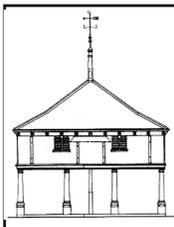


New Buckenham Parish News



March 2021



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March 2021

Snowdrops (also called ‘Flowers of Hope’)

Several kind individuals added to generous donations from the High Bailiff’s Trust, the Parish Council and the New Buckenham Society. As a result volunteers have now planted about 1,750 snowdrops ‘in the green’ under the Market Place lime trees. We are getting some flowers this season, but it’s next year when we should get a good showing. This is a cold, grey time of year, and worse for being in lockdown, but snowdrops right in the heart of the village will relieve the gloom in future years.

There are plenty of other snowdrops around by the cricket pitch and on the banks of the town moat. The castle always has a good show. Under the lime trees there’s also a profusion of gone-wild crocus.

Many thanks to all those who contributed or helped with the planting and Ken at the Garden Enclosure who supplied the excellent plants.

Kim Cutmore and Charles Oxley

March at St Martin's

We have been shocked and saddened by the death of Helen Pearson. Helen was not just our Lay Reader, taking services here, around the group and at Riddlesworth, but PCC Secretary, Electoral Roll officer, and for the last few years has shared the task of churchwarden. She did the cleaning, arranged the flowers, gave lifts, and looked after communion supplies and laying the altar. She also did the rotas for services and readers, distributed notices, worked with V&V, communicated with *Parish News*, and probably more that I've forgotten or don't know about. With Christopher as Acting Treasurer and Fabric Officer, they covered all the offices of the PCC, with minimal help from the other three of us. We have already received offers of support from kind friends, but we are going to struggle, and any more offers for any of the above would be very gratefully received.

Looking optimistically to the easing of lockdown, we are planning services for March. We hope to have Parish Eucharist at 11am on 7th, Mothering Sunday Evensong at 6.30pm on 14th, and Morning Prayer/Worship at 11am on 21st and 28th, which is Palm Sunday. Easter details will follow in next month's *Parish News*. If these are not possible, we will continue with a group Zoom service at 10am every Sunday. Do contact me for details.

Susan Jowett (860929)



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Helen Pearson (1936–2021)

As I write this, I notice it is the time of year when Helen and Christopher Pearson would regularly open up the castle for everyone to enjoy the snowdrops, so it particularly poignant to recall Helen's sudden death on February 2nd.

Helen was born in May 1936, in Petersfield in Hampshire, and was brought up largely in Ireland. Her father was a naval engineer, and during the war and immediate post-war years, the family lived in Bath, Paris, and in Germany. She was educated at the Royal Naval School in Surrey and then read mathematics at Trinity College Dublin. She and Christopher were married in 1960, and lived in and around Winchester where Helen combined bringing up their three children with qualifying as a maths and RE teacher, a role she enjoyed for many years. In 1992, they moved to New Buckenham to be near family, and moved into Castle House.

Helen was an active member of local activities and events, both in Hampshire and Norfolk, and could be relied upon to give unfussy support and practical help. Having served on the diocesan synod in Winchester, she was licensed as a Church of England Reader in Norwich Cathedral in 2000, and served this group of parishes tirelessly. Very many people suggested she should be ordained priest, but in her typically modest way, she felt she was useful as she was. She loved the traditional language and music of the church, but was game to be involved with more informal styles, and her sermons were always knowledgeable, self effacing, and spiced with dry humour.

Helen was devoted to her family, including her eight grandchildren, and loved visiting the Chicago branch. She and Christopher enjoyed travelling generally and had stories to tell from Estonia to Malawi to the Holy Land. She also cherished her garden, and was an enthusiastic cook and needlewoman.

Many people could tell of Helen's quiet kindness and generosity. She loved entertaining people and sharing plants

and fruits from her garden. She always knew who needed a phone call or a visit and lived a truly Christian life in a very unobtrusive way.

The church community has lost a precious member, I have lost a mentor, colleague and friend, and we can only reach out to Christopher and family in their greater loss, and try to carry on her work.

Susan Jowett

The Parish News Committee also offer our condolences to Helen's family and friends. As readers will know, Helen regularly wrote for the magazine, amongst many other things, and her contributions will be missed greatly.

Parish News Committee

Books and DVDs

There is still a great selection of books and DVDs for sale at the back of the church, including recent fiction and top-quality non-fiction. People have been astonished at how big a 'shop' we have there, so do take a look for yourselves! But, despite notices and pleas, we are still getting donations left, and for various reasons we just can't cope with processing any more at the moment. This is an important source of income for the church, so please keep buying, then hopefully we can start accepting new stock after Easter.

Susan Jowett and Jane Ling

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BROADBAND PROGRESS: County Broadband has achieved the necessary interest from one third of villagers to progress their work on full-fibre broadband to your property (FTTP). This is no guarantee that it will happen. CB will now do full planning/costing checks, backed by a multi-million pound investment from Aviva, which helps! If they start the building it would be about nine months in normal circumstances, but nothing is normal at the moment. The present infrastructure can be shared with BT, but the cost of digging new underground cables or erecting more poles may make certain properties unreachable. To find out more contact matthew.buckman@countybroadband.co.uk or 01376 562002 ex 150 or see www.countybroadband.co.uk.

MOBILE PHONE MAST: The last response from Waldon (the infrastructure organisers for O2) was ‘We are not yet quite in a position to schedule build works and understand it may be some months until we are’. We keep on trying!

NEW GOVT LOCKDOWN GRANTS: For retail, hospitality and leisure, a one-off grant worth up to £9,000 per property.

- £4k for businesses with a rateable value of £15k or under;
- £6k for businesses with a rateable value of £15k–£51k;
- £9k for businesses with a rateable value of over £51k

See: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus/business-support>

A further £594 million is available from Local Authorities for other businesses not eligible for the grants, e.g. those with no rented property. Apply at: <https://www.breckland.gov.uk/article/15960/Coronavirus-Grant-Information>

All Biz Buzz updates are to be found on www.np4nb.online.

Janet Trewin

Parish News News

Every month, *Parish News* is distributed free to every house in the village, and we are very grateful to the Parish Council and all those villagers who have helped to cover our production costs during 2020. We are also grateful to those businesses who choose to advertise with us, especially during these difficult times. If you would be interested in sponsoring an issue of *Parish News* in 2021, please contact Mary Dowson on 01953 860320 or mdowson@btinternet.com.

As well as the print version, *Parish News* is also available digitally. So, if you would like to receive a electronic copy of *Parish News* by email in PDF format as well as, or even instead of, a paper copy please fill in a subscription form at <http://eepurl.com/dhB-1P>.

You can also find an online archive of past issues of *Parish News* at <http://www.newbuckenham.net>.

Older issues of *Parish News* from the 1970s can be found on the New Buckenham Archive website: <http://www.newbuckenhamarchive.co.uk/parish%20news.htm>

Parish News Committee

Welcome to New Buckenham

We extend a warm welcome to Ian Jowett's son, David Jowett, who has moved from Southampton to be nearer to his family.

We would also like to welcome Jayne and Alan Hilton, who have moved into Lovell's.

We hope you enjoy your time in the village.

Parish News Committee

Darren Rush

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New Buckenham Parish Council

Our next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 9th March and will take place via Zoom. In order to join us, you will need to download Zoom on to your laptop, tablet or phone. Details of how to join us for the meeting will be posted a few days beforehand on the Parish Council website and on our noticeboard on the Village Green. All parishioners are welcome to sign in. In the meantime, contact details for the Parish Council can be found on the back cover of this *Parish News*. Please contact me or any other councillor if you need further information about the meeting or any other Parish Council matters.

Dates for 2021

All meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm in the Village Hall. These will take place on 13th April; 11th May; 8th June; 13th July; 14th September; 12th October; 9th November and 14th December. The Parish Council does not meet in August.

Karen Hobley – Chair

01953 860529 / karenhobley@hotmail.com

Summary of Draft Minutes: February 2021

1. Minutes of the January meeting approved.
2. Matters Arising

The Council noted with great sadness the passing of Violet Highton, a long-standing and valued member of the village community, whose active support to many village projects, including the Community Car Scheme and the Neighbourhood Plan, had been invaluable. Council expressed its condolences to Cllr Highton and his family. Cllr Highton expressed his gratitude for the kind words and support he had received following his mother's death.

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3. Public Participation.

- a) District/County Cllr: Queries were raised regarding Church Farm House, which has been empty for several years, and the flooding of the Dambrigg. Cllr Askew to investigate.
- b) Parish Councillors
Cllr Bingham queried the relationship between the Biz Buzz group and the Neighbourhood Plan steering group. It was confirmed they were entirely independent of each other. He also requested that Highways were approached to clear gullies and drains on Castle Hill Road.

4. Financial Matters

- a) The financial report for end of January was noted.
- b) Payments for February were approved.

5. Casual Vacancy

There had been two expressions of interest in the councillor vacancy, one of whom is submitting an application. Applications to be considered at the next Council meeting.

6. Planning

Applications received:

Teasel Cottage, Chapel Street: Replacement of windows, front, ground and first-floor. No objection.
St. Mary's Residential Home: Rebuilding of dwarf wall at the front of the property. No objection.

Applications approved:

Corner Cottage, Market Place: Demolition of single-storey extension, erection of two-storey extension and detached cart-lodge.

7. Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr Manning reported that the final draft was with Susan Heinrich (Breckland) for final comment and would then be formally submitted to the next stage.

8. Community Land Trust

Council discussed a suggestion made by Charles Stimpson to establish a Community Land Trust in the village. It was noted that this was not something the PC would be actively involved in, as the initiative for the scheme needed to come from the wider community. It was not thought appropriate for PC to expend time and resources until completion of the NP.

9. Amenities

- a) Allotments: Clearing of allotment 12 still outstanding. A review of the allotment lease agreement should be undertaken. Clerk agreed to circulate current version to Cllrs.
- b) Cemetery: Clerk reported available space was reducing and consideration should be given to changing eligibility for reserving a grave plot. Current rules to be circulated to Cllrs.
- c) Play Area: Adult equipment now fully installed. Following an inspection of the children's equipment Cllr Crossman reported extensive repairs were required to the roundabout. Estimated cost £1,588.08 + VAT. Funding of £480 still available for play equipment. Decision to be made next meeting.
- d) Grounds Maintenance: No action yet taken regarding replacement of the waste bins on the Village Green. Clerk to bring proposals to the next meeting.

Mary Dowson for New Buckenham PC

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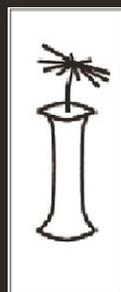
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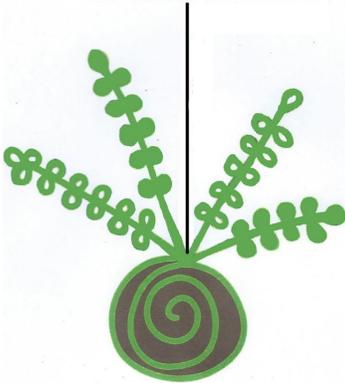
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Passivhaus in New Buckenham

We are proud to announce that New Buckenham now has its first certified “Passivhaus” and is on the map for those looking at low energy homes. Hill View, Castle Hill Road, has had its official environmental stamp of approval following submission of our compliance evidence to the Passivhaus Trust.

Passivhaus is an international low energy, design standard, there are only seven privately owned certified homes in Norfolk. Whilst there are very few privately owned Passivhaus, the methodology has been used extensively by Local Authorities and Housing Associations, the award-winning Goldsmiths Street Norwich being a prime example.

The aim of the standard is to “provide high standards of occupant comfort and health as well as reducing energy use and carbon emissions from buildings”.

Hill View has achieved this standard as a major part of our heating demand is met through passive sources, such as solar radiation or the heat emitted by occupants and technical appliances. Because the heat stays inside the house, active heating is needed only during extremely cold days and only a small amount of energy is required for providing top-up heating. In summer, the design of air flow around the building and excellent level of insulation ensures that the heat stays outside, therefore cool inside. It is estimated that Hill View will consume about 90% less heating energy than the cottage we moved from and 75% less energy than the average new build.

We owe our thanks to our local skilled professionals, trades and crafts without whose enthusiasm, dedication and skills we would not have achieved the certification. Thanks to:

David Large and Ollie our builders who completed the main construction and set the high standard of the build.

Miah Tonkin and Stan who did all the foundations, groundwork, and the final finish exterior and interior.

David Barnard, plumber, who took on a whole new set of learning with our heat exchange system and the level of technology required.

Mark Caton and Daylight Norfolk Electrical who took on the technology, installed it and made it work for us.

Standley Steel, Wymondham for the specialist thermally protected steel supports they supplied.

Chris Parson of Parson + Whittle Architects who talked us into full certification rather than just being eco!

Tamsin of TER Building Energy Consultancy who has been mentor and guide in getting our evidence together for submission.

Was it worth it? We think so! Just a tiny contribution in the global scale of things, but our children think it is worth it and it is their future we are building for.

Juliet Fulford and Andrew Bingham



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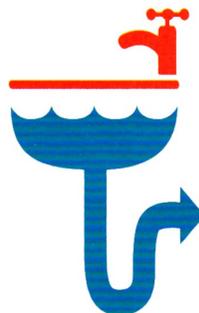
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New Buckenham Parish Council

- Chair:** Karen Hobley
(01953 860529 / karenhobley@hotmail.com)
- Vice-Chair:** Andrew Bingham
(01953 861150 / andrew.bingham100@gmail.com)
- Councillors:** Don Crossman (01953 861246)
Mary Dowson (01953 860320)
Steve Highton (01953 860499)
Mary Manning (01953 861242)
- Clerk:** Trevor Wenman
(01379 641423 / parishclerk@newbuckenham.net)

The Parish Council meets at 7:30pm on the second Tuesday of every month. At present, the meetings are being held online via Zoom. Further information about how to join these meetings, and the Parish Council more generally, can be found on our notice board on the Village Green or on our website www.newbuckenhampc.info.

Contributions for the April 2021 issue of *New Buckenham Parish News* should be submitted by 6:00pm on Sunday 21st February 2021 to Linda Bryan, Pine Cottage, Marsh Lane (861107), Michael Boswell, Peel House, Chapel Street (860015), Richard Hoggett, 9 Church Street (860136) or by email to editor@newbucknews.co.uk.

TO ADVERTISE: please contact Mary Dowson on 01953 860320 or mdowson@btinternet.com