

News from Ketton Parish Council August 2023

After the elections earlier in the year your Parish Council is settling down with a new mix of councillors, including Richard Dixon, our recently co-opted Parish Councillor. Richard has lived in Ketton for 8 years and will serve on the Highways & Open Spaces Committee and be a named substitute on the Planning Committee. Welcome too to our new County Councillor, Matthew Farina, who lives in Ketton, and will work alongside County Councillor Karen Payne. Also to Tricia Williamson, our new assistant maintenance operative, who is working with Dave Parry. Simon Forster has decided to step down as a Parish Councillor having worked for several years for the council in several capacities – as a member of the Planning, the Highways and Open Spaces, and Finance and General Purposes Committees, and helping Dave Parry with maintenance around the village. He was also Chairman of the Whitebread Trust.

So we are still short of 4 Parish Councillors – please do consider applying - it is very worthwhile knowing that you are serving your community and contributing to making Ketton great place to live.

Our Parish Councillors will soon be signed up to new email addresses specifically for Parish Council business (*name@ketton.org.uk*). Updated information on Parish and County Councillors will be available on our website and our 4 main village noticeboards (outside the library, on the corner of Kelthorpe Close, and in the High Street near Home Farm and near Chater Lodge).

We received some good news about the proposed development for 41 houses on land off Manor Green – the application was refused under delegated powers ie it did not go to Rutland County Council's Planning Committee. The delegated officer report on reasons for refusal runs to 106 pages and includes 145 residents objections! The site is outside the Planned Limits of Development, and since Rutland now has 7.4 years housing supply it can apply the relevant Local Plan Policy. However, the developers could still appeal against the decision.

At our June Full Council meeting, we decided to nominate Ketton Library as a community asset. If RCC supports our application then if the library is put up for sale there will be a moratorium on the sale of up to 6 months to allow the community to raise finance to make a bid to buy it on the open market if they wish. See Community Aspiration KTCA 24 in the Neighbourhood Plan.

You may have noticed that we now have a circle of stones in Hall Close, replacing the wooden seating that had formed an 'outdoor classroom'. The seating had deteriorated over the last few years, despite much repairing by Dave Parry, and eventually had to be removed. Stone will be more durable than wood, and more sustainable and attractive than plastic, and of course, more appropriate for our village. We are very grateful to Hanson for donating the stones, to Andre Vrona of Ketton Architectural Stone for dressing them, and to Rob and Nathan from R&R Mills for expertly moving them into place.

Four recent village events demonstrated the generosity and thoughtfulness of Ketton residents. The late Andrew McGilvray left monies for a fun evening with an Irish Band at the Railway Pub, there was a charity Barn dance with the Hound Dogs at Holmes Farm, and Ketton Community Choir with the Beaufort Wind Quintet gave a concert titled 'Music – the Food of Love', to raise money for Leukemia Research. And on July 6th Royalty came to Ketton - the Duke of Gloucester spoke, as part of the Ketton Talks programme, about the work of the Red Cross, and especially concerning the importance of the Red Cross parcels sent to prisoners of war during World War 2. Entrance monies and donations amounted to £225 which was given to the Red Cross.

Dates for your diary

Sat August 5th 9am to 10am County Councillors' Surgery in Ketton Library.

Wed August 10th Deadline for responses to Hanson's proposals to extend the quarry www.hanson-communities.co.uk/ketton-community-page

***The Parish Office in Stocks Hill (Tel 01780722451, email kettonpc@btinternet.com) NEW
OPENING TIMES 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)
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