

News from Ketton Parish Council December 2023

On a bright and sunny Saturday morning in mid November KSCC sports pitches were swarming with eager youngsters, plus encouraging parents and coaches on the touch lines, as Ketton welcomed Blackstone Juniors Football to their new home. Ketton is very lucky to have such an amazing sports facility that is used by residents of all ages, as well as welcoming visitors from other communities. Additional to the sports facilities, KSCC has a Millenium (football pitch) copse, and as a tribute to the King's Coronation, Ketton Green Spaces Group is inviting you to come and help plant more trees here (see 'Other Dates for your Diary') – please bring a spade and gloves. Hot drinks and cakes will be provided.

At the October Full Council Meeting it was decided to plant a Mulberry tree and site a bench in Hall Close near the Redmiles Lane entrance, looking down over new orchard towards river, to commemorate the King's Coronation. Mulberry trees are handsome, slow growing and long-lived, with wide-spreading branches, attractive heart-shaped foliage and red/black berries. Our hard-working village maintenance operatives have been busy in Hall Close, tidying up after the storms and floods, clearing vegetation from banks of Sinc Stream and repairing, and repainting/ revarnishing the play equipment. We are looking at applying for funding to replace play equipment in the infant (fenced) play area and have run a competition at Ketton School to gather ideas for what equipment to purchase. Our old mower is becoming costly to repair, so a new mower will be purchased, and the old one will serve as a 'spare'. There are still issues with dogs off leads in the play areas of Hall Close, and owners not clearing up after their dogs, so new signage is being investigated. As many of you will know, the Fountain has been hit (and moved) several times this year but a recent inspection affirmed that it is still structurally sound.

Other items discussed at the October Full Council meeting included predicted CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) payments to the village as a result of the various housing developments, and how they might be used to benefit residents; the recent flooding, including RCC's advice to 'find and fill your own sandbags', and flooding in Bartles Hollow, with respect to the proposed 75 home development at land off Park Road; updating Ketton and Tinwell's 2020 Community Response Plan (in case of emergencies). It was also reported that there had been issues with building contractors parking as many as 10 vans and cars on the High Street grass verge next to Pit Lane. Although this verge is owned by RCC, it is maintained by the Parish Council. Damage resulting from parking there in wet winter conditions is costly to put right and so we are liaising with builders to encourage parking elsewhere.

Rutland County Council is consulting on the first draft of its new Local Plan (Regulation 18 Preferred Options) from Monday November 13th until 4pm on Monday January 8th. The new Local Plan web page contains the draft plan and includes information on how to submit comments www.rutland.gov.uk/localplan. Ketton Library will also have a paper copy of the documents, and if you need help with completing an online consultation form, our Parish Clerk, Debbie will be on hand in the Parish Office during opening hours (see days and times below). For other enquiries email localplan@rutland.gov.uk or call the customer services team on 01572 722 577. The Parish Council is organising a drop-in session on Thursday December 14th 6pm to 8pm in the Congregational Hall for residents to discuss this new Draft Local Plan and its implications for Ketton. We are sure that you will be pleased to know that the plan shows no housing site allocations for Ketton, but there are 3 site allocations for industrial purposes in Pit Lane, totalling 9 hectares.

Finally, all of us at the Parish Council wish you and yours a Happy Christmas!

Additional Dates for your Diary

Mondays 1pm to 2pm, 2pm to 3pm in the Parish Office, IT help sessions with Berni (contact the clerk to book a session)

Sat Dec 2nd 9am to 10am County Councillors' Surgery in Ketton Library.

Sun Dec 3rd 2pm King's Coronation Tree Planting at KSCC football (Millenium) copse

Tues Dec 12th 2pm to 4pm in the Congregational Hall, Ketton Seniors' Christmas Party – a Christmassy afternoon with a delicious afternoon tea, games and a present for everyone who attends. Make sure you have booked your place with Debbie in the Parish Office (contact details below).

Thurs Dec 14th 6pm to 8pm in the Congregational Hall, drop in session to discuss Rutland's new Draft Local Plan.

Sat Jan 20th 4.15pm in Hall Close, Ketton Wassail with Rutland Morris, Ketton Community Choir, the Handbell Ringers, a brazier and lots of noise!

*The Parish Office in Stocks Hill (Tel 01780722451, email kettonpc@btinternet.com) is open **Tuesday** and **Thursday** 9.30am to 3.30pm, **Wednesday** 9.30am to 5.30pm (or 1.30pm to 9.30pm when there is an evening meeting) Facebook: **Ketton News**. Website: www.ketton.org.uk*

