

# BADBY PARISH NEWS

Summer 2013

## PARISH COUNCIL

### COUNCILLORS

Below is the list of your Parish Councillors, a contact telephone number and areas of special interest which have recently been assigned.

|                              |        |                              |
|------------------------------|--------|------------------------------|
| Mike Richards (Chairman)     | 872116 | Trees, Street Lighting       |
| Karen Alexander              | 310780 | Village Hall                 |
| Gary Bell                    | 878821 | Trees                        |
| John Collins                 | 438693 | Roads & Safety, Village hall |
| Peter Cooper (Vice Chairman) | 703292 | Greens, NCC Representative   |
| Richard Piner                | 704093 | Cemetery                     |
| Martin Walton                | 300176 | Roads & Safety               |
| Andy Witcomb                 | 872010 | Rights of Way, Playing field |

Due to the unfortunate resignation of Chris Peel recently, there is now a vacancy on the Parish Council which, it is hoped, will be filled by co-option at the July meeting of the Council. The Parish Council wishes Chris every success in his new endeavours and thanks him for all his input during his tenure.

Meetings are usually held on the second Monday in each month, starting at 7.30pm, with the agenda being published on each of the two noticeboards in the village on the first Monday of the month. There is one noticeboard on Pinfold Green and another opposite The Windmill. If, for any reason, a meeting is postponed, a notice stating so is usually posted on the noticeboards. Extraordinary meetings may be held on occasion and, on these occasions, notices will also be posted on the noticeboards.

Members of the public are invited to attend the meetings and are invited to bring matters to the attention of the Parish Council during two Public Participation items on the agenda.

### CEMETERY

Following a working party carrying out maintenance earlier this year in the cemetery, agreement has been reached that the fence along the right hand side of the cemetery will also be replaced. This cannot be done, however, until a suitable time considering the live stock in the neighbouring field.

The Parish Council continues to carrying out regular inspections of the cemetery grounds.

### FINANCE

The end of financial year 2012/2013 Annual Return has now been signed off by the internal auditor and Parish Council and is, at the moment, with the external auditor for final checks.

Financial Year 2013/2014 has begun with the new budget, based on the unchanged precept of the previous couple of years. However, some of you may have noticed an increase in the Parish Council portion of your council tax bill even though the Parish Council hadn't increased it's precept demand on Daventry District Council. The reason for this is quite simple: the number of people paying towards the Parish Council portion is less this year than in the last financial year.

The financial situation is reported on at each meeting with a quarterly reconciliation produced against the budget.

## **GREENS**

You may have seen that repairs have been made to the greens and verges where damage has been caused by cars and trucks driving over the edges. The damage has been particularly severe this year, exacerbated by the bad winter and large amounts of rainfall. But there is a general feeling that the damage has been increasing -- the bad weather for one, of course, but also greater numbers of larger vehicles coming through Badby (directed by their sat-navs, perhaps?), increased gritting of roads, home delivery vans and building contractors working on houses, cars generally getting larger and wider making parking more difficult, etc.

The greens and grassy verges are a particular feature of Badby and the Parish Council has been discussing how it can protect and preserve them. In discussion with residents near the worst affected areas, it is clear that we all are agreed in our wish to keep Badby looking as beautiful as possible.

We have put up signs by the greens reminding everyone that driving and parking (even 2 wheels) on the greens is prohibited, as the greens are protected land. We are looking at putting in protective posts where the verges are particularly liable to damage. We are discussing ways in which visitors to the village can be better directed to appropriate parking. We are discussing with the local authorities ways of drawing greater attention to the speed limits and narrow roads, possibly even putting a weight or width limit on through traffic.

Although narrow, most roads in Badby are sufficiently wide to allow even a lorry to pass a parked car without going onto the verge, provided the car is properly parked (close to the edge, but not itself on the verge!) and the passing vehicle drives carefully with regard for the road edge.

We would ask everyone to do what they can to help. As residents, it is our village and we would all like to keep it looking good. If you see cars or vehicles parked on the greens or verges, please point out the signs saying that parking on the greens is not allowed.

Similarly, please encourage visitors to park considerately and to remember that others need to be able to pass without driving onto the verges. And please draw to the Parish Council's attention any persistent problems you see with the greens and verges in Badby. Thank you for your help.

We should like to thank Whetherdays for providing the soil and turf at cost to enable the recent repairs to the verges to be done.

## **PLANNING**

The Parish Council continues to be part of the planning process and is consulted on every planning application within the Badby parish. Any comments, either supporting or objecting to an application, are decided at Parish Council meetings and are then forwarded to the Planning Officer for their consideration.

One of the most notable applications during the last few months has been the wind turbine application at Furlong Farm. After being turned down by Daventry District Council's Planning Committee, an appeal was been lodged with the Planning Inspectorate.

However, it has just been confirmed that the appeal has failed and Daventry District Council's decision upheld. However, a resubmission of the application in a different form which has also been lodged at Daventry District Council will continue the application process.

## **RIGHTS OF WAY**

The footpaths and bridle ways in the Parish continue to give visitors and residents alike great pleasure, and are generally in a good state of repair. Damage from the many heavy rains of winter to the main footpath from the church towards Badby Woods - Honey Lane - has been notified to NCC and is due for repair soon; three other stiles on various paths

have been made good, but we still await work on the wobbly stile at the corner of the penultimate field towards the woods from the bottom of Bunkers Hill.

Much clearing work was done by volunteers to the footpath from Stoneway towards the A361, making it accessible again, albeit it is little used.

The most popular footpath is, of course, the Knightley Way towards Fawsley, but for those seeking a lovely one hour walk with views, in relative isolation, a suggestion.

Walk towards Catesby on the road across from Bunkers Hill, and at the bridle way sign on the left after about half a mile, walk through the stile up towards Arbury Hill. After two more gated stiles, and after reaching the top below the "motor cross field", take the left path sign down to the corner of the track below. Turn left after going through the gate, and follow this vehicle track until the footpath sign left in about a half mile, not long after a small lake on the left. Follow this path, across three fields, the last with horse stables, to the Catesby road again. A great circular walk.

If you want a map copy of the footpaths around Badby, just contact me.

Andy Witcomb

## **ROADS AND SAFETY**

Following repeated representations made by parish councillors to Northamptonshire County Council's Highways Department, repairs have, at long last, been carried out to some of the deeper potholes in Main Street. Further road repairs are awaited. On-site discussions are due to take place with representatives of the County Council in the near future to discuss these and other maintenance issues, including repairs to walkways and required maintenance to a number of village road signs.

In the meantime, after recently meeting with councillors, NCC officials have agreed to erect new signs on Bunkers Hill, just down from Whetherdays Nursery, and on Chapel Lane, near to the playing fields, urging motorists to drive slowly as they enter the village. Thirty m.p.h. "roundels" will also be painted in the road to remind drivers of the speed limit. The new signs will hopefully be in place before the end of the year. Additionally, we have been discussing with NCC the viability of restricting access to large trucks on some of our narrower roads.

An update will be provided in the next newsletter.

## **STREET LIGHTS**

During the latter half of 2012, the Parish Council was made aware of a number of streetlights which were in need of maintenance. Despite numerous contacts from the Parish Council and members of the public, these lights took an inordinate time to be repaired. To that end, the Parish Council has dispensed with the maintenance services of EON and now has a 'contract' with a private company. Therefore, could any street lighting issues now be reported directly to the Clerk of Badby Parish Council – either by email on [pc\\_badby@daventrydc.gov.uk](mailto:pc_badby@daventrydc.gov.uk) or by telephone on 01327 310245.

## **TREES**

A further inspection of the horse chestnut trees on The Green is due to be carried out in the coming weeks. The Parish Council is hopeful that recent major works as well as the erection of the fence around one of the trees will have served their purpose and are enabling both trees to recover from previous issues in order to be preserved for the enjoyment of the village for as long as possible. It goes without saying that the trees are a major focus of The Green and, therefore, the village.

Work also took place on removing one of the set of metal railings which had been protecting one of the Millennium trees. The railings will be re-sited on Pinfold Green in order to protect the royal oak tree planted last year to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

You may be aware that some of the trees behind the village hall and the hedge alongside it are to be removed under an insurance claim for damage caused by roots to the 1970's extension to the hall. An inspection of the area behind the village hall showed the presence of Japanese knotweed. This is an invasive weed with information widely available on the internet. The Parish Council was originally informed that the insurers would arrange for the safe removal of the knotweed as part of the village hall claim. However, the insurance company has since decided otherwise. Therefore, as a matter of urgency, the Parish Council is now in contact with a number of specialist contractors and is in the process of obtaining quotes for carrying out the works in order to get the work done as soon as possible. Updates will be given at Parish Council meetings.

## **VILLAGE PLAN**

### **HELP TO SHAPE THE FUTURE OF BADBY**

How important to you are community areas in Badby - village hall, church, greens, pubs, school, playing field, etc?

In 1990, a number of dedicated Badby residents put together a fascinating document, an "appraisal" of the village\*, covering its history, environment, buildings and community. As that was almost 25 years ago, we want to gather as many views as possible about what is important to people in Badby and its surroundings – today, and in the future.

We are holding an event to discuss the idea and gather views on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July from 16.30 p.m. onwards, at The Windmill at Badby. There will be free buffet food for all attending! You will learn about Badby's history, and be part of shaping its future. We want to listen, to hear your opinions and feedback. We want YOU to tell us what's important to you in Badby and its surroundings. We need a mix of ages, views and experience – a cross section of our community as well as its regular visitors and amenity users. Families are especially welcome – we want your children's input!

For anyone who can't make the Sunday, we will also be there on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July from 18.00.

If you want to see what it's all about, then join us at The Windmill, to listen, to be interactive, to give us your opinions and feedback - and then decide if you want to get involved in how Badby might look in the future!

To be kept informed of developments in Badby in the future related to this event, send your e-mail address to [badbyfuture@btinternet.com](mailto:badbyfuture@btinternet.com). This will only be used for updates and information, and NOT used for any other marketing purpose.

Andy Witcomb

\*This document will be available for anyone to view in PDF on the website [www.badby.org.uk](http://www.badby.org.uk)

## **OTHER PARISH NEWS**

### **BADBY AND FAWSLEY WI**

Badby and Fawsley Women's Institute is part of the Northamptonshire Federation and was first formed in 1918. It has come a long way since the days of Lady Knightley.

This year has seen our membership increase to more than 60 ladies, some of whom travel from as far as East and West Haddon, Preston Capes, Watford and Daventry. We are a very welcoming and fun loving group who meet at 7:30pm on the second Thursday of each month.

Our programme secretary and committee always work hard to produce an entertaining programme for the year and make sure that members have an enjoyable evening. Our meetings so far in 2013 have included talks on the History of Bone China, Country customs, Hearing Dogs for the deaf and a flower arranging demonstration. The full WI programme for 2013 can be found on the Badby Village Website and on the WI Notice Board in the Village Hall, and reminders for the current month are include in the 'Link'.

Each year we enter a team in the Northamptonshire skittles league and this year we came second in our division. Skittles continues throughout the year with practise sessions at the Red Lion in Hellidon and lunches (to discuss tactics I am told) at various pubs around the county.

If you know anyone who would like to join us please give me (Kate Earley) a ring on 01327 700544.

Kate Earley  
President Badby and Fawsley WI

### **BADBY & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

Our programme of events for 2013 started with our Wine and Quiche Evening on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February. The event was full to capacity and our speaker, Laurence Conisbee from Virtual Orchard, gave an enjoyable and informative talk, with more than a hint of humour, on the art of cider making which was very well received by all. Several new members joined the Society at the event.

Our next event was a coach trip to the Malvern Spring Show, which was attended by 26 members. The weather was not at its kindest and I, for one, wish I had dressed for winter more than spring. That said, we all had a good day and enjoyed the exhibits and stalls. I would like to thank those that volunteered to help out at our plant sale on 19<sup>th</sup> May, as we couldn't have run the event without you. The weather was good and we did a fair trade in refreshments for tired walkers, not so well on the actually selling plant side unfortunately! Other events being held this year are our Annual Show on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September, our AGM Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October and hopefully another Christmas Craft Evening date tba, as last year's was a great success.

With regards to the Annual Show being held on Sunday, September 1<sup>st</sup>; below are the recipes for two cakes which are shown below so that you can practise.

Recipe for Lemon Drizzle Cake to be used for Class 62:

100g / 4oz soft margarine  
175g/ 6oz caster sugar  
175g/ 6oz self-raising flour  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
2 eggs  
4 tablespoons milk  
finely grated rind of 1 lemon

For crunchy topping:

Juice of 1 lemon  
100g / 4oz granulated sugar  
Preheat oven to 180 deg C / 350 deg F

Grease and line base of 18cm / 7 inch round cake tin with greased greaseproof paper.

Measure all ingredients into a bowl and beat well for 2 minutes until smooth.

Turn mixture into the prepared tin and level the surface.

Bake in pre-heated oven for 35 – 40 minutes or until the cake has shrunk from the sides of the tin and springs back when lightly touched.

Whilst the cake is baking, make the topping. Measure the lemon juice and sugar into a bowl, mix well and when the cake comes out of the oven spread the topping over the top immediately. Leave until cold and then remove from the tin and remove the paper.

Recipe for Shortbread to be used for Class 63:

270g / 9 oz Plain flour  
90g / 3 oz Caster sugar  
180g / 6 oz Butter  
Mix flour and sugar in a bowl, rub in butter  
Knead well to form a smooth paste

Roll out until about ½ inch thick and cut into fingers

Bake in oven at 160°C, or equivalent, for 20-25 minutes, until pale golden colour. Cut into rectangles

The titles for the Photography this year will be: Adverse weather, Humour, Light and dark, Views from abroad, Village life.

Details of all our events are included in the monthly editions of the Link, on Facebook, on the Badby website and on Membership cards

Membership fees remain at £3.00 per person or £5.00 for two living at the same address.

For membership enquiries please contact 01327 872118

Zelda Shapter, Chair Person

### **BELLRINGING at BADBY**

The bells have been rung on a number of occasions recently and, indeed, children from Badby School have been receiving bell ringing lessons on a regular basis.

Geoff Pullin, Tower Captain

### **DAVENTRY EXPRESS CORRESPONDENT**

Thanks to several regular providers of information, I am able to keep a weekly input to the Village and District Diary feature of the Daventry Express. Special thanks go to Richard Piner for providing a monthly update of Badby bird notes.

Please send news of future events, their results and personal celebrations weeks in advance if possible to Geoff Pullin (at [gcsspullin@yahoo.com](mailto:gcsspullin@yahoo.com) or on 01327 871806 or at 25 The Glebe). I have a system so things don't very often get forgotten. My deadline is usually Sunday evening for the following Thursday's edition of the newspaper

Geoff Pullin

Correspondent

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

It has been a quiet year with the following crimes reported over this period in Badby

Burglary Other (from sheds etc, not homes) 2

Theft from motor vehicles 2

Theft handling 5 all due to incidents at Badby Park

The Police Community Panel has again identified speeding on the A361 as the priority for this area.

New Neighbourhood Watch signs are being purchasing for the village. The ones on The Green and Neneside will be replaced and, probably, a new one erected on Pound Lane.

The sign from the pole outside the Old Post Office has been cleaned and will be re-hung and the one on Church Green which was covered in ivy will be taken down.

We are looking for new members, preferably a bit younger than the existing active members and, in particular, someone to volunteer for the chair.

Denis Wilson

### **POLICE**

If anyone witnesses any suspicious activity near their home, they should report it to the Police on 101. If anyone suspects there is an intruder in their home they should call 999 immediately.

Anyone who would like crime prevention advice, can contact Northamptonshire Police on 101 or their local Safer Community Team via our online contact form at

[www.northants.police.uk](http://www.northants.police.uk) and click on Do It Online button.

Here is some useful crime prevention advice:

- Invest in a safe and ensure that it is secretly fixed to a brick wall.
- Alternatively, consider using a bank safety deposit box to store gold or high value jewellery.
- When wearing jewellery in public, be cautious and discreet to avoid attracting unwanted attention.
- Photograph each piece of valuable gold or jewellery with a written description - this will help in appealing for information and returning it to you if it is stolen. Ensure you also have an agreed valuation from your insurance company.
- Make sure your jewellery is marked with a product appropriate for use on jewellery - visit [www.securedbydesign.com](http://www.securedbydesign.com) for property marking products.
- Remember to lock all external windows and doors including rear and side entrances when you go out.
- Consider joining your local Neighbourhood Watch Scheme or, if there is no local scheme, why not start your own?
- Review your current home security arrangements to ensure that they are adequate. When addressing security, consider the value of your belongings kept within the home.

Telephone numbers to remember.

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Emergency (crime in progress):                  | 999              |
| Any other contact with Northamptonshire Police: | 101              |
| Dedicated Police Neighbourhood Watch Line:      | 432436           |
| Crime Stoppers (to remain anonymous):           | 0800 555 111     |
| Doorstep Action Network (DAN):                  | 0345 023 070 702 |

[SCTDaventryRural@northants.police.uk](mailto:SCTDaventryRural@northants.police.uk)

PCSO 7005 Carl Barton

## **THE LINK**

The team organised by Alan Roddis, delivers a copy of the Knightley Parishes magazine free to every house in Badby each month. Please support the advertisers who cover the printing costs. The magazine is not confined to church material. Societies and clubs can contribute items or future diary dates to Geoff Pullin as a 'one stop shop' for the Link and The Gusher. Paid advertisements in the magazine can be arranged through Sharon Maplethorpe on 01327 263857.

## **VILLAGE HALL**

The Village Hall Committee would like to thank everyone who baked cakes and helped serve teas over the spring bank holiday weekend. Thanks to your efforts, and the generosity of our visitors, we raised £940 for village hall funds.

A small committee of unpaid individuals and representatives from regular user groups undertake management of the hall, giving their time and energies to oversee administration and organise fund raising events to maintain the fabric of the building. In February, we were fortunate to gain the assistance of the 'Cummins Project Team' and thank them for painting the walls in the main hall. Last year we noticed cracking in the walls of the Committee Room and hopefully our insurance claim will soon be settled and the remedial work for repairs to the 1974 extension will start.

At the end of last year, Susan Levett gave up the role of Caretaker. The Management Committee thank her for all of the tender loving care that she has bestowed on the Village

Hall over the last 10 years and welcome Catrina Signey who has taken on the caretaker role.

The Village Hall is a community facility and is available for hire by individuals and local societies/clubs/interest groups at a modest charge – regular hall use continues to increase, we now have an additional daytime “Zumba” class and an early evening Junior Martial Arts class. There are still some times available during the day, but evening bookings are becoming congested - contact Susan Levett on 872117 for more details/availability and/or to make a booking.

The Management Committee asks for your help and support and, of course, donations are always welcome. Contact the treasurer, Dick Earley (700544), for details of Gift Aid donations.

Badby Village Hall Management Committee

## **WEBSITE**

Over the next few months we will be developing a new site which will be much more interactive and will enable authorised editors to contribute, have links with facebook and allow comments etc to be posted

The current website address is: [www.badby.org.uk](http://www.badby.org.uk).

Denis Wilson

## **GENERAL**

### **Dog owners**

Would dog owners please be responsible when walking their animals and keep their dogs on leads when in fields where there are sheep. Would dog walkers also make sure that when dog fouling occurs, it is picked up and disposed of in the bins provided at various areas around the village or taken home and placed in the domestic waste bins. There are several dog bins around the village. A new bin has recently been erected on Church Green.

## **Next issue**

The next issue of Badby Parish News will be published at the end of December 2013. Anyone wishing to contribute an article should contact Sharon Foster (Email: [pc\\_badby@daventrydc.gov.uk](mailto:pc_badby@daventrydc.gov.uk) or Telephone: 01327 310245).

The views expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily represent those of the Parish Council unless expressly stated. Edited and produced by Sharon Foster – Clerk on behalf of Badby Parish Council.

# BADBY PARISH NEWS

Winter 2013

## PARISH COUNCIL

### COUNCILLORS

Since the last newsletter, Neville Snell has been co-opted onto the Parish Council and so we are once again at complete complement. Below is the list of your Parish Councillors, a contact telephone number and any area of special interest which they have been assigned.

|                              |        |  |
|------------------------------|--------|--|
| Mike Richards (Chairman)     | 872116 | Trees, Greens, Cemetery, Playing Field |
| Karen Alexander              | 310780 | Rights of Way, Village Hall            |
| Gary Bell                    | 878821 | Trees                                  |
| John Collins                 | 438693 | Roads & Safety, Village hall           |
| Peter Cooper (Vice Chairman) | 703292 | Greens                                 |
| Richard Piner                | 704093 | Cemetery                               |
| Nev Snell                    |        |  |
| Martin Walton                | 300176 | Roads & Safety                         |
| Andy Witcomb                 | 872010 | Rights of Way, Playing Field           |

Meetings due to take place in 2014 are:

|                            |                            |                           |                           |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 13 <sup>th</sup> January,  | 10 <sup>th</sup> February, | 10 <sup>th</sup> March,   | 14 <sup>th</sup> April,   |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> May,      | 9 <sup>th</sup> June,      | 14 <sup>th</sup> July,    | 11 <sup>th</sup> August,  |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> September, | 13 <sup>th</sup> October,  | 10 <sup>th</sup> November | 8 <sup>th</sup> December. |

Meetings are usually held on the second Monday in each month, starting at 7.30pm, with the agenda and draft minutes being published on the two noticeboards in the village on the first Monday of the month. There is one noticeboard on Pinfold Green and another opposite The Windmill. If, for any reason, a meeting is postponed, a notice stating so is usually posted on the noticeboards. Extraordinary meetings may be held on occasion and, on these occasions, notices will also be posted on the noticeboards.

Members of the public are invited to attend meetings and are invited to bring matters to the attention of the Parish Council during two Public Participation items on the agenda.

### CEMETERY

The mowing contract for the cemetery finishes at the end of this year and the Parish Council is in the process of recruiting a new contractor.

The Parish Council has been trying to contact relatives of those whose headstones have had to be laid down for safety reasons with some success and so some headstones have been repaired. A decision will be made about how to deal with others.

### FINANCE

During 2013 the Parish Council has had to meet some large costs, in particular for the removal of the Japanese knotweed on the Green behind the Village Hall and for extensive maintenance work on all the trees. While we had been building up a contingency in anticipation of the latter, the costs on the knotweed were high and unexpected, and have severely depleted our contingency.

The costs of looking after the trees, Greens and verges is high – £8,650 of our £14,000 Precept in 2012/13 was budgeted for maintenance of the Greens, verges, trees, burial grounds and playing field – and because of the knotweed the actual expenditure will be even higher. But these costs are essential – the trees and Greens contribute greatly to the overall look and attractiveness of Badby which we all value and wish to preserve.

However, the fact is that the level of our contingency at the end of this financial year will not be sufficient to ensure that future major or emergency work could be undertaken. This is a particular worry in respect to the chestnut trees on The Green, whose condition will inevitably deteriorate. The Parish Council has discussed these matters at its meetings. It has looked at its finances over the next 4 years and has concluded that two areas of its discussions, although not affecting the village immediately, should be raised now and views and comments sought.

First, on the matter of the chestnut trees, the Parish Council is monitoring both trees on an annual basis. This is a significant cost in itself, and the Parish Council has concluded that, when the monitoring reports advise that further major works are needed to either tree for safety reasons, then consideration should be given at that point to having that tree taken down. In the meantime, the Parish Council is looking at how to

ensure that The Green retains its character for future generations to enjoy by planting replacement trees well in advance of any action.

Second, the Parish Council funds must be replenished so that, were there to be a need for further major unexpected expenditure, then that could be met. The Parish Council has looked to see where savings can be made, and some savings have been achieved through cuts in costs and by new contracts for work. In contrast to larger Councils, over 60% of our expenditure goes on essential services – the greens, trees, burial grounds, playing field and lighting – with limited discretionary spending, so the opportunity for making significant savings is limited.

Regretfully, therefore, the Parish Council has decided that from next April it needs to raise the Precept (the portion of the Council Tax paid by each house that is used to fund the Parish Council) over the next three years to rebuild a contingency for future costs. We plan to raise the Precept by £1,500 in 2014/15 (around 10%) with the expectation of further increases of £750 in each of 2015/16 and 2016/17 (these will be subject to review in the light of any changes before then). The decision is not one that the Parish Council has taken easily – the precept forms only a small part of the total Council Tax we each pay, but we are very aware that, in the current economy, any increase will hit families and individuals. But the Parish Council concluded that it is essential if it is to be able to continue to manage and maintain the village.

Both these matters are, we know, important to residents of Badby, and we would be pleased to hear comments from any parishioner. Please send them to the Clerk or submit them via the website ([www.badbyvillage.com](http://www.badbyvillage.com)).

## **GREENS**

As you will know, the greens and verges were badly damaged last winter, owing to the snow and rain. A group of Councillors and residents was active in the spring, repairing the damage and taking steps to deter further damage on Bunkers Hill and by the churchyard.

It is disappointing to us all, we are sure, that already a heavy truck has knocked down the wooden post on the corner of Bunkers Hill/Main Street and a further truck has driven over the edge of The Green on Main Street. Both will be repaired again soon. There will be a need for a temporary, and inevitably rather unattractive, barrier along the edge of The Green while the soil settles again.

The increase in the number of cars, and their size, means that there is a greater risk of damage. Trucks coming to the village seem to be larger and more frequent too. The Parish Council is looking at ways that it can reduce the number of HGVs passing through, but that is unlikely to be significant.

It would be helpful if we could we all give thought, please, to how we can help to avoid further damage:

Please ask anyone you see who is parking on the Greens not to do so – we have some small notices that can be put under the windscreens of offending vehicles if needed.

If you see a large vehicle causing damage, please take its number – we can report any damage to the police.

When parking, please ensure that there is plenty of room for large vehicles to pass – it may be legal to park there, but is it wise?

We would welcome other thoughts and suggestions on how these problems might be addressed.

## **PLANNING**

The Parish Council continues to be part of the planning process and is consulted on every planning application within the parish. Any comments, either supporting or objecting to an application, are decided at Parish Council meetings and are then forwarded to the Planning Officer for consideration. Planning applications can be viewed at Daventry District Council's website.

One of the most notable applications during the last few months has been the re-submitted wind turbine application at Furlong Farm. Although this was turned down by Daventry District Council's Planning Committee, an appeal has been lodged with the Planning Inspectorate which will be heard on 12<sup>th</sup> February at Daventry District Council's offices.

## **PLAYING FIELD**

If anyone knows where the green bin for the playing field has disappeared to, could they either please arrange for its return or contact the Clerk of the Parish Council.

The use of the Playing Field by residents appears to be mainly for leisure and/or dog walking. The cricket field is well used in summer, of course, but little use is now made of the football field, or the BMX track. The BMX track is in need of repairs, and discussions have been held with local interested people about this. We would now welcome views from Badby residents and local users of the playing field about the future of the BMX cycle track. Whether it is reinstated to its original standard, or removed, monies and volunteer labour are both essential.

All views and suggestions are welcomed. Use the website to post views on the Badby Village Facebook page, or contact Andy Witcomb.

## **RIGHTS OF WAY**

The local footpaths are increasingly well used by parishioners, visitors and increasing numbers of leisure walkers, who come to visit the woods, and walk the Knightley Way. Four stiles in the parish have been re-constructed or repaired in 2013, and we encourage all walkers to report damaged or dangerous stiles to the footpath warden.

Northants County Council are responsible for all maintenance of local Rights of Way, and generally respond well to repair requests. Repairs to the flood damage in March to the "Cherry Lane" path towards the woods was a good example of this.

A map of all local Rights of Way is available free from the footpath warden, and you can now see much more about local walks on the new Badby website <http://badbyvillage.com/in-and-around-badby/walking-in-and-around-badby/>.

Please enjoy the local outdoors in 2014, and let me know of any paths needing some maintenance of any kind.

Andy Witcomb

## **ROADS AND SAFETY**

At the request of the parish council, NCC have carried out a number of road repairs and improvements in recent months. "Please drive slowly" village entry signs have been erected at the top of Bunkers Hill and on Chapel Lane. Road markings throughout the village, including those outside the school, have been refreshed, and 30mph "roundels" have been painted on Bunkers Hill and Chapel Lane just below the new entry signs. Repairs have been carried out to the wall and steps in Pound Lane, and the timber-faced steps on the woodland walk off Chapel Lane have been completely renewed.

More generally, the badly worn and eroded verge just below The Banks and several potholes in Main Street have been repaired, roadside reflector posts on Main Street and Bunkers Hill have been straightened up, and a number of road signs around the village have been cleaned and ivy and other vegetation removed from them. The bus shelters on Pinfold Green have also had a tidy-up, with most of the graffiti cleaned off.

On the A361, opposite the Bunkers Hill turning into Badby, a new "Local access only" sign advises drivers that the road is unsuitable for HGVs. This will hopefully reduce the number of lorries coming through the village.

The Parish Council itself has taken action to reinstate some of the damaged grass verges in the village, notably at the bottom of Bunkers Hill, on The Green and on Church Green, and wooden posts have been erected to protect some of the verges from future damage. Although some of this work is the responsibility of Northamptonshire County Council, the Parish Council was made very aware that NCC would not be able to carry out the works due to budgetary restrictions. Parish Council notices around the village remind residents and visitors to Badby that parking on the greens is strictly prohibited.

## **TREES**

Another inspection report has been carried out on the main chestnut tree on The Green. It shows that the tree has the rate of decay has slowed significantly. Regular inspections will continue. An inspection of all trees under the responsibility of the Parish Council will also be carried out shortly.

## **A VISION FOR BADBY**

Following on from the consultation events at The Windmill, a group, with a wider representation than the Parish Councillors who started the initiative, is meeting in January to look at the pros and cons of a new Badby Plan, and the issues it might attempt to address. At this stage the group will be asking questions, not deciding on the outcome, as the decision on what should be done, and with what objective, must be one that has general consensus across the village.

## **OTHER PARISH NEWS**

### **BADBY AND FAWSLEY WI**

Badby and Fawsley Women's Institute are a welcoming and fun loving group of ladies who meet at 7:30pm on the second Thursday of each month in Badby village hall. Our membership continues to increase and we always welcome anyone new. Members come from far and wide to enjoy our interesting and entertaining programme.

Our programme secretary and committee work hard to produce a programme that ensures members have 12 memorable evenings throughout the year. From January, the full programme for 2014 can be found on the Badby and Fawsley Women's Institute page of the Badby Village Website and on the WI Notice Board in the Village Hall. Reminders for the current month can be found in the 'Link'.

Each year we enter a team in the Northamptonshire WI skittles league and social games continue throughout the year. Practise sessions are held at the Red Lion in Hellidon and lunches (to discuss tactics I am told) at various pubs around the county. If you know anyone who would like to join us please give me (Kate Earley) a ring on 01327 700544.

Kate Earley, President Badby and Fawsley WI

### **BADBY FAYRE 2014**

The next fayre will be on Sunday, September 7, 2014, coinciding with the annual horticultural show. It will be organised by the St Mary's Church to raise money for maintenance of the building and to have a good community event.

To mark the centenary of the start of the first world war, the church will host a display of the stories now being researched for each of the 23 village men killed in the two world wars.

Initial arrangements for a brass band and Morris dancers are in hand and volunteers to run stalls, games, and all the usual features on The Green, which is closed to traffic for the afternoon, will be sought soon. There is usually a display of veteran agricultural machinery in Fennell's field to raise money for the air ambulance.

Volunteers and good ideas please contact Geoff Pullin.

Geoff Pullin

### **BADBY & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

The Annual Show was held on 1<sup>st</sup> September was again enjoyed by all that attended, and was well supported, although it was another tricky gardening year. Many thanks to all who exhibited, and to those who didn't there is always next year...

Awards presented at the show were:

The Felton Perpetual Challenge Cup for the highest aggregate of points in all classes – Zelda Shapter

Floral – Zelda Shapter

Flower Arranging – Pauline Bird

Garden Produce – Sue Ingham

The Royal Horticultural Society's Banksian Medal – Zelda Shapter

Percy Warr Cup – Sue Ingham

Fred Payne Cup for onions – Geoff Jennings

Best in Show – Hilary Mensah (a cabbage)

Sue Papworth Cup – Carole Pullin

Home Produce – Christine Jennings

Craftwork – Sandra Cleaver

Photography – Roger Alexander

Christine Payne Cup – Emilia Shaw

Congratulations to all of those above and others who won class prizes. Many thanks to those who entered, helped, made the marquee available, judged, served teas and donated cakes. If there is

an area of exhibit which you feel is not covered adequately by the Show's current classes, please let us know, we are always open to new ideas.

On 18<sup>th</sup> October we held our AGM and Quiz Night held. A resolution was made at the AGM to increase membership fees for the first time in many years, this decision was not taken lightly, and was voted for by the majority of members present. Fees for the coming year will, therefore, be £5 for single membership and £9 for joint membership (same address). The Committee were all re-elected, no new committee members volunteered, its not too late.....

The AGM was followed by a quiz. A very big thank you to The Windmill Inn for their very generous donation of £40 of vouchers redeemable against a meal for 4. Eight teams entered, with the Rose Buddies, fighting to retain their title, unfortunately it was not to be. This year's winners were Mass Attacks who won by only 1 point. Thanks to all of you who took part and we hope you enjoyed yourselves.

The Committee met in November to discuss the 2014 programme and a provisional programme of events for 2014 is as follows

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Quiche & Wine Evening | Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April           |
| Plant Sale            | Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> May 2014       |
| Outing                | June/July tba                          |
| Annual Show           | Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> September 2014  |
| AGM                   | Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> November       |
| Xmas Crafts           | Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2014 |

All dates to be confirmed. Up-to-Date Details of all our events can be found in the Link, on Facebook, <http://badbyvillage.com/badby-horticultural-society/> and on Membership cards For membership enquiries please contact 01327 872118 or [zelda@peteshapter.co.uk](mailto:zelda@peteshapter.co.uk)  
Zelda Shapter, BDHS Chair

### **BELLRINGING at BADBY**

Badby bells have been rung on 105 occasions during 2013 by 46 different people including all 13 Year Six children from Badby School who each had lessons on Tuesday afternoons. We average 11 on practice night and socialise at the Windmill afterwards. On Sundays we struggle to ring all six bells due to holidays, physical complaints and other commitments! We need more recruits from 10 years upwards from the village to share in the fascinations of this traditional English physical, mental and social exercise. Our basic training sessions usually start at 6.45pm on Wednesdays with 'noisy' practice from 7.30pm. Do come and have a go!

Geoff Pullin, Tower Captain

### **DAVENTRY EXPRESS CORRESPONDENT**

Thanks to several regular providers of information, I am able to keep a weekly input to the Village and District Diary feature of the Daventry Express. Special thanks go to Richard Piner for providing a monthly update of Badby bird notes.

Please send news of future events, their results and personal celebrations weeks in advance if possible to Geoff Pullin (at [gcsspullin@yahoo.com](mailto:gcsspullin@yahoo.com) or on 01327 871806 or at 25 The Glebe). I have a system so things don't very often get forgotten. My deadline is usually Sunday evening for the following Thursday's edition of the newspaper

Geoff Pullin, Correspondent

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

Another quiet few months with little crime on the Staverton Beat.

We hold meetings twice a year in April and October which last about 40 minutes and provide a good opportunity to meet our PCSO Carl Barton.

The next Staverton Community Panel meeting will be on January 23rd at 6.00pm in the Cross Tree, Byfield when policing priorities are agreed with our PCSOs. Anyone may attend.

If you would like to join Badby NHW please contact Viv on 704521 and you can be included in the local police email updates and advice.

Useful Contacts

Report a crime committed, suspicious incident or information phone 101

Our PCSO is Carl Barton on 03000 111 222 extension 8755 or on 07557778004

Emergencies such as a crime in progress phone 999

Denis Wilson

## **POLICE**

With Christmas around the corner, please be extra vigilant. Leave nothing on show in your car as opportunists are on the look out at this time of year. The increased value of precious metals, including gold, means high value jewellery has become a target for criminals.

If anyone witnesses any suspicious activity near their home, they should report it to the Police on 101. If anyone suspects there is an intruder in their home they should call 999 immediately.

Anyone who would like crime prevention advice, can contact Northamptonshire Police on 101 or their local Safer Community Team via our online contact form at [www.northants.police.uk](http://www.northants.police.uk) and click on Do It Online button.

Here is some useful crime prevention advice:

- Invest in a safe and ensure that it is secretly fixed to a brick wall.
- Alternatively, consider using a bank safety deposit box to store gold or high value jewellery.
- When wearing jewellery in public, be cautious and discreet to avoid attracting unwanted attention.
- Photograph each piece of valuable gold or jewellery with a written description - this will help in appealing for information and returning it to you if it is stolen. Ensure you also have an agreed valuation from your insurance company.
- Make sure your jewellery is marked with a product appropriate for use on jewellery - visit [www.securedbydesign.com](http://www.securedbydesign.com) for property marking products.
- Remember to lock all external windows and doors including rear and side entrances when you go out.
- Consider joining your local Neighbourhood Watch Scheme or, if there is no local scheme, why not start your own?
- Review your current home security arrangements to ensure that they are adequate. When addressing security, consider the value of your belongings kept within the home.

Telephone numbers to remember.

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Emergency (crime in progress):                  | 999              |
| Any other contact with Northamptonshire Police: | 101              |
| Dedicated Police Neighbourhood Watch Line:      | 432436           |
| Crime Stoppers (to remain anonymous):           | 0800 555 111     |
| Doorstep Action Network (DAN):                  | 0345 023 070 702 |

[SCTDaventryRural@northants.police.uk](mailto:SCTDaventryRural@northants.police.uk)

PCSO 7005 Carl Barton

## **ST. MARY'S CHURCH**

As you may be aware, we suffered two thefts of lead from the Church roof in close succession during 2011. After many months of discussions with the Diocesan architects and local planners we finally received approval to repair the roof with terne-coated stainless steel which is less expensive and less attractive to thieves. This was possible because the area of roof in question is not visible other than from the bell-tower. Two years after the original thefts, the repairs were finally completed in June 2013 at a total cost of around £16,000. The only remaining area of roof not finished in tiles is on the south side which is in full view from the road and is fitted with copper. For this reason, the PCC decided against the additional investment of fitting a roof alarm.

Following a risk assessment by the insurers, the PCC also felt it would be prudent to lock away between church services some easily removable brass items such as the altar cross and candlesticks, which might otherwise be a temptation to the casual thief. However, we feel quite strongly that the Church should continue to remain open during daylight hours. In fact Ecclesiastical Insurance recommends that, where appropriate, churches are kept open because of the positive effect this has on security. An open church looks more cared for, it attracts more visitors and interest from the community and therefore generates increased "eyes and ears" locally, and legitimate visitors deter theft and vandalism. So please, help us keep Badby Church safe and secure by watching for any unusual activity and reporting it to one of the Churchwardens, the Tower Captain Geoff Pullin, or any member of the PCC.

Sarah Hartland-Swann (tel. 872193)

Geoff Pullin (tel. 871806)

## **STREET LIGHTING REPAIRS**

The Parish Council took the decision earlier this year to dispense with the services of EON for street lighting maintenance and now has an arrangement with a local contractor. This should mean a cost saving to the Parish Council as it will only pay when necessary instead of the previous arrangement with EON. There is a standard call out fee and so the Parish Council has taken the decision to generally have 3 street lights not working before requesting attendance. If you know of a streetlight which isn't working, please contact the Clerk: Tel 01327 310245 or email [pc\\_badby@daventrydc.gov.uk](mailto:pc_badby@daventrydc.gov.uk).

## **THE LINK**

The team organised by Alan Roddis, delivers a copy of the Knightley Parishes magazine free to every house in Badby each month. Please support the advertisers who cover the printing costs. The magazine is not confined to church material. Societies and clubs can contribute items or future diary dates to Geoff Pullin as a 'one stop shop' for the Link and The Gusher. Paid advertisements in the magazine can be arranged through Sharon Foster who can be contacted on 07526 248501 or [knightleybenefice@aol.co.uk](mailto:knightleybenefice@aol.co.uk).

## **VILLAGE HALL**

Under the guidance of their new chairman, Ian Bromwich, a small committee of unpaid individuals and representatives from regular user groups undertake management of the hall, giving their time and energies to oversee administration and organise fund raising events to maintain the fabric of the building. After many years Susan Levett has decided to retire from the role of Bookings Secretary, the committee thank her for her contribution to the running of the village hall and welcome Catrina Signey who has taken over the Bookings role.

A big thank you goes to St Mary's Church, Badby & Fawsley WI, Badby & District Film Society and Badby & District Horticultural Society who have each sponsored and planted out a planter in the village hall courtyard. The winter displays have already made the village hall entrance much more attractive.

The Village Hall Committee were delighted with the success of the Jazz with Fish & Chips evening in June and have booked the singer, Mellow Baku, for another concert in 2014 – watch out for details as places are limited and tickets sold out in 2 weeks this year.

Early last year we noticed cracking in the walls of the committee room and kitchen. We can report that our insurance claim has been settled and the remedial work for repairs to the 1974 extension completed. The offending hedge and sycamore tree on the village green have been removed but, due to the discovery of Japanese Knotweed, it was not possible to remove the stumps. The committee have asked the insurers to extend the existing fencing to enclose the village hall courtyard and provide a screen for the rubbish bins, and it is hoped that in due course it will be possible to grind out the stumps.

The Village Hall is a community facility and is available for hire by individuals and local societies/clubs/interest groups at a modest charge. There are a few times available for regular bookings during the day, but evening slots are becoming congested - contact Catrina Signey on 879137 for more details/availability and/or to make a booking.

The Management Committee asks for your help and support and, of course, donations are always welcome. Contact the treasurer, Dick Earley (700544), for details of Gift Aid donations.

Badby Village Hall Management Committee

## **BADBY VILLAGE WEBSITE**

The new interactive village website [www.badbyvillage.com](http://www.badbyvillage.com) is fully operational. Villagers may now make comments and follow us on Facebook. Geoff Pullin and Zelda Shaptor are now helping contributing posts on the home page.

Please let us know if you would like your society or club details adding and please let us know of any events you will be holding so we can add them to the site. You may contact us

at [badbyvillage2013@gmail.com](mailto:badbyvillage2013@gmail.com)

Andy Witcomb, Ann Skinner and Denis Wilson

## **GENERAL**

### **Badby village news reporting**

I seem to have accumulated the tasks of reporting news about the village!

Please send dates and news of future events, their results and personal celebrations as early as possible to me, Geoff Pullin (at [gcsspullin@yahoo.com](mailto:gcsspullin@yahoo.com) or on 01327 871806 or at 25 The Glebe) and I will submit them to any or all of these:

Deadlines are:

Badby Village website ([www.badbyvillage.com](http://www.badbyvillage.com)) – anytime.

Daventry Express (The Gusher) -Badby neighbourhood news column I - Sunday evening for the next Thursday edition

The Link – the 19<sup>th</sup> of the previous month

Paid advertisements for the Link can be arranged through Sharon Foster on 07526 248501 or [knightleybenefice@aol.co.uk](mailto:knightleybenefice@aol.co.uk)

### **Dog owners**

Concern has yet again been raised about irresponsible dog owners who continue not to clean up after their dogs. Daventry District Council has recently been piloting a programme whereby a cannister of fluorescent marker spray was provided to the Parish Council and any dog mess was sprayed. The spray fades after a couple of days but the impact it had was to decrease the occurrence of dog mess on the whole. The plot has now been extended to all villages wishing to take part and the Parish Council has taken delivery of one cannister. Discussion on the matter will be had at the January 2014 meeting.

### **Fly the Flag for Northamptonshire**

A competition has been launched on Northamptonshire County Council's website to find a flag for Northamptonshire. The contest is open to schools, community groups or individuals to design a flag which they believe best represents the county. All entries will be assessed by a panel of judges, including a representative from The Flag Institute in London and a Professor in cultural studies, and a final five designs will be put to a public vote.

Chairman of the county council Cllr Joan Kirkbride said: "Over the past two years here in the UK we have had ample opportunities to get out there and wave flags. Whether it has been to celebrate the Royal Wedding, the Queen's Diamond Jubilee or supporting our Olympic heroes. "The Parliamentary Flags and Heraldry Committee is now encouraging communities across the country to get involved and register their own flags. We think this is a golden opportunity for Northamptonshire to find a flag we can be proud of.

"We are looking for a flag which can help raise recognition of Northamptonshire across the country, express pride in our local community and celebrate the heritage and culture of our corner of the country."

People can find out full details of the competition by visiting [www.northamptonshire.gov.uk](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk). Here there are details of how to enter, closing dates for entry plus tips for any budding flag designers who want to take part.

Deadline for submissions is Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2014, with the winner being announced in May 2014.

### **World War 1 Commemorations**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2014 will be the centenary of the United Kingdom entering into the first World War. Daventry District Council and partners aim to commemorate this historical landmark by holding various commemorative events as from March through to November and Remembrance Sunday on the 9<sup>th</sup> November 2014 that will hopefully touch every age group within the district.

**May I, finally, take this opportunity of wishing you all, on behalf of myself and all your Parish Councillors, a very happy New Year.**



### **Next issue**

The next issue of Badby Parish News will be published at the end of June 2014. Anyone wishing to contribute an article should contact Sharon Foster (Email: [pc\\_badby@daventrydc.gov.uk](mailto:pc_badby@daventrydc.gov.uk) or Telephone: 01327 310245). The views expressed in this newsletter do

not necessarily represent those of the Parish Council unless expressly stated. Edited and produced by Sharon Foster – Clerk on behalf of Badby Parish Council.