

KPC News September 2024

September – the season of ‘fruitfulness’! And our community orchard in Hall Close is bearing its first real crop of plums and apples. In celebration, Ketton Green Spaces Group (KGSG) is organising a Ketton Apple Day – Sunday September 15th, 2pm at the community orchard - come and press apples to make apple juice. Do bring any spare apples from your trees (windfalls are fine), and containers for the juice. Apples are ripe when the pips are dark brown so please don’t pick the apples in Hall Close until they are ripe, and remember to leave some for others. The orchard meadow area had its annual ‘hair cut’ in August, thanks to 6 volunteers (3 from Ketton and 3 visitors) who came with scythes and rakes. It is important to cut a meadow after the plants have flowered, and to clear away the cut vegetation so it does not ‘fertilise’ the ground and encourage too much grass to grow which would out compete the meadow flowers. KGSG will also be running a number of activities over the autumn and winter – check their website for details. Ketton Climate Action, also part of the Ketton Environment Group ‘collective’, organised one of its regular litter picks along Steadfold Lane and the Stamford Road. 8 volunteers ‘picked’ 12 bags of rubbish – a little less than previously, but more litter is sure to be revealed once the grass is cut.

At our July Full Council Meeting we were informed that Parish Councillor Edis Payne had decided to resign. The council would like to thank her for all her hard work and service - she will be greatly missed. If you think that you might like to become a Parish Councillor, do drop into the Parish Office and chat to Debbie our Parish Clerk about it.

County Councillor Matthew Farina gave an update on the issues with social housing provision by Longhurst in Ketton. Longhurst did not attend the meeting with Rutland County Council, however, County Councillors continue to communicate with residents of Ketton to establish the extent of the issues and try to raise the concerns with the Longhurst Group in the hope that a resolution be found. It is hoped that the Longhurst Group will attend a scrutiny meeting in September. County Councillor Karen Payne confirmed that Ketton Library is due to be upgraded using funds from various sources, but mainly the Schools Capital Programme and Arts Council. Work, due to start in October and to be completed before Xmas, will create a family hub/community space with an interactive whiteboard. It is hoped that a public engagement event will be held for the residents of Ketton.

The Ketton and Tinwell Neighbourhood Plan (KTNP) has now been in place for a year. Ann Tomlinson attended our July meeting of behalf of the KTNP Committee and suggested that it would be best to review it after the new RCC Local Plan had been agreed, to see if any changes within our own policies were required. The plan’s policies had been key factors in the refusal, by the planning inspector, of the proposed development off Manor Green. Reviewing the plan after the outcomes of the 2 current large planning applications in Ketton (Land off Park Road and Land N of Wotton Close) had been decided would be a good measure of the effectiveness of the Plan. Ann Tomlinson offered to assist the Planning Committee with this review.

In late July, 6 Parish Councillors, 8 members of the public, the land owner and the architect attended a public consultation evening for planning application 2024/0730/MAF, Land N of Wotton Close (for 36 homes). The question and answer session was most helpful in explaining the plan details and the planning process.

A public engagement evening, with the developer, Vistry, was held in mid August to discuss the planning application for 75 homes on Land off Park Road (2024/0649/MAR). Given the serious concerns about flooding in the Bartles Hollow area, Anglian Water was also invited to attend, but declined. This meeting will be reported in the October news.

The PR committee were delighted that total of 48 people were taken to Burghley House for afternoon tea, by bus kindly sponsored by Heidleberg. Feedback from residents was very positive. It

is hoped that a luncheon at Stamford College, to be funded by monies raised at the Hub, might be arranged. 30 people attended the Ketton Talks Holmes Farm walk in June, and enjoyed learning all about farming life from Andy Payne and Monty Andrew. The PR committee are now looking at what they can do to engage with the teenage community – approx 12% of our Ketton population are teenagers.

Ketton Speedwatch Campaign (28/09 – 11/10) is still seeking volunteers, as several volunteers are needed per session, and it is proposed to hold 2 sessions a day. All volunteers will be required to have some training. Contact the Parish Office if you are interested.

Many of us realise that Debbie, our Parish Clerk, is a ‘woman of many parts’, and if proof was needed, she helped to rescue a young goose from Sinc Stream, and got it to the vets wrapped in a towel!

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

Monday Sep 2nd 7.30pm Ketton Film Club at KSCC. ‘Sully’

Thurs Sep 5th Ketton Talks, “The Tinwell Crucifix”

Sat Sep 7th 9am to 10am County Councillors’ Surgery in Ketton Library.

Sun Sep 15th 2pm in Hall Close, Ketton Apple Day

Thursday 19th 7.30pm Congregational Hall, Ketton Horticultural Society ‘The Brighter Side of Winter’

Sat Sep 28th to Fri Oct 11th Community Speedwatch in Ketton. Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to help.

*The Parish Office in Stocks Hill (Tel 01780722451, email kettonnpc@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*