

# Humbleton & Flinton Parish Newsletter

December 2015

## Parish Council News

The Parish Council meeting was held on 19 November at Maple Garage at 7pm, with three residents in attendance, plus two representatives from the Police. Due to recent spate of burglaries in Humbleton (5 in October plus 2 in November) the police attended to reassure residents that we still live in a relatively crime free area, and that they have stepped up patrols in our area. The police stressed the importance of any incidents being reported – as the number of patrols and frequency are related to the number of crimes. Speeding vehicles through the village was discussed and the police are keen to obtain registration plates of anyone speeding so they can visit the individuals.

Matt Havler spoke to the council about the need for a neighbourhood plan which will be needed for any developments, including a new community hall, within the parish. It was agreed that the Clerk would find out about any funding available to help with the questionnaires and how best to engage with residents.

First aid training to be explored so that Marten Hall can retain his qualification as parish first aider by the Clerk.

Friends of Humbleton updated the Councillors about the Christmas light switch on – a permanent tree had been sourced and planted.

Heron's Trust – the trustees have to consider how a new building would be self-financing and sustainable.

Memorial for the World War 2 accident in the village was progressing slowly, with the notices on the Church for the faculty.

Rathlin – no meeting since the last council meeting. It was noticed that the protestors had now moved on.

Phone box – problems about getting an electrician quote for fitting the defibrillator due to concerns about the power supply.

Flinton land – RESOLVED to draw up a lease agreement between tenant and council.

RESOLVED to increase precept by 10% due to ongoing increase in costs to £2,021pa.

RESOLVED to increase burial fees for non-residents by 5% and Clerk to circulate to St Peters.

The finance report, previously circulated, was discussed and payments approved as follows: Clerk salary and expenses (£211.52); HMRC £35 and M Havler £29.48 for tree supports. Payments made and retrospectively approved were the purchase of the Xmas tree £440.40 was noted that Friends of Humbleton had made a donation towards the cost of the tree. Future expected payments are the insurance renewal due 1 January 2016 expected cost £270.

It was noted that all the street lights are to be replaced in the parish by ERYC in January 2016.

The next meeting is 11 February 2016 at Maple Garage at 7pm

## Crime Prevention by Marten Hall

Penny and I have lived in Humbleton for six years and in that time we have been constantly amazed at how quiet it is compared to our previous home in Hull. The lack of crime was something that we had taken for granted until the recent spate of burglaries. Although our home wasn't affected it has given me cause to reassess both our personal and home security and I have fallen back on over 25 years of service to the crown in both the defence and security sectors to help with this process.

In this article I want to give you some ideas on how to limit the chances of you and your family becoming a crime statistic and to provide you with some simple ideas that will make it less likely that you will suffer a burglary in the future.

### Get into the burglar's mind set

Let us start out with the assumption that the burglar does not want to get caught and that he does not want to take too much of a risk unless he thinks the rewards will be high. Creating an environment which increases the chances that he will be caught, and which also makes him think that there will be little reward if he does take the risk, is key to effectively securing your property.

If you walk down Main Road in Humbleton you will see a quiet, sleepy village where little happens of note beyond pesky cats pooping in the gardens of others. Walk again down Main Road, but this time with your burglar's head on, and you will see that some properties have security lighting, alarms, gated driveways, security cameras and dogs that bark at every passing car. These are the houses that the burglar will try and avoid unless the reward is high enough. It stands to reason that if you don't have lighting, cameras, a loud dog or a noisy gate then you are less likely to hear or see a burglar and he is less likely to get caught.

### Perception v reality

The burglar does not want to get caught so we need to create an environment where he thinks that if he burgles your house he might. Not everyone can afford a CCTV camera system or a high-end alarm, but everyone can do something to create an oppressive environment for the burglar. Fitting PIR lighting that activates whenever someone comes on to your drive and coupling it with some simple deception techniques, such as a sign that says you have a big guard dog or CCTV, and you start to make the burglar think twice about trying your property. Adding in a bell on your gate, shale on your driveway or trellis fencing and you are making it even more risky for the burglar and he will likely go somewhere else.

### Do the simple things well

Most burglaries are opportunistic. With over 32,000 recorded burglaries in England and Wales during September 2015 (UK Crime Stats, 2015), with burglary making up 17% of all property crime annually (ONS, 2015) and with half of the 693 burglaries in East Yorkshire during 2014 being as the result of an open door or window (Hull Daily Mail, 2015) our recent crime wave means we have become part of the statistics. Creating a defensive attitude will help keep the opportunist burglar at bay. Doing the simple things well can make a difference such as:

- Locking all doors and windows when not in use and when out of the home.
- Lock your car and keep your valuables out of site and secured especially when parked on the road.
- Close your gate - an open gateway is inviting and opening a gate will create noise; something a burglar is trying to avoid.
- Fit dead bolts and contact alarms to doors so that your house is not secured just by a standard UPVC door lock when you and your family are at home. I managed to get through my own locked door (with no damage) in 30 seconds. With dead bolts fitted the burglar will have to try much harder to get through which will give me more time to call the police or take action myself.
- Keep your valuables and car keys away from the door. Remembering that the burglar doesn't want to risk coming into contact with you, they will try and take whatever is within easy reach. Having your purse, wallet or car keys next to a door is going to give them an opportunity to make off with some of your most valuable possessions.

### Have a plan and keep it simple

You do not need to have spent 25 years in the Army or the Police to be able to stay calm in a potentially violent situation; although it does help. The best way to a safe outcome of a burglary whilst you are at home is to have a plan and keep it simple. Mine is very simple - near to my bed I keep a torch and a mobile phone. The torch is so that I can see should the electricity go out and the phone is to ring the police. I am trained in self-defence and am pretty confident that I could defend myself and my family should the need arise but my first point of call is to ring the police - and I know how to do it. This might seem a strange thing to say but when people get stressed their fine motor skills go out of the window and they suddenly find that they can't enter their pin number to unlock their phone or actually dial 999. Others may forget to press the green phone symbol and they never actually connect the call. I'm not advocating sitting at home practicing dialling 999, rather that you think about it and mentally go through the process.

The last part of my plan is to go to the top of the stairs and stay there. The most valuable items I have in the house are my wife and children. Everything else is expendable. Stood at the top of the stairs I can control access to my family and ensure their safety until the police arrive.

#### Final thought

In writing this it has not been my intention to cause alarm or distress but merely to point out where you can help keep your family and possessions safe from others. Humbleton is still a safe and lovely place to live and I'm sure that this will continue well into the future.

Working together we can create a village environment that says to the burglar "No. Not this time. Go somewhere else."

Stay frosty.

### **Transport Survey**

ERYC have asked us to contribute by completing a transport survey, which will be posted through your letterbox shortly – please return by 24 December or let me know and I'll collect it from you – this could affect our (few) bus services – so make your views known.

### **Website**

<http://humbleton.org.uk>

Have you visited our website yet?

What do you think?

Let us know your views by emailing [humbleton@btinternet.com](mailto:humbleton@btinternet.com) or post your comments at Springfields through the letterbox.

### **Parish Clock**

More tentative good news – we are allowed to apply for funding for the War Memorials Fund for repairs to the parish clock. This is the first time we have successfully managed to find any funding and it is a small step, but good news. We are now working with the PCC to obtain a faculty from the Diocese of York to allow the repair to go ahead.

We will keep you updated when things progress.

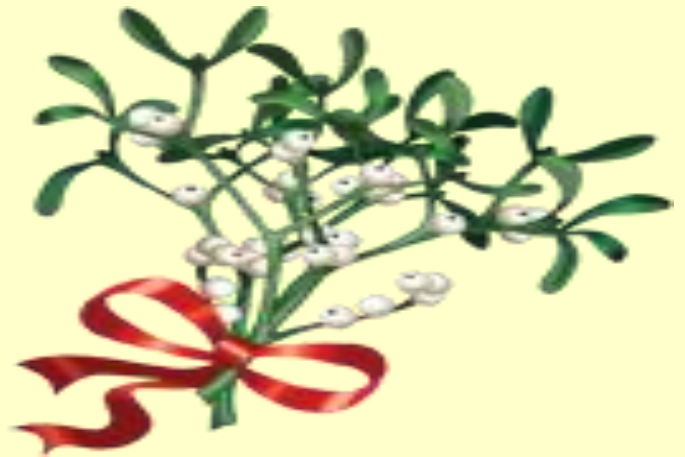
Friday 18 December  
Sunday 20 December  
Thursday 11 February  
Thursday 26 May  
Sunday 10 July

7.30 pm Christmas Carol Service at S Peters Church  
4.30 pm Christingle at St Peters Church  
7 pm Parish Council Meeting at Maple Garage  
7 pm AGM & Parish Council Meeting at Maple Garage  
Family Fun Day (date to be confirmed)

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

### **Thank you**

Thank you to those residents who have commented on the website or let me know about the neighbourhood plan, however very few have come forward – unfortunately if we want better broadband; safer roads; improved facilities then we have to plan...and this needs your input – email me or pop round for a chat.



### **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.

### **Calendar of Events**

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

On 26 November, ERYC granted a 36 month extension to the West Newton A planning application which was approved two years ago.

Rathlin have also issued a statement to the regional and specialist media which states that they are aware of a recent statement circulated by a protest group describing themselves as Hull Truth Juice. As the statement is both false and misleading Rathlin wish to confirm the correct position.

Rathlin has categorically stated that no such mini fall off test or, indeed, any other test of the Bowland Shale took place at the West Newton A well. The claims made are completely false. There are no outstanding Environment Agency (EA) compliance issues at this time. The EA made no objections to Well A or B planning applications and both received unanimous approval from the Mineral Authority (ERYC).

The well drilled and tested at West Newton A wellsite discovered natural gas. Rathlin believes this is firm evidence of a potentially significant commercial field in the Permian Kirkham Abbey formation. Rathlin have a capital programme planned for the appraisal of this conventional gas discovery.

Any future project for gas production and distribution will be based on the successful results of an appraisal drilling programme and economic analyses and will be subject to the appropriate permits, approvals from all the relevant regulatory authorities.

Your community representative is Lisa Brazier or 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.

### Planning Applications

ERYC have been advising Parishes, as part of their cost cutting reviews, that from next year no paper copies of planning will be sent to the parish council – everything will be issued electronically – fortunately we have been successful in obtaining funding to provide us with a projector, which will enable your councillors to review the plans without being restricted to A4 copies.

### Npower – recent power cut in Humbleton

On 21<sup>st</sup> November we experienced some particularly high winds but only for a relatively short period of time, unfortunately the winds caused quite a lot of damage across Holderness. Npower staff were deployed across a number of faults and the one affecting Humbleton was particularly problematic. They encountered an issue with our High-Voltage Switchgear at Burton Pidsea Primary Substation, which caused a significant delay before we could commence switching the network around to restore supplies and narrow down the location of the fault. The network in the area is a long and extensive network feeding many farms and small villages, the power cut was across a large geographical area.

The fault was eventually found to be a tree, which had blown over and was held up by the overhead line. Access to the site of the fault was difficult and we needed to remove the tree from the overhead line before repairs and restoring supplies to customers.

As we were without power from 6.45am to 10.50pm, each household should have received a letter offering £100 compensation. Make sure you complete it and send it back and you will receive a cheque.

I received regular texts from npower and forwarded them to those mobiles I knew in the village – if you want to be added directly then email [yourpowergrid@northernpowergrid.com](mailto:yourpowergrid@northernpowergrid.com) with your number, or you can register your mobile number through their website:

[www.northernpowergrid.com](http://www.northernpowergrid.com)



## Friends of Humbleton

As you will see the Christmas Lights were turned on 5 December on our new permanent tree – thank you to everyone who helped source the tree which has taken many months, plus special thanks to John for sorting out the electric supply.

The forecast was not looking good for the event with 50mph winds expected, and so with some help from Susan Walker and the church wardens, it was agreed we could use the Church for the event. This meant we met on The Green to switch on the lights and then move down the village to the church for the celebrations and to welcome Santa.

We enjoyed organising the event and those attending seemed to enjoy the event – with Santa visiting to deliver presents to the children; the mulled wine and mince pies went down a treat, as did the burgers & hot dogs. As usual the tombola and the raffle was well supported – both in donations to allow the event to occur – and on the night on the tickets sold.

Despite the change of venue at the last minute, the event was a success in lots of ways and it was so good to see so many of our community celebrating this event together – it is important that the events we organise are attended. We made a profit again, which has gone towards the cost of the new tree, and we are already planning next year's events with more new lights. After careful consideration and discussion with Susan Walker, we aim to use the Church next year for the Christmas event.

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

## Church Notes

We do appreciate the support given by the local community to St Peter's Church.

We have had some special events and fund raisers over the last few months which have been very successful.

The church was full again for the harvest lunch in early October and a harvest songs of praise was held immediately afterwards. It was good to see so many families in church for the lunch.

The Christmas flower and cookery demonstration was held at Maple Garage once again – many thanks to the garage for the venue and hospitality. The event raised £550.

### Forthcoming events

The Annual Carol service will take place on Friday 18th December at 7.30 pm with singing lead by the South Holderness Deanery Choir and there will be refreshments afterwards – everyone welcome.

The Christingle service is at 4.30 pm on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December and there will be Christingle oranges for all the children and the collection will go to the Children's Society to help vulnerable children and young people – please come and join in.

Wishing you a happy and joyful Christmas and peaceful New Year

Susan Walker, Vicar

## Christmas Gifts for Pensioners

Councillors have continued with the Christmas coal / voucher deliveries this year. It has been a long tradition for our Parish to give our pensioners' a gift at Christmas. This has been to those ladies over 60 and gentleman over 65 in Humbleton & Flinton. If you believe you are eligible (one gift per household) or whether your neighbour or friend is eligible, please let Vanessa or your local Councillor know your name, address and whether coal /anthracite or voucher is required so that our list can be updated.



## World War II Memorial

Good news – the Diocese of York have approved the faculty for the installation of a memorial in remembrance of those who lost their lives in an incident in Humbleton during World War II. The plaque will now be ordered and arrangements made for the unveiling service.

## End of the Year Countryside by Harry Buck

Early December and a good time to look back over another farming year. Most farms reaped a decent harvest, rainfall for the year has been a bit trying. My records tell me we had seven months below normal levels with who knows what we'll get for December.

Even as I write these notes in the nice winter sunshine, a shower of rain comes and the result is one of the best rainbows I have seen.

Some of the snags facing farms is how to control the ever present slugs and the problem of black grass in winter crops. Also in the 'wings' is the winter problem of wood pigeons – these birds often arrive just before very cold weather.

However we shall soon have the shortest day of the year to make us all feel better as we get more daylight.

Wind turbines, whether you like them or not, have surprised me how will most of them will still turn in the faintest of winds. What is interesting on the days of clear blue skies, the vapour trails from high flying aircraft reminds us how much air traffic passes overhead everyday.

During this brief look back, I can tell you that visitor numbers to Burton Constable Hall has risen very well with all concerned very pleased.

Let me finish by saying if everything ran as smooth and regular as the sun and moon – could we still find something to complain over?

Best wishes to your all for a happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Keep well, Keep laughing

## We Wish You a Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year

**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.**