

DENTON DIGEST

The Newsletter of Denton Parish Council



Issue No 5 – Spring 2021

Welcome

From The Denton Parish Council

Your Councillors

Cllr Sue Bellamy (Chair)
Cllr Vincent Aldred (Vice Chair)
Cllr Martin Crush
Cllr Paul Gibbins

Message from the Councillors

Welcome to our spring edition of the Parish Newsletter.

We must announce the resignation of Cllr Sarah Turtle from the Parish Council. Although Sarah has only been with the council for a short time her input and what she has achieved is a credit to her determination and commitment. She will be sorely missed and we all wish her well.

Thank you Sarah

We also welcome a new councillor. Paul Gibbins has kindly joined the Parish Council and look forward to working with him in the future.

With care we should be able to resume the regular meetings of the Parish Council in the village hall while observing a safe environment.

We will keep you informed; please watch out on the Parish website for updates and how to join in with one of our virtual (Zoom) meetings in the meantime.

Parish Council Vacancies

There are now three vacancies on the Parish Council. If you are interested and want more information on how you can get involved, please contact either the Parish Clerk or speak to one of the councillors.



All contact information can be found on the Parish Council website or by contacting the Parish Clerk.

Community and Village Matters

St Andrews Churchyard.

Following a review of the Parish finances, it was discovered that the grant being paid annually by the Parish Council to the

Parochial Church Council was not appropriate and may even not be lawful under the Local Government Act as the churchyard is classed as an open one and therefore remains the responsibility of the church authorities and the church council. Despite the fact that grants have been paid in the past, it is regretted that under the circumstances the Parish Council will no longer be able to support this. Although the Parish Council appreciate the efforts in maintain the churchyard, it must abide by the law regarding such use of its precept, which has remained unchanged for the last three years.

Denton Reservoir

The cover photo is the new bench installed by the Canal and River Trust working in partnership with Denton Parish Council and we hope it will continue to enhance the area.

As we move toward summer and easing of lockdown restrictions, it is expected that many will begin to visit the reservoir and canal area and with that will come the problem of littering. Sadly there will always be a minority who do not appreciate their actions. (Please see separate newsletter for full details concerning the situation of Denton Reservoir and responsibilities)

The council very much appreciate that the volunteer group are still active and to all the Volunteers keeping the reservoir tidy and safe, very many thanks and the majority appreciate your efforts.

Village Phone Kiosk – Defibrillator and Suggestions Box

You will all probably now be aware of the newly refurbished phone kiosk and that a new defibrillator has been installed to replace the old village hall one.



(Which has now been removed)
We are hoping that children from the school will be able to help with a new floor of

ceramic tiles with a design done by the children on each tile.

This was a joint effort by your Parish Councillors to ensure that the village retained a defibrillator in a readily accessible location. The joint efforts of restoring the phone kiosk and acquiring the defibrillator was recently recognised by BBC Radio Lincolnshire as part of their programme on the adoption of BT phone kiosks for £1 by local communities and the benefits of what they have been used for, in many cases, a defibrillator.

There is also now a community suggestions box in the kiosk to allow all the village to submit and suggestions for village improvements or concerns directly to the councillors.

School Parking

It will be evident from local media this is an issue for the whole district with Lincolnshire Police appealing to parents and guardians to be more aware of the problem the school runs create.

This is especially of concern in small communities with limited access we and would appeal to all for more care and consideration when parking around the school. It impacts across the whole village, and the Parish Council remain committed to doing what is within their limited power in addressing this issue with the co-operation of Lincolnshire Police and the school.

Village Play Area.

Plans are being looked at to refurbish the play area and new equipment installed that will benefit a range of ages.

Once these have been finalised and costings assessed along with what funding support is available, there will be a survey of the community by the council (assisted by Charlie Vickers) on the preferred options before any decision is made or finances committed.

Road Safety

A village walkabout was recently conducted by the Parish Council and a member of Lincolnshire County Council.

This looked at all aspect of road safety issues the effect the village with focus on:

- Vehicle Parking
- Improved signage
- SID Data and Speeding
- Establishing a Village Speedwatch scheme.

The Parish Council are looking at all the options that lie within their authority and the support available from road safety organisations.

Councillors know of the issues with speeding through the village and the number of LGV's using it as a short cut and continues to press this matter to the authorities.

A second, appropriate location for the SID was permitted by LCC Highways and once the location confirmed, it will allow the SID to be moved as and when necessary.

The data from the SID is being compiled by the council will be made readily available to the Police, LCC Highways and also published in our newsletters and the Parish website.

Hedges & Footway Obstructions.

It is apparent that some of the village footways are becoming obstructed by overgrowing hedges, especially Main St down to the corner where the footway is only along one side of the road.

The Parish Council appeals to all property owners to look to properly maintaining their boundaries, especially where they are adjacent to a footway.

The Parish Council will always try to deal with the matter locally, however Lincolnshire County Council can take enforcement action where hedges impact on their footways/highways and bill the property owner for the work.

Lincolnshire Police

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner has set up a regional Safer Together Team to work with the local communities in the county.

There are four posts and for North and South Kesteven, Maisie McMahon is our representative and based at Grantham Police Station.

The Parish Council will be working with Maisie to keep the police informed of those matters of concern to the community.

The overriding advice remains that you should report all non-emergency incidents to 101 to enable a record to be kept and recurring problems identified and investigated.

Dog thefts remain a concern to many and care should be taken, and where any attempt occurs, it should be reported to 101, or if an emergency situation, when 999 should be used.

With regards to the recent concerns regarding social media reports of attempted dog napping in the Grantham and surrounding areas.

Lincolnshire Police have issued the following statement:

“Whilst every case of dog theft is hugely distressing, we are today releasing figures which we hope will be of some reassurance to owners.

Our latest analysis shows that incidents are rare, and reducing, in our County.

*Recorded dog thefts have halved over the last year from 12 incidents to 2019/2020 to just 6 incidents in 2020/2021. *”*

Please come to us also with any information you have that could be connected with dog thefts, and continue to report any suspicious activity or individuals in your area. We will investigate and act on information received in order to return dogs to their owners and bring those responsible to justice.

In some cases dogs may be reported stolen but are actually just missing and, thankfully, are later reunited with their owner.

We work with the national voluntary organisation DogLost who can help if you are ever in this worrying position. Dog theft

can follow the advertising of dogs for sale so we advise caution when providing details like your address.”

*based on figures available for the financial year up to 23/03/21

Fly Tipping and Littering.

We are acutely aware of the incidents of fly tipping and although the Parish Council employs a Community Cleaner, they can only deal with limited amounts of more general litter.

Where we are notified, we report to SKDC and encourage others to report via the link on their web page:

[Fly-tipping \(southkesteven.gov.uk\)](https://www.southkesteven.gov.uk)

Dog Waste

The Parish Council continue to appeal to all dog owners to make use of the bins provided and ensure that the village is kept safe and tidy.

Please respect the others in the community and clean up after your dog. Thank you.



Future Plans

We all look forward to easing of COVID-19 restrictions and planning for future village activities and events. Please let us know if you are planning any activities for later in the year.

The Parish Council welcomes any items of interest or information you would like to see in future newsletter editions. If you have any items or suggestions, please forward them to the Parish Clerk at the email address below or use the new suggestions box.

Denton Parish Council

Email: dentonparishclerk@gmail.com

Website:

<https://denton.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/>

Printed on behalf of Denton Parish Council by Print Bureau Team, Grantham