

DENTON DIGEST

The Newsletter of Denton Parish Council



Denton Reservoir Special

As a Parish Council, we will always do our utmost to ensure our community is represented when and where there are matters of concern, one of these has been Denton Reservoir and the use and abuse it has suffered during the coronavirus epidemic.

Since March last year and throughout the periods of lockdown, the area around the reservoir has been the scene of littering and antisocial behaviour by visitors from outside the village.

In an effort to address the issues, the Parish Council actively pursued its concerns with the Canal and River Trust (C&RT), Lincolnshire Police, South Kesteven District Council and Lincolnshire County Council as well as the land owners and the angling society.

During this period the area has been maintained principally by a volunteer group made up of Denton residents, and it was only by their efforts the reservoir did not become overwhelmed with discarded litter, some of which included barbecue fires, drink bottles, cans and unfortunately, faeces.

To support the group, parish councillors contacted C&RT, who are responsible for the water and immediate surrounds in an effort to get the volunteer group formally recognised and supported. Initially this was agreed following a site meeting between all parties concerned. However C&RT have since reneged on some of their actions, citing staff changes and limited resources.

We have requested additional signage, litter bins and equipment to aid the volunteers and maintain their safety, and whilst signage has been promised, they will not supply bins (as their view is that bins discourage people taking litter away with them) or safety equipment.

The Parish Council have no authority or responsibility with regards the area as it is private land and while they will continue to support the volunteers as best they can, they have no authority to formally take action, which unfortunately includes the volunteer group.

It is regretted we cannot take a more active role with regards to the volunteer group but to do so would place the Parish Council in a difficult legal position should an incident or injury occur and it is hoped this will be understood.

We will continue to engage with C&RT in the hope they will take responsibility beyond the very basic of water level and quality conservation but it is proving difficult in getting any further action from them.

We requested action on the following points:

1. Provision by the C&RT of individual Life Preservers for the volunteer group working close to open water in addition to the Life Belts/Rings at the reservoir.
2. Update on provision of litter bins in the area, possibly in partnership with either SKDC or LCC for emptying.
3. Does the C&RT have a risk assessment in place for the reservoir and its use by the public, including the angling group.
4. What is the level of involvement with the C&RT by the angling group and if there is a formal agreement between them and C&RT regarding responsibilities for the general maintenance of the area including car parking facility.

5. What the actual level of responsibility C&RT have with regards the reservoir and its surrounds.

N.B: the land on which the reservoir is sited is leased to the C&RT and not owned by them. Equally the access road to the angling society car park is also private land and has no public right of way. See maps for public footpaths and access points.

Denton village, be it the Parish Council, volunteer group members and the wider village community cannot take responsibility from the C&RT

Useful Links

enquiries.eastmidlands@canalrivertrust.org.uk

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

Denton Parish Council

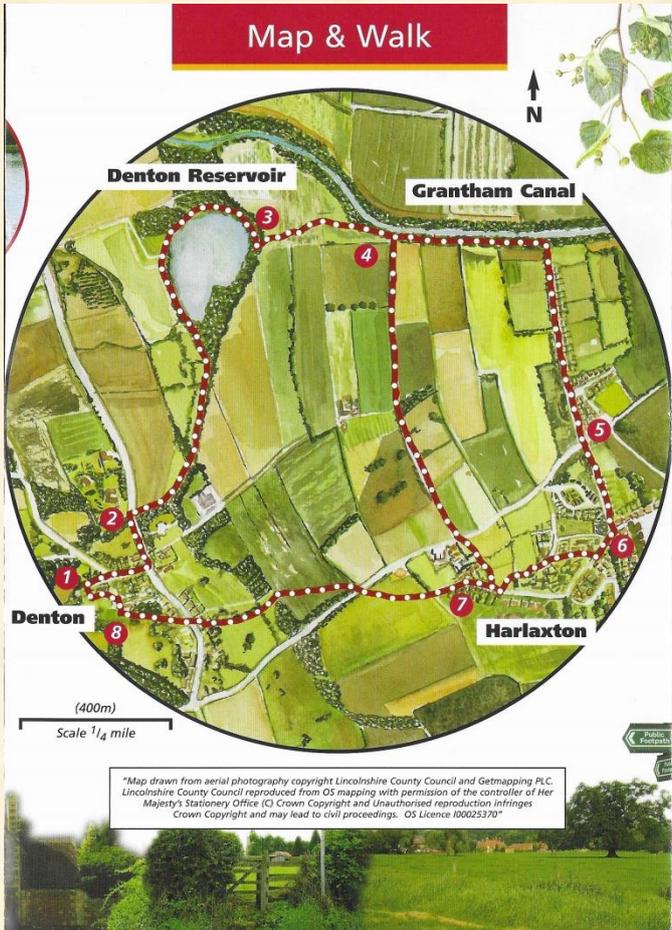
Email: dentonparishclerk@gmail.com

Website:

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

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Map & Walk



Be a responsible walker

Please remember the countryside is a place where people live and work and where wildlife makes its home. To protect the Lincolnshire countryside for other visitors please respect it and on every visit follow the Countryside Code. Thank you.

- Be safe - plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals, and take litter home
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people

Most of all enjoy your visit to the Lincolnshire countryside

This leaflet is one in a series of walk leaflets produced by Lincolnshire County Council's Conservation Services Section to help you explore and enjoy the County's countryside. If you have enjoyed these walks and would like information on other walking routes in Lincolnshire then please visit our website.

If you encounter any problems whilst on these walks, such as an overgrown path or a broken sign post, please let us know so they can be corrected.

We would also welcome your comments and suggestions on the walk and leaflet to help improve future editions.

If this leaflet is not in a format that meets your needs please contact Conservation Services

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