theft of a horse box near Tansterne, plus poaching is ongoing.

Maintenance – RESOLVED to get weeds in church sprayed. Green Lane dyke has been cleared and the church hedges cut. Dyke at west entrance of Humbleton to be cleared bi-annually. Annual overhaul of pumps completed.

Heron's Trust – no meeting held by the Trustees.

Memorial for the World War 2 accident in the village – faculty from Diocese of York received, plaque ordered. Clerk to discuss options of date for unveiling with key people.

Rathlin – last meeting held 3 February – see notes in newsletter for an update.

Phone box – quote now received for installing defib, Clerk to apply for funding for purchase of defib. Clerk had requested from BT some paint to repaint phone box. Clerk to explore options for adopting Flinton phone box for a defib.

Flinton land – Clerk to enquire about cost of lease.

Transparency Regulations regarding external audit – RESOLVED to remain within SAAA but as exempt (due to size of income / expenditure) no external audit required.

Neighbourhood plan – Clerk advised that input from residents requested in last newsletter, but nothing had been forthcoming. Agreed to set up a meeting to see if we could engage residents.

Other correspondence including thank you letters from Mr Lamb and Mr & Mrs Hart for their Christmas gifts from the Council. RESOLVED that the clerk register for the 'Clean up for the Queen' weekend and see if we can get some of the general rubbish tidied up in the parish.

The finance report, previously circulated, was discussed and payments approved as follows: Clerk salary and expenses (£424.69); HMRC £35 and ERYC Supplies £11.50 for stationery. Payments made and retrospectively approved were to East Riding Coal £125 for 2014 Christmas deliveries; Broker Network Ltd £267.86 for 2016 insurance; Bucktons £67.20 for flailing church hedges and Martinsons £72 for clearing Green Lane dyke. Future expected payments are to East Riding Coal for 2015 Christmas deliveries for an expected cost of £125.

It was noted that ERYC had approved the Tansterne Biomass planning application.

Clerk to find out when Flinton street lighting to be upgraded.

The next meeting is 26 May 2016 at Maple Garage at 7pm including AGM.

## Crime Prevention by Marten Hall

When I wrote about security in the last edition of the Humbleton Newsletter I had thought that it would be a one off. With that in mind I had decided to make it a stand-alone document giving advice based on my training in how to get in and out of places. Unfortunately for you, apparently someone liked it, so here we are again.

Today's topic is about giving a better description to the police when you have seen something untoward and worthy of passing on to them. Let's face it, everyone gets a little bit excited when we see a burglary or assault taking place in front of our eyes. It's natural, normal and something that can cloud our judgement in relating what we have seen to a constable later on. We all have our own natural and innate assumptions and values that we put on to anything we say to others. It's human nature. But it's also something that we can minimise by following a simple process in information gathering.

I first learnt these techniques whilst training for job that was a bit like a police stakeout but with less donuts and more sand. We would sit in hides or rooms for days on end, watching what was going on around us; information gathering for people with slightly bigger brains to analyse. It's a bit like what I do nowadays as an ecologist; plonk myself in front of a badger sett and wait for hours in order to count the number of animals using it. Except in this case I do the analysing as well. I guess something must have rubbed off on me along the way.

In the Army we tend to use mnemonics for everything. This is because we're usually a bit dim, and tend to get very tired, all the time. Couple those two things up and you get a lot of "three eyed, 12 foot tall" descriptions of naughty people.

The first mnemonic is for describing a person and it's as simple as **ABC**:

**A** – Age: Bracket 2 years either side of what age you think they are.

**B** – Build: Are they slim/thin, stocky, stout, pot-bellied or fat/plump.

**C** – Clothing: Work from head to foot and include clothing type and colour.

**D** – Distinguishing Features: What makes them stand out from the crowd such as tattoos, scars, acne etc.

**E** – Elevation: What height are they? Use a known reference point such as a gate or a car to judge.

**F** – Face: Describe the outline of the face. Is it fat, square-jawed, round or oval?

**G** – Gait: Is there something about their walking pattern that stands out? Do they limp like I do? Do they walk quickly or with a particularly long stride pattern?

**H** – Hair: Describe it in terms of length, colour and style.

The second mnemonic is for describing a vehicle and we remember it as: **SCRIM**.

**S** – Shape: Is it a van, car or truck? Is it a saloon, hatchback or 4x4?

**C** – Colour: What colour is the vehicle? We now have white LED street lighting in the village which makes it easier to distinguish the different colours than when we had the old orange ones.

**R** – Registration: This normally requires a notebook but most mobiles have the ability to make a voice recording so you can quickly record it just by speaking.

**I** – Identifying Features: Do they have a CB antenna? Is there any damage the car such a significant dent? Does it have any stickers or signs on it?

**M** – Make and Model: If you can't tell what the make or model is you could have a go at describing what it does look like in terms such as "It looks similar to the Vauxhall Corsa that my mum drives".

Giving good information can be tricky but by staying calm and using the mnemonics in this article you can help keep our village and the wider community safe. It's also worth noting that you don't have to be sure that something illegal is happening before you take a description down. You'll kick yourself if you don't and end up telling the constable or your neighbour "I thought something looked dodgy with that door-to-door salesman".

In closing I would like to send out a request for any used 2ltr plastic bottles that you would otherwise send out in the recycling. I use them as traps for newts when I'm surveying and as we don't usually have fizzy drinks in the house and I have to buy in the cheap water bottles and use them instead. It's not very environmentally sound as I usually need about 1,000 a year and I could never drink all that water. That said, pouring out water is significantly better than pouring out coke. So if you have any that you would like to pass on for re-use then please let me know. If you want I could bore you to death on the finer points of newt trap making in return.

Stay frosty.

## Transport Survey

Thank you to those residents who completed the survey – we had 6 responses despite posting 85 surveys. These responses will be collated and feed into the Transport plan by ERYC.

## Neighbourhood Plan

For us to consider pulling a neighbourhood plan together we have to demonstrate we are taking residents views and engaging with our residents. I have received very little feedback from the last newsletter about this specific issue.

Now is your opportunity to voice any concerns you have – for example the poor broadband; or the lack of facilities due to the closure of the Old School. We are planning a meeting and hope to see you there.

## Remembrance Collection Poppy Appeal

A big thanks from Mally for the donations to the Poppy Appeal which raised over £100.

## South Entrance Planter

ERYC have agreed we can move the location of the recently 'knocked' down planter to the other side of the road.

I could do with help from residents to design a simple replacement; source some bricks and then build it. Any budding artists or construction residents – help!!!

## Parking in Humbleton

Thank you to everyone who has kindly taken note of residents' concerns about parking on the pavement. However there are still certain areas where parking is still blocking the pavement.

Please would everyone take care and only park on the roadside, and not on the pavement so that those with children / prams / dogs can walk safely on the pavement.

## Parish Clock

The faculty has been submitted to the Diocese of York to allow the repair to go ahead – which is needed to make any grant applications.

We will keep you updated as things progress.

## Withernwick Wind Fund Farm

ERYC have applied to the above fund for specific funds to be able to provide home security for elderly and vulnerable residents, including shed alarms, door chains, window locks and if necessary, door bars. If successful ERYC would like residents to apply for funding – is there anyone in the village to which this would be appropriate. Please let me know so that we can apply if ERYC are successful.

## Defibrillator

Does anyone have any ideas on how we can either raise funds or any grants available – we have applied to the ERYC Local Grant Fund but no funding was available. We are keen to install the defibrillator in Humbleton in the adopted phone box, and would like to adopt the Flinton phone box and install a defib also, but we need to find funding.

## Calendar of Events

Thursday 26 May	7 pm AGM & Parish Council Meeting at Maple Garage
Sunday 29 May	3pm Unveiling of WW2 Memorial at St Peter's Church
Saturday 11 June	Wine & Cheese Party for St Peter's Church – venue tbc
Sunday 10 July	Family Fun Day (date to be confirmed)
Friday 16 September	7.30pm Elvis in the Church
Sunday 2 October	Harvest Lunch at St Peter's Church

Please check the notice board / website as the Parish Council meetings can change date.

## Rathlin Energy (UK) Limited's Work at West Newton (A&B)

The latest meeting of the West Newton Community Liaison Committee took place at Densholme Farm between 7pm and 9pm on Wednesday 03 February 2016. Your parish council clerk attended the meeting on behalf of local residents. At the meeting, Rathlin gave an overview of the current position at West Newton A, West Newton B and at Crawberry Hill (between Walkington and Bishop Burton). A summary of the meeting can be found below. More comprehensive notes from the meeting can be found at: [www.rathlin-energy.co.uk](http://www.rathlin-energy.co.uk).

### West Newton A

- Rathlin received an extension to its planning application on 21 December 2015 for three years to 2018
- The installation of new water discharge measures have resulted in around 40 tankers worth of clean water being released significantly reducing the amount of truck movements to the site. This was welcome news to the committee members.
- Other than well bore and ground water monitoring (via the two existing water monitoring boreholes) no other activities have taken place at the site since the last meeting
- A security team continue visit the site daily

### West Newton B

- Rathlin was granted planning permission to explore for oil and gas from the West Newton B site on 04 June 2016. The application lasts for five years overall, but expires after two years once work begins
- Almost all of the required Environmental Permits have now been secured for West Newton B. There are just a few outstanding items that Rathlin is working with the Environment Agency to address
- Only four letters with varying comments were received as part of the public consultation process
- Ground water monitoring and air monitoring will take place before the work begins
- There are already two ground water monitoring boreholes at West Newton A and Rathlin will install a further two at West Newton B
- No work will take place until relevant Environmental Permits are in place and no date has yet been set for work to commence
- The community liaison committee will be advised before work begins so that the information can be communicated across the local community

### Crawberry Hill

- Rathlin confirmed that work had started on abandoning the Crawberry Hill well bore and restoring the field it sits in back to pre-works condition. This will enable the landowner to farm the land again if he/she chooses
- They stated that the wellbore abandonment works have been completed and that following a process known as a cut and cap, the site would be restored. Weather permitting this work is scheduled for completion by the end of April.
- Resident representatives asked if the protestors had been the reason for the company leaving the site as this was being suggested locally. Rathlin said that this was not the case. They said that the commercial viability of the prospects at West Newton looked more promising at this stage. They said that the Crawberry Hill well had shown encouraging signs, but at this time they had decided to focus more on West Newton. They said that they may go back to explore around the Crawberry Hill area at a later date. They said that the 'anti-fracking protestors', who had caused huge problems in the local area at a site where no fracking was taking place, had not been a consideration as part of the decision to close the Crawberry Hill site down.

Rathlin confirmed that, contrary to social media reports and rumours around the local villages, the company did not undertake a mini fall off test at the West Newton A site. The suggestion was described as 'utter nonsense'. Representatives from the company said that anyone who would like independent confirmation of this should contact the relevant statutory authorities.

The next meeting will be announced in due course – when there is clarity on the Environment Agency permits and when more can be shared on the proposed programme of works and the timetable of activity at West Newton B.

Your community representatives are Lisa Brazier and your Clerk. If you would like to raise any issues on your behalf at a future liaison committee meeting, please contact either Lisa or Vanessa.

## Friends of Humbleton

Our next meeting will be to discuss the Family Fun Day in July – talk to Helena, Kathryn, Vicky or Vanessa if you want to get involved.

## Planning Application

ERYC have approved the planning application for the Tansterne Biomass station, and you will have noticed that construction has already started on the access road.



## Your comments

As mentioned in previous and this newsletters, the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan must engage with the residents, and needs to be evidenced that residents are involved. To date I've had very little response which either means everyone is very happy living in our Parish with no real issues, or that residents just haven't had the time to put down on paper what they want. Therefore I'm leaving this space blank for you to write down what you think is important to Humbleton / Flinton and either pass back to me or any of the Councillors. Personally I think we need better broadband.....what's your view?

## Humbleton Recreation Club

The new cricket season will commence with the 1<sup>st</sup> league matches on Saturday 30 April.

The 1<sup>st</sup> team will compete in Division 1 of the Eastern Conference League against Sutton II at Sutton and the 2<sup>nd</sup> team are at Humbleton against Skirlaugh in the Eastern Conference Division 5 League for their 1<sup>st</sup> match.

The Junior Cricketers are already having practices and training session at the Aldbrough Village Hall on Thursday evenings 6pm until 7.30pm. Any budding young Cricketers are very welcome to attend. Please ring Richard Pears on 01482 811 336 for further details.

## World War II Memorial

The plaque has been ordered, and the date has been fixed – 29 May at 3pm – we hope you can attend and witness the unveiling of the memorial in memory of those who lost their lives during a training exercise in Humbleton. We are hoping this is well supported as we remember those lost in this accident and also celebrate the permanent memorial in the Church. We hope to serve drinks and nibbles afterwards.

We look forward to seeing you there.

## The Countryside in March by Harry Buck

As I write these notes at the end of the February, it is good that most of the field crops have some through a wet winter so well. Most crops at this time of year need some warm weather to get the new growth going. Winter barley is at the stage of needing some help in the way of nitrogen fertilizer. This on some farms has been applied in the recent days. Once again oil seed rape is keeping up its guessing game – not knowing if spring is here or will it stay dormant a little longer.

This is a good time of the year where marks in growing crops can tell a lot to the experienced eye. It was the late and great A G Street – a well known farming writer who said “your faults in agriculture will find you out”. How right he was.

Recently passing through Humbleton it was good to see the good display of early daffodils. I also stopped to look at the walnut tree, growing on the village green. The two Harry's that planted it many years ago are both very lucky to be around to appreciate this now shapely and healthy specimen.

Pity some of the small birds who don't seem to be decided on which bird nest box to choose – then a cold spell comes along and they are back waiting for some warmer weather to arrive.

Keep well, Keep laughing

**If anyone has any events or information to add for future issues – let Vanessa know. If anyone has anything to be included please give to Vanessa at Springfields.**