

KPC News August 2024

After a very busy couple of months in the village it seems that August might be quieter, with schools having broken up, residents on holiday, and clubs and groups 'taking a break'. Your Parish Council is also 'taking a break' with no Full Council meeting this month, although KPC Planning Committee continues to meet every 2 weeks.

Currently our village Planning Committee is considering the largest application to date for housing in Ketton - 'Land off Park Road'. It has planning permission for 75 homes, but a detailed planning application for layout, scale, appearance and landscaping has now been lodged on the RCC Planning portal by the developers, Vistry. The planning reference for this application is 2024/0649/MAO, but an easy way to view the plans is to visit the village website www.ketton.org.uk, go to Planning, and then follow the instructions for 'Recent Planning Applications – Village Map View'. The developer has agreed to give a presentation of the detailed application on Thursday August 22nd, 7pm, at a venue to be confirmed. The Planning Committee has concerns about drainage and flooding, traffic, layout and landscaping, house design and local infrastructure.

However, this development, like the other 3 in progress along the High Street, will generate CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) money, 25% of which will come directly to Ketton – without our Neighbourhood Plan in place it would have been only 15%. Our CIL can be spent on providing new infrastructure and maintaining existing infrastructure, which hopefully, will help to keep any increases to the parish precept, which is added to your council tax, at a minimum. Currently we have 10 possible items on our CIL spend list so far. RCC gets 75% of our total CIL money, which can be spent anywhere in the county, however, we do know that proposed works to Ketton library will use RCC CIL plus Arts Council money.

At the June Full Council meeting it was agreed, by a unanimous vote in favour, to award £6215 of our CIL to KSCC, towards the funding of a new patio area facing out onto the cricket pitch. It is hoped that eventually that the sports bar will become a cafe/bar open 7 days a week, and sell food. Rutland Scaffolding, Simon Smith, Heidelberg and Ed Finch also contributed to the costs of the patio.

It was also reported that the proposed location for the installation of the 4th defibrillator, to cover the west of the village, is no longer a viable option. Vistry Homes, developer for 'Land off Park Road' may be able to help in due course, but we are looking at other options as we are conscious that the defibrillator is already 1 year old and the battery has a limited life.

County Councillor Matthew Farina gave an update on the grass cutting and maintenance issues at Carver Court, Capendale Close, Wheatlands Close and Manor View. It seems that the Longhurst Group - one of the largest housing groups in the East Midlands, dismissed the contractor before securing a new one. This resulted in a cessation of maintenance, although the residents were still required to pay and with no prospect of refunds until likely until next year. The Longhurst Group have been called to a Scrutiny meeting at Rutland County Council, where it is hoped that they will be able to give the council an update on the issues raised.

The contractor, who was paid to empty our village dog waste bins, pulled out suddenly. so we have closed them. We are considering abandoning them altogether, since dog waste can be put in other waste bins. However, we will need some additional new general waste bins to 'fill the gaps'. Ketton Green Spaces Group submitted a draft of their 4 proposed 4 Ketton Village Walks with maps, PDFs guides, a website, interpretation panels and waymark routes to the Parish Council. The Parish Council were very supportive of the scheme and thanked the group Ketton Green Spaces for all

their hard work in putting the plan and guide together. It is hoped that the walks, maps etc will be produced within a year so that they can be included in new Welcome Packs.

And if you walk in Ketton Old Quarry SSSI you might notice that steps have been created on some of the steep and slippery paths, making them much safer and accessible. This is due to hard work by Leicestershire and Rutland Wild life Trust staff and volunteers, and especially to Sarah Bedford, the reserve officer.

Finally, congratulations to Ketton School PTA who, in June, organised the first summer fair for several years and raised a total of £2,900. And to village teenager Matthew White who sent off £84 to Children's' Air Ambulance - being monies raised from selling his handmade planters and bird boxes at the recent Green Festival.

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)

Thursdays 10am to 12 midday the Hub at Ketton Library, for hot drink, biscuits and chat

Sat August 3rd 9am to 10am County Councillors' Surgery in Ketton Library.

Thursday August 22nd 7pm, developer presentation 'Land off Park Road', venue tbc.

Monday September 2nd 7.30pm Ketton Film Club at KSCC. 'Sully'

Thurs September 5th Ketton Talks, "The Tinwell Crucifix"

*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*