

Open Field

£1

December 2021 & January 2022



*Playing the Last Post at Laxton Remembrance Service
14th November, Laxton 2021*

The monthly publication of the
parish of Laxton & Moorhouse

www.openfield.org.uk



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Churchwardens LAXTON
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KNEESALL
WELLOW
WELLOW

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Flowers and Brasses Rota - suspended until further notice

Mr & Mrs S Clarke
Mrs M Beckitt & Mrs B Noble
Mrs S Rose & Mrs R Creighton

Coffee Morning Hosting Rota - will be published when they are resumed

We always welcome contributions and can help if you are not sure how to write what you want to say. We believe all illustrations to be free to use. If anyone feels their image has been wrongly used, please get in touch

Contributions for the next edition TO BE WITH THE EDITOR BY NOON ON 16th JANUARY 2022 PLEASE. EARLIER PREFERRED. You can send at any time.

Church News

We recently held a meeting with our new Rural Dean, John Chambers, and our Deanery Administrator to try to arrange services from now through until Easter and to include all the special services we have.

It is proving very difficult for Paula, our Administrator, to arrange services for everyone with such a shortage of priests and Readers. This includes all the other villages in the Diocese who have no vicars, such as our neighbours in the Sutton on Trent Group.

For December we will have a Communion service on the 5th and then we will join with Moorhouse for a Christmas service with Heather B on the 19th followed by our usual Christmas Eve Carol Service. We have held this for several years now, but this year there will be no Communion. Everyone is welcome.

On behalf of the PCC, I would like to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas. Let's hope we will all have a better year in 2022.

Brenda



Plough Sunday Service

at Laxton Church

on

Sunday, January 9th

10.30am



This is one of our traditional rural services, including the blessing of the plough and the churn. Everyone is very welcome and the service will be followed by refreshments



LAXTON VILLAGE HALL



QUIZ



CANCELLED



NIGHT

FRIDAY 3RD DECEMBER



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Christmas Tree Switch On

GRAND CHRISTMAS TREES “SWITCH ON” SUNDAY 5TH DECEMBER FROM 5PM



**Please note the timing for this, the first
Laxton Christmas Tree Grand Switch on**

- 5pm** ☆ Start with introductions, thanks and a blessing.
☆ Christmas Carols with Kneesall School children
☆ Free food and refreshments available

**6pm Lights “switch on” with Gregor Pierrepont
from Thoresby Estate**

Accompanied Carol Singing until wherever!!!

1 or 2 people have asked if they can put their home made decorations on the tree when they go up. Great idea, we hope they will all be up by Sunday 28th November for you to decorate.

The four trees will be:

- ☆ Facing the fork in the road at end of High St.
- ☆ On the grass facing the bottom green
- ☆ At The Dovey by the big flower tub
- ☆ At Twitchill Farm House, opposite The Dovey.

Get Well Soon

We are pleased to hear that Mavis is home from hospital and recovering from her operation. We send very best wishes for a full and complete recovery



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DECEMBER CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to everyone celebrating a birthday, anniversary or other special event this month.

The birthday roll of honour for this month is: Dorothy C, Brenda N, Margaret M, Emily H, Ann F. and Jonathan M

Special congratulations to Jake N, who celebrates his 30th birthday on 22nd.

We wish happy anniversary to Colin and Dorothy and to anyone else celebrating this month.

If you are celebrating a special date, we send best wishes.

We would love to give a mention to everyone for their special day, so please let Jean or Brenda have details with dates in good time.



The Laxton Farming System - Jury Day

On Thursday 25th November the members of the Jury, who had been appointed by the Court Leet in 2020, met at The Dovecote Inn for a warming cup of coffee before setting off into the crisp morning air.

With an eye on Covid safety, Stuart Rose had brought a flatbed trailer with straw bales for seats, with the jury members facing to either side. Robert Haigh had a car full and there were a couple of other vehicles and one member who joined the party at the field.



The first news was that there was a lady in the field looking for a lost credit card, so everyone was asked look out for it for her as they went around. She would not have expected such a search party to arrive. Sadly there was no news of it being discovered.

The wheat field for the 2021 / 22 season is Mill Field, so this was the field to be inspected. Roy Hennell, Foreman of Mill Field, was in charge of allocating different areas to different sections of the field. Who was best able to walk the longer distances was an important factor. The jury members set off to inspect the strip boundaries with the sykes and with each other and also to check the drainage dykes.

Stakes were hammered in where necessary to mark the junctions.

Another of Roy's duties was noting down the infringements recorded by the inspection groups. This year there were very few problems, leaving Roy with a very short list.



Following the inspection everyone regrouped at the trailer or was gathered up from the further parts of the field to return to the Dovey and set off to enjoy their traditional roast beef lunch, which they had had to forego

last year because of the tight Covid restrictions.

During their time in The Dovey, Roy was able to finalise his presentment paper for the court and the jurors discussed and agreed what penalties should be recommended for the infringements that had been noted.

Last year the Court Leet had to meet in an open barn with everyone well spaced apart to conform with Covid requirements. This ensured that matters were dealt with swiftly and efficiently. This year another change was scheduled to take place.

It is not widely known that the Court is a public one and that anyone can choose to attend to witness the proceedings, although they are not permitted to take part. The Dovecote started life as a house with a bar in a front room and has developed into the comfortable pub restaurant it is today, but in the process the original floor plan has not expanded greatly and the rooms are still quite small to accommodate the minimum number of people required at the Court - the officers, and jurors.

With a need to seat people less closely packed and to also accommodate the Lord of the Manor, a number of people with professional input to make and observers, it was decided to move to the Village Hall in 2021.

The Court Leet is the last manorial court in the land to retain its powers to determine legal proceedings and levy the fines imposed to secure the management of a strip farming system.

Until the Administration of Justice Act was overhauled and a new one came into force in 1977, there were many such courts which had fallen out of use. At that time Laxton's court was scheduled to be stripped of its powers, but those involved at the time reported that the law was still needed here to manage the strip farming process. This led to Laxton being named in the Act as an exception. One other court was also named, although their powers are related to the rounding up and charging for the return of stray sheep. It is this legal power which makes Laxton and its strip farming system truly unique.

The business of the Court Leet is primarily to swear in the Jury who will inspect the wheat field the following November and to consider the infringements noted on the presentment paper. This will be reported in the February 2022 edition of 'Open Field'.





KIRTON CHRISTMAS FESTIVE GATHERING

**Sunday, December 12th, at 1.30pm
Kirton Hall Farm.**

**Entry £3 per person
includes mulled-wine, light refreshments
and mince pies.**

We are anxious to observe COVID safety regulations, and so the event will be held outside and will not be of the usual indoor 'Coffee Morning' format.

There will be festive music and a chance to wish each other a Merry Christmas.

Please join us, even if for just 15 minutes or so -but remember to wrap up warmly !



The Great Clothing Bin Mystery

As all of you will probably know we have a clothing bin for donations to the Police Aid Convoys. Suddenly out of the blue an additional, virtually identical, bin appeared next to it.

Mike Manning checked with Savanna Rags who empty the original and pay us for the weight of donations, and after I had sent them photos of both bins they said it was not theirs!

However they suggested we attach a sign to it asking for it to be removed and send a copy of it to the e-mail address at the bottom of the bin. Having done this it was bounced back - no such address!

Sam, the publican, is in the dark, not having been asked for permission to place it there, so a message was circulated asking 'Does anyone have any idea where it has come from?'

A notice not to use it was placed on the mystery bin and Mike was given to understand it could be removed after 10 days giving notice to the advertised address.

Laxton Village Hall

We are very sorry to say that the December Quiz due to be held on FRIDAY 3rd December has been cancelled.

The Trustee meeting on 4th November discussed it at great length but eventually decided that the Covid situation would still present an unacceptable risk to all attending.

We therefore will look forward to the March Quiz on FRIDAY 4th. so please book your table.

Best wishes, Michael Manning



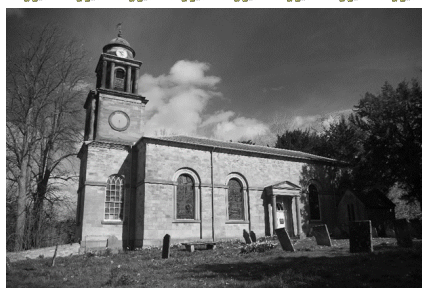
Laxton & Moorhouse Parish Council

And just a quick reminder about the pot hole reporting contact details are:

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Or ring Customer Services on 0300 500 8080

**Ossington PCC
invite you to
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Service**



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JANUARY CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to everyone celebrating a birthday, anniversary or other special event this month.

The birthday roll of honour for this month is a very long one!:

Sue S, Margaret P, Margaret P and her twin Steff L, Mike J, Mary N, Mike M, Stuart R, Pat H, Anne H, Jeff N, Pat N, Chris W, Jenni V,

We wish happy anniversary to anyone celebrating this month.

If you are celebrating a special date, we send best wishes.

We would love to give a mention to everyone for their special day, so please let Jean or Brenda have details with dates in good time.





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Remembrance Sunday



Our Remembrance Service was held in church on Sunday 14th November. The service was led by the Rev. Canon John Chambers, our new Area Dean.

It was lovely to see the church nearly full with members of our group of churches and family and friends, remembering

together again after lockdown etc. As we had not held a Remembrance Service at Laxton for five years, it was lovely to see about 65 people in church. The weather was fine and the bells were ringing out. What more could we have asked for?



We began with hymns and prayers followed by Simon reading the lesson.



The vicar preached his sermon about his time in Ripon when he was chaplain to some of the Army barracks. He told us how many soldiers returned from active duty suffering from PTSD. There was one in particular who ended up on the streets going from church to church and village to village because he was so traumatised by his time

abroad fighting that he could not cope and had to leave the Army.

The congregation processed outside to the War Memorial to lay their wreaths and for the children to place their crosses. This was followed by the Last Post and 2 minutes' silence followed by the Reveille. The service ended back in church with prayers and the National Anthem.

Tea, coffee and cakes were served after the service.

Our thanks to Wellow, Walesby, Egmanon, Kirton, Moorhouse and Laxton churches, Laxton Parish Council and Tuxford Young Farmers for their wreaths, and to the ten young children who placed crosses. This is the generation that we must not allow to forget.

Our thanks to Graham for playing the organ, to Dik for preparing and printing the extra service sheets, and to the bell ringers, who we weren't expecting. A special thank you to Jon for playing the Last Post and Reveille, to Janet, Lesley and Jean for serving the refreshments and to Cath and Sandra for the lovely knitted poppies and to Roy for the soldiers he made us.

Most of all, my thanks to everyone who came and joined in this lovely service and made it such a success.



Remembering People and Animals



The villagers at Moored gathered around the memorial stone for the Canadian airmen who lost their lives in South Field to remember both them and all of the others who gave their lives in war.

This year we also chose to remember the animals who were caught up in war and who suffered alongside their human masters. The horses who never returned to the

farms, the dogs who served alongside their handlers and the homing pigeons used as messengers. Sixty-five PDSA Dickin medals, the 'Animal Victoria Cross', have been awarded since WWII, plus an honorary award

to all the animals who served in WWI. The most recent award was to Treo, a black Labrador, honoured for his “heroic actions as an arms and explosive search dog in Afghanistan.”

Whilst there are recorded incidents of soldiers adopting cats for emotional support, even whilst serving on the front line, only one cat has received the Dickin medal. ‘Able Seacat Simon’ served on HMS Amethyst during the Yangtze Incident in 1949. He received the medal for surviving injuries from a cannon shell, raising morale, and killing off a rat infestation during his service.

In November 1944 Khan, a German Shepherd, served with Corporal James Muldoon of the Scottish rifles. During the invasion of Germany Khan and Muldoon were on an assault craft which capsized after coming under heavy shell fire. Khan swam to shore but couldn’t find Muldoon, who couldn’t swim. Whilst still under heavy shelling Khan swam back 200 yards to Muldoon, he then pulled him from the water, dragged him past the muddy shoreline and up to dry ground before collapsing next to him.



Purple Poppies

The purple poppy was introduced by the charity Animal Aid in 2006 in remembrance of animals that lost their lives at war.

The charity started the appeal because it felt the animals that die at war – which tend to mostly be horses and dogs - are often forgotten. They have since changed to a purple enamelled paw badge, but animal charities still sell and display purple poppies.

The Royal British Legion does not endorse the purple poppy, but has no objection to it.

“We see no conflict in wearing the red poppy next to the purple or white poppy. Many animal rights supporters also support our work. We do ask that the items are not offered alongside each other however as this would confuse the public,” it has said.

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Tuxford Young Farmers



On the 1st September we restarted a new year of Young Farmers with a maize maze. Since then we have had various different meetings such as cheerleading, a club leaders quiz, attended Worksoop Young Farmers' bonfire, learnt about first aid and how to use a defibrillator and taken a tour around Amazon at Doncaster.

It is Young Farmers' 90th anniversary this year so we hosted a 90th anniversary afternoon where we had food and various garden games and raised money for Support Dogs.

We also had a Notts YFC stall at Southwell Ploughing Match where we ran some competitions and games such as hook a duck, how many balloons in the tractor and pancake flipping. A lot of people had a go at the competitions and it is a major fund raiser for us.

We had also been invited to go to Laxton Church Remembrance Service where our chairman Andy laid a wreath for Tuxford Young Farmers.

If you would like to join this year we have a meeting every Wednesday at Hall Farm, Weston. For more information see our Facebook page.

Emily





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*As last year, we are
donating to charity
instead of Christmas cards.
We would like to wish all
our friends and neighbours
in Laxton and
surrounding villages a
very Merry Christmas and
a Happy New Year.*

Dave and Joyce Stone.

Open Field Subscriptions

Subscriptions for the year 2022 are due in January,
but can be paid at any time from now.

Unfortunately the price has increased to help cover
higher costs and reduced advertising as Covid has
affected our advertisers. We send sincere thanks to
those who continue to advertise and who make it
possible to keep the new price down to **£5** for the
year, which is less than half the true price of printing.



Thank you to all contributors for your articles, photos etc. over the past
year and to our subscribers for supporting the magazine.

Please put your £5 subs in an envelope with your own name and address on it and hand it to your distributor, put it through their door or drop it into Jean's letter box at Corner Farm (on the right at the bottom of Laxton village) before the end of January.

Thank you.

Coffee Mornings

Coffee Mornings remain suspended for the time being.

We will let you know when we plan to start again. The rota on
the inside cover will restart to remind hostesses of when their
turn is coming round.

David Thomlinson Lifetime Award Winner



Huge congratulations to John Gent who was presented with the brand new David Thomlinson Lifetime Achievement Award at Borderway Agri Expo in Carlisle.

The Award was created to honour David Thomlinson, a world-renowned auctioneer and livestock farmer following his death in an accident on his farm.

John runs 150 acres in Moorhouse, which he took over from his father some 20 years ago. He is known for his generosity and willingness to help other farmers, his passion for sharing his vast experience and knowledge and his incredible work ethic. He has a herd of around 150 Limousin and Limousin cross cattle, and is an active member of the auctioneer team at Melton Mowbray Market.

The judging panel commented: "It was an incredibly difficult job to pick just one winner, however we felt John epitomised what David stood for, showing an outstanding dedication to auctioneering and the livestock industry."



Parish Council Consultation Meeting

Newark and Sherwood are conducting a consultation exercise about increasing the size of the Conservation Area in Laxton and wish to discuss this at an open meeting with villagers.

To this end they have booked the Village Hall on

THURSDAY 13th JANUARY 2022 from 4pm.

Please come along and hear what they have to say.

DECEMBER SERVICES FOR OUR VILLAGE CHURCHES

HC = Holy Communion EP = Evening Prayer MP = Morning Prayer
Es = Evensong WfA = Worship for All WS = Word Service

5th Dec

9am	Kirton	HC	Rev John Chambers
10:30 am	Laxton	HC	Rev John Chambers
4 pm	Wellow	EP	Janice H

12th Dec

9am	Egmanton	HC/Mass	Father James
11 am	Kirton	HC/Mass	Father James

19th Dec

9am	Walesby	HC	Rev John Chambers
11 am	Moorhouse	Christmas Service	Heather B
4 pm	Wellow	Carol Service	tbc

Friday 24th Dec. Christmas Eve

4pm	Kirton	Christingle	Rev Alistair
6pm	Egmanton	Crib Service	Father James
7 pm	Moorhouse	Carol Service	tbc

25th Dec Christmas Day

9.30am	Wellow	HC	John Chambers
10:30 am	Kirton	HC Mass	Father James

26th Dec Boxing Day

No services

Please note that the rota is now largely dictated by the availability of priests.

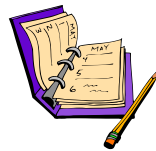
For enquiries, please contact churchwarden, Brenda, on **870541**



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2021

December



Thu 2 nd	Court Day
Fri 3 rd	Village Hall Quiz Night - CANCELLED
Sun 5 th	Village Christmas Tree Lights Switch On
6 th - 16 th	Christmas Card Post Box open in Church
Tues 7 th	History Group Lunch, Weston
Weds 8 th	WI

January

Weds 12 th	WI
Thurs 13 th	Conservation Area Consultation
Tues 25 th	Parish Council

Forward Planning

March	Friday 4 th	Village Hall Quiz Night
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Regular Events:

**Copy Date for February edition:
12 noon, 16th JANUARY 2022**

Please let us have your contributions in good time. We do what we can to include last minute items, but it is not always possible. Late arrivals are unlikely to make it into print.

JANUARY SERVICES FOR OUR VILLAGE CHURCHES

HC = Holy Communion EP = Evening Prayer MP = Morning Prayer

Es = Evensong WfA = Worship for All WS = Word Service

2nd Jan

10:30 am Laxton HC Rev Margaret

4 pm Wellow EP Heather B

9th Jan

9am Egmonton HC/Mass Father James

10.30am Laxton Plough Sunday Heather B

11 am Kirton HC/Mass Father James

16th Jan

9am Walesby HC Rev Margaret

10.30am Wellow HC Rev Margaret

23rd Jan

4.00pm Egmonton HC/Mass Father James

30th Jan

10.00am Walesby HC Rev Alistair

10.30am Kirton HC Rev John Chambers

Please note that the rota is now largely dictated by the availability of priests.

For enquiries, please contact churchwarden, Brenda, on **870541**



Our monthly meeting was held on Wednesday 10th November. The President welcomed members and best wishes were sent to Mavis after her stay in hospital. Flowers and a card had been sent from members.

After the business had been discussed, our speaker was introduced. Lisa from Forget-Me-Nots florists in Ollerton had

kindly come to show us how to make an autumn wreath and table decoration.

This was very interesting as she explained what she was doing as she was making each item. She also answered members' questions.

The wreath was a traditional circular arrangement with foliage and autumn fruits etc. The table decoration used similar decorative items and was arranged around a central candle.

The items Lisa had made were raffled and Christine was the lucky winner of the wreath and Lesley won the table arrangement.

The competition for something depicting autumn was won by Sally.



Our December meeting on 8th. will be a games night, followed by mince pies and wine.

We wish everyone a happy Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Our January meeting will take place on 12th. Both meetings will be at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Stuart Rose

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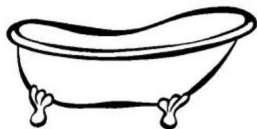
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Wellow Winter Fair

Leave the virtual world behind for an hour or two, and come to Wellow and enjoy some real Christmas shopping!

Back after an enforced absence last year, Wellow Maypole Committee's popular Winter Fair is an excellent

opportunity to do some relaxed Christmas shopping whilst supporting talented local craftspeople and businesses.

To be held in Wellow Memorial Hall between 10am and 3pm on Saturday 4th December, there will also be festive light refreshments and a raffle on site. To promote social distancing, unless the weather is inclement, the refreshments will be served in a gazebo on the hall car park. with hot drinks, soup, mince pies etc.

As always, admission is free. We look forward to welcoming you!

Vaccination Update



At the time of writing towards the end of November, the Government is urging everyone to take up the offer of both their Covid booster jab and the flu jab. Covid boosters are available to people of eligible age whose last dose was a minimum of 6 months previously. You now seem to be able to get online a few weeks before your due date to book an appointment after the due date.

Since the Showground site closed for vaccination, people who had used it have had to find alternatives. We are fortunate to have the additional opportunity provided by the centre at the Lifespring Centre in Ollerton. Please note that while they seem to be getting through their booked people very efficiently, you will be standing outside if there is a queue due to limited seating space indoors.

The minimum age for eligibility for the booster has just been reduced to over 40. Please bear in mind that this magazine is current until the end of January, by which time it is likely that age will have reduced further. Please check for yourself as you approach the eligible gap since your last vaccination.

If you have not yet had your first or second vaccination, you are encouraged to book now.

Save Your Stamps for Charity



Sandra Clarke collects stamps for Bransby Horses throughout the year. For many people their Christmas post is the single biggest source of used stamps in the year.

It would really make a difference if everyone could set aside an envelope and pop in all the stamps on their cards etc. All you need to

do is to trim the stamp off the envelope, leaving at least a centimetre all around to ensure that the stamp is not damaged.

You can leave yours with Jean Hennell, Brenda Noble or any WI member in Laxton or with Joy Allison in Egmanton and they will be passed to Sandra.

Of course, if you could manage to keep your collection going through the year that would be much appreciated and you can hand them in at any time, including next Christmas.

Thank you

Group Oil Order



The November order coincided with a period of high prices, which began to turn down just in time. This was evident in prices between 61.13p/litre (Boilerjuice) and the 51.80p/litre which the 17 group members ordering paid. This was still more than in the summer, but much less than it might have been.

There will be another order around the end of January, so please get in touch if you want to join that order. That will be the last one before late summer unless spring is particularly harsh.

Please include with your request your current contact details and delivery instructions such as lock, need advance notice of delivery etc. I pass your land line, mobile(s) and email address to the chosen supplier. If you haven't ordered for a while you may not have passed changes on.

Anyone whose order can be placed by email is very welcome to join. Please contact me on oil@openfield.org.uk

The group currently covers an area of roughly 5 miles radius from Laxton.

Joy

East Markham Players 2022 Pantomime

'Puss in Boots' by Sarah Daly: Tickets available from Sally Mitchell's Gallery, Tuxford, from December onwards.

This year the Players will again be performing their new pantomime, at two venues. You are assured of seeing some old favourites and some new faces as well as some of the younger members stepping up to the bigger roles. Regulars will be surprised by how grown up some of them look two years on from the last time we saw them on stage.

DUNHAM –Saturday 5th February 2022 2pm and 7pm.

EAST MARKHAM – 10th – 13th February 2022. Evenings 7pm with a matinee on the Saturday again. All audience numbers are restricted to allow for some social distancing, however the Thursday performance will be especially restricted to 60 people for those looking for greater safety.

The intrepid Billy sets off with his trusty Mog on a quest for health, happiness and wealth! Inevitably and reluctantly he accepts the help of his Great (Really Great) Aunt Delilah who's looking for wealth, wealth, a bit more wealth and a hot blooded man, although she's not actually that fussy, any man will do!! In fact anyone on the front three rows would do?!

Soon he meets his love, the beautiful Princess Oreo, who's particularly fond of his Pussy! Ehem.. However the evil Count Baquard (Backward) has other plans and a penchant for potions!

Can our furry friend save the day? Will Dame Delilah leave audience members needing counselling? Will the evil Count Baquard be forced to come forwards? Will Billy and Oreo make it to the altar? Will there be a panto this time, oh yes there will!

And we hope to see you there for more fun with East Markham Players.

Life Magazine Coming Soon

The local 'Life' series of magazines are expanding their delivery area in the near future, and Laxton and Egmonton will be among the communities to benefit. They have a doorstep delivery team but are looking for local people to join them. This is a paid position with a week window in which to deliver. If you are interested please email community@retfordlifemagazine.com for full information.

The Story of Donkey Fred

*Old Fred stands with downcast eye,
He shakes his head and wonders why
This empty meadow for my home
And I stand here all alone.*

*He calls to mind a summer day,
And folk who walked the Bridleway
Who stayed a while and had a chat,
And gave Old Fred a friendly pat.*

*He wonders if it's true that when
A donkey went to Bethlehem
That Mary on his back did ride
With Joseph walking at her side.*

*And now the stars are shining bright,
And darkness falls, once more 'tis night.
Now all is quiet, and Donkey Fred
Walks slowly to his humble shed.*

*And underneath the starlit beams
Old Fred the donkey sleeps and dreams,
With shepherds poor and three wise men
He walks the road to Bethlehem.*

*And one bright star looked down and led
Old Donkey Fred to Jesus' bed.
He slowly kneels and with a bray
Greets Jesus Christ on Christmas Day.*

*And Mary said, we thank you Fred
For coming to our manger bed.
Tell folk who walk the Bridleway
You came to us on Christmas Day.*

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The Pleasures of Being a UK Pig Farmer

As a lot of you have seen in the press recently, and some might have felt it first-hand, that the UK pig industry is in a difficult place.

We are only 60% self sufficient in pork in the UK and by May next year I expect it to be down to 50% self-sufficient in UK pork. This is due to a “perfect storm” of events that have all come at once:

- Two poor world harvests have meant high food costs for the pigs. 60% of the cost of growing a pig is food.
- Brexit and the UK government welcoming in loads of cheap German pork in January to avoid empty shelves post Brexit.
- A shortage of labour on farm and on the processing side
- A shortage of CO₂ which a lot of the large abattoirs use to stun the animals.

This led to pig farms “rolling over” pigs i.e. holding them on the farm after they are ready to go. The pig game is like a game of chess. You must move one piece to move the next piece but if you do not move the end piece then the whole game stops.

All this results in the shocking news that pig farmers are killing healthy, fit-for-the-food-chain animals on farm as they cannot get them off the farm. Leaving them on the farm means those animals are still growing, still eating expensive food, and therefore growing too big and becoming ‘out of spec’. The farmer gets penalised by a lower price for being ‘out of spec’ by as much as half the value of the pig.

The frustrating thing is pork sales have stayed the same we are just importing pork instead of using our own.

In a time when climate change is a top topic and very important, I feel it’s more important than ever that the UK public back UK farming and buy local, but also buy seasonally, reducing the need to import food grown abroad.

We would all agree that the lettuces, strawberries and the tomatoes that you can buy at the moment, from Egypt for example, are tasteless and full of water. In contrast the UK grown salads, fruits and veg grown in the correct seasons taste great and are more nutrient rich than what you buy out of season.

Richard Bough Woodside Farm, Wellow

Answers from British Quizzes, Part 4

NATIONAL LOTTERY (BBC1)

Question: What is the world's largest continent?

Contestant: The Pacific

ROCK FM (PRESTON)

Presenter: Name a film starring Bob Hoskins that is also the name of a famous painting by Leonardo Da Vinci.

Contestant: Who Framed Roger Rabbit?

THE BIGGEST GAME IN TOWN (ITV)

Steve Le Fevre: What was signed to bring World War I to an end in 1918?

Contestant: Magna Carta.

JAMES O'BRIEN SHOW (LBC)

O'Brien: How many kings of England have been called Henry

Contestant: Er, well, I know there was a Henry the Eighth ... er ... er ... three?

NATIONAL LOTTERY

Eamonn Holmes: There are three states of matter: solid, liquid and what?

Contestant: Jelly.

RICHARD ALLINSON SHOW (RADIO 2)

Allinson: What international brand shares its name with the Greek goddess of victory?

Contestant (after long deliberation): Erm, Kellogg's?

BLIND DATE (ITV)

Girl: Name a book written by Jane Austen.

Boy: Charlotte Bronte.

CHRIS SEARLE SHOW (BBC RADIO BRISTOL)

Searle: In which European country is Mount Etna?

Caller: Japan.

Searle: I did say which European country, so in case you didn't hear that, I can let you try again.

Caller: Er ... Mexico?

Laxton & Moorhouse Parish Council

Draft Minutes of the Meeting 29/11/21

Present: Councillors:

M. Manning (chair), S. Hill, M. Hennell, J.Hill, S,Rose,J. Godson

In attendance at parish council meeting

C. Wilson (Clerk), S, Michael (District councillor), M. Pringle (county councillor), Juliette Wilson (Conservation officer), Member of the public (x1)

1. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies were received and accepted from Mr R Hennell.
2. **Declarations of interest:** The chair declared an interest as a member of the sports field committee in item 11 (Property matters – including sports field and Glebe Field and sub-tenancy). There were no other declarations of interest, direct or indirect, in any items of business on the agenda.
3. **Dispensations:** None required.
4. **10 Minutes public speaking:** The state of the roads and quality of repairs was discussed at length. Mr Pringle agreed and urged residents to report all issues to NCC. In order to facilitate this:
 - a. The member of the public would be provided with the link and telephone number to report problems to NCC
 - b. The chair will share the link and telephone number with the Open Field
 - c. The clerk will publish the link and telephone number on the website.The clerk will also:
 - a. Chase up the outcome of the traffic speed rumble strip survey
 - b. Report the poor road condition at the bottom of Cocking Hill near the brickyard.
5. **Minutes of the parish council meeting held on 21 July 2021:** The minutes of the meeting held on 21 July 2021 were agreed as a true record.
6. **Matters arising:** No other matters arising which were not otherwise on the agenda.
7. **Laxton Conservation Area Character Appraisal – Review – Conservation Officer presentation:** Councillors welcomed Ms Wilson to the meeting. The key elements of Ms Wilson's presentation were as follows:
 - a. The conservation area had been designated in the 1970s and

had not been reviewed since.

- b. NSDC had chosen a number of conservation areas to review. Laxton was one which had been identified as a priority
- c. The suggestion is that the boundary is extended to include the open fields
- d. The primary impact of a conservation area designation is on residential properties because it changes the planning context in terms of development. An extension to include the open fields would have minimal planning impact because it would not remove any rights. It would, however, bring the open fields within the scope of the conservation appraisal. This means that their importance and the reasons that they should be recognised would be formally set out in the assessment.
- e. Public support would be required for the extension. NSDC is only in the early stages of gauging opinion.
- f. The process would begin with a draft proposal which would then be put out to public consultation. If that demonstrates that there is no appetite for the extension, the area would remain as drawn now.
- g. The redrawn boundaries would extend planning scrutiny but because it was inclusive of the open fields, it would not increase restrictions. The extension would enhance the importance and value of the open fields by providing recognition within the planning system.
- h. NSDC is also looking at potential local policies to protect non-manmade structure archaeological sites such as grasslands
- i. Inclusion of the open fields would complement the village because the village is an inherent part of the open field system
- j. A management plan would look at and promote the overall condition of the area
- k. In a conservation area it is also possible to place an Article 4 direction on agricultural buildings which would restrict permitted development rights.
- l. Laxton had been selected because of the recent change of ownership and associated potential for change. It is also one of the oldest designations and has never had an appraisal
- m. Consultation is delivered as follows:
 - i. A paper copy is published and a copy made available online for a period of six weeks
 - ii. Questionnaires are issued and public events held
 - iii. NSDC will probably also write to every resident notifying them of the consultation, dates of events and how to view the documents
 - iv. It is difficult to be definite because of Covid but the process will most likely take place in spring 2022
 - v. If the consultation is completed in spring 2022, any

amendments would then be made before the proposal is considered by the Economic Committee. Adoption would be almost immediate with the new area being in effect at that point.

- n. Ms Wilson will update the clerk as to progress in advance of each meeting
- o. Ms Wilson was invited to attend the court leet on 2 December 2021.

Councillors **agreed** that, being of benefit to the village, they supported the proposed extension in principle. If they have any queries or questions they will contact Ms Wilson. The clerk will circulate her details.

Ms Wilson also reported that she had inspected inside Bar Farmhouse and been in contact with the owner. NSDC is taking action. Some work had been done to tidy the site and works were being required to the roof before the winter sets in.

8. **Reports from district and county councillors:** Mr Pringle's written report was noted.

Mrs Michael reported that:

- a. Safer Neighbourhood Group meetings had resumed.
- b. In spring 2022, NSDC is moving from a committee to a cabinet model of governance. This will reduce the tiers in the decision making process and should therefore lead to quicker outcomes. Contrary to the committee based model, where all parties are represented, cabinet is run by whichever party is in power. Scrutiny will be exercised through the calling in process.
- c. NSDC has no further involvement in the cattle market, the party interested in running the market having no interest in the site owned by NSDC.

9. **Reports from councillors:** Mr S Hill reported that the next SNG meeting would be on 30 September 2021. A new Chief Inspector and police constable had been appointed for the area, together with PCSO Dunn. The issues raised at the last meeting had been rural theft and traffic speeding through villages. In the latter regard, the police had offered to train a minimum of six volunteers to use a speed gun which the parish council would be required to buy. It had also been reported that the police were carrying out operations to tackle diesel theft. Councillors noted that a police representative would visit to talk about ways to secure properties.

10. **Financial Matters:**

- a. **Financial position as at 31 August 2021:** Councillors considered and noted the clerk's report showing the precise financial position at 31 August 2021 (incorporating the 2021-22 budget figures).
- b. **Accounts for payment:** The council unanimously **approved** ten payments totalling £1005.45. Councillors **agreed** that they had intended the clerk to order two

dog bins. The clerk will place an order for the second.

- c. **Use of reserves:** To be discussed at items 11 (Property matters) and 15 e (Christmas events and decorations)

11. Property matters including sports field and Glebe Field and sub tenancy and associated legal services:

Councillors reconsidered the requirements for the lease following a request received from Larken & Co. They noted that the field has no water supply and that someone had been doing some maintenance because the elders had been cut and burned. Further discussion confidential and minuted separately. The clerk will contact Larken & Co.

Mr Rose confirmed that:

- a. The soil which had been blocking access to the field had been removed
- b. He had tried to obtain three quotes for the fencing and hedge laying. Four contractors had inspected the site but he had received only one quote, £8535. Councillors thanked Mr Rose but, after discussion, **agreed** that the price was uneconomic

12. Planning matters:

- a. **Applications:** None.

- b. **To note planning decisions by NSDC:**

- i. **21/01548/HOUSE - Proposed single storey side sun lounge replacement extension - Brecks Cottage Bed And Breakfast, Green Lane, Moorhouse, [Newark](#)** – Approval noted

- ii. **21/01573/HOUSE - Proposed single storey principal extension, partial conversion of garage and external alterations - Walnut Cottage, Toad Lane, Laxton, Newark** – Approval noted

- c. **Compliance: No matters raised.**

- 13. **Defibrillator inspection report:** Mr M Hennell had reported that he had completed the inspection. There were no issues.

- 14. **Thoresby Estate – Village meeting 22 September 2021 – Next steps:** Councillors **approved** the record of the meeting circulated by the clerk. Councillors noted that the owner of Rufford Park was a regular visitor to Rufford Parish Council which aided good communication and effective working relationships. After discussion, they **agreed** that, now that the purchase was complete, Thoresby Estate had begun to establish itself as the new owner and the pandemic was easing meaning that projects and plans can be progressed, Mr Pierrepont or his representative should be invited to attend council meetings regularly. This would help forge strong, constructive links with the estate for the future. The clerk will contact Mr Pierrepont.

- 15. **Village environment and appearance, including:**

- a. **Dog bin installation – Update:** See LMPC/ 85/ 21 above (Financial matters)
- b. **Relocation – 30 mph speed signs to village entries:** Mr Pringle had been in contact with the relevant officers.
Speeding traffic including possible weight limit: See LMPC/79/21 (10 minutes public speaking time).
- c. **Bar Farmhouse:** see LMPC/ 82/ 21 above (Laxton Conservation Area).
- d. **Christmas event and decorations** Councillors discussed potential sites for trees and lights. The chair will formally apply to Thoresby Estate charity for a donation for Christmas trees lights and electricity costs. Mr S Hill will explore sources for a tree for Moorhouse. Councillors **authorised** Mr S Hill to order up to £500 worth of lights for Moorhouse.
Councillors **agreed** that they should organise a light switch on event to take place at The Dovecote, together with other village representatives. They **appointed** Mr Rose, Mr Manning and Mr M Hennell as the parish council Christmas event representatives.

16.Service faults: None.

17.Correspondence: All items of correspondence noted.

18.Agenda items for next meeting: As above

19.Date of next meeting: Tuesday 23 November 2021

Recent Bonus Ball Winners

Date	No	Name
16/10/21	22	John and Carol
23/10/21	19	John and Carol
30/10/21	17	Ivan and Chris
6/11/21	19	John and Carol
13/11/21	56	ROLLOVER

We have various numbers available. Here is the up to date list of the 14 spare numbers: **1,2,7,11,20,23,26,27,34,51,52,56,57,59**. Please contact me on 870844. Thank you. *Michael Manning*

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Amusing Parish and Church Notices, 1

- A talk on drugs will be given at the next Mothers' Union meeting. This will be followed by a bring and buy sale
- Don't miss the Young Wives' Victorian Evening next month. It will be a fun night and some of the women will wear clothes.
- We are delighted to announce that the youth group has raised almost £500 for drug abuse.
- Correction: The following typo appeared in our last bulletin: 'Lunch will be gin at 12:15.' Please correct to read '12 noon.'
- Any church member over 18 is welcome on our new lay ministry programme. It requires minimal training and time: just six weekly classes of about 200 hours each Tuesday night.
- The Seniors group will have a picnic on Saturday. Each person is asked to bring a friend, a vegetable, and a sweet, all in a covered dish.
- Remember the church jumble sale. We have a gents three-speed bicycle, also two ladies for sale, in good running order.
- Bertha Belch, a missionary, will be speaking tonight at Calvary Memorial Church. Come and hear Bertha Belch all the way from Africa.
- Next Sunday's preacher can be found hanging on the notice board in the porch.
- We are pleased to note that there has been a change of mind by the Housing Department regarding the name for the new Housing complex for the elderly. 'St Peter's Close' did seem somewhat inappropriate.
- God is good. The vicar is better.
- New Study Of Obesity Looks For Larger Test Group
- Next weekend's Fasting & Prayer Conference in Whitby includes all meals.
- Fifth Sunday is Lent.
- Sunday morning sermon: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.'
Sunday evening sermon: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Egmanton Village Hall

www.egmantonvillagehall.org.uk / 01777 871171

Please check the EVH web site or call for latest details.

- ♦ **Yoga with Gregg** – Tuesdays at 7.30pm. Pay Gregg - £36 block of 6 sessions, £7 drop in. Info from Gregg: **07761 344250**.
- ♦ **Egmanton WI** - Thursday 16th Dec & 20th Jan in the Hall
- ♦ **Computer Problems?** - Call **01777 871171** for phone advice
If your computer is misbehaving or you need help setting up a new one, please call. Donations to Egmanton Village Hall in lieu of fee.

Village Notices

Mike Manning maintains a list of email addresses for villagers and other local people who want to receive up to date information.

If you are not already on the list and would like to be kept informed, please contact Mike at kneecott@googlemail.com

Laxton Defibrillator

The defibrillator in the Visitor Centre, is always accessible as neither the Visitor Centre door nor the cabinet housing it is locked.

Please do remember that the defibrillator must only be used once authorised by a call to 999.

Michael Manning



Sandra Clarke is still collecting stamps for Bransby Horses throughout the year.

If you receive any during the year, please collect them trimming the stamp off the envelope, leaving at least a centimetre all around to ensure that the stamp is not damaged.

You can leave yours with Jean Hennell in Laxton or with Joy Allison in Egmanton and they will be passed to Sandra.

Thank you.

Useful Contact Details

Defibrillator Contacts:

Neil Randall 01777 871229 & 07710 398745, evenings and weekends
Mark Hennell 07812 908316, evenings
Stuart Rose 07939 228353, as required
Jeanette Geldard 07956 959135, daytime in Kneesall,
evenings / weekends
Anne-Marie & Geoff Rose 07961 933290 / 07957 991002, as required

Police

Sgt 2949 Christial Hurley, Sherwood Neighbourhood Policing Team,
Ollerton Police Station
PC Gary Sipson 07525 226575 or 101 x 800 7673
Email : gary.sipson@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk

PC2548 Deborah Bakin supported by
PCSO 8524 Richard Dunn at Southwell 07595 074292

Web, showing other contacts: www.nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk

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Otherwise police switchboard	101
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Sutton-on-Trent Surgery	01636 821023
Ollerton Surgery - Middleton Lodge Practice	01623 703266
Newark Hospital	01636 681681
Bassetlaw Hospital	01909 500990
King's Mill Hospital	01623 622515

Fire Safety Advice (Tuxford Fire Station)	01777 870381
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MP Mr Robert Jenrick: robert.jenrick.mp@parliament.uk	01636 612 837
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County Councillor: cllr.mike.pringle@nottsc.gov.uk	0115 977 5661
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Parish Council website: www.laxtonandmoorhouseparishcouncil.co.uk

Laxton & Moorhouse Parish Council

Invite you to Laxton's first

Christmas Tree Switch On Sunday 5th December

at

The Dovecote Inn from 5pm



Switch on at 6pm

by Gregor Pierrepont from Thoresby Estate

Traditional refreshments will be provided

Everyone welcome

LAXTON & MOORHOUSE CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERIES, 2021

We are pleased to say that we will be having the Christmas Card Post Box in church this year as usual. The income for the church is very valuable, especially in another year when we haven't been able to have the Dances, Church Fête or the Harvest Auction.

All you have to do is to post your cards into the box, with a donation to the church, from Monday 6th - **Thursday 16th December**, for delivery soon after.

1. Deliveries are made in Laxton and Moorhouse only.
2. Please make sure each envelope has a **clear name and FULL address on the envelope**.
2. Please place your cards in a plastic bag along with your donation and place in the box at the back of the church.
4. Please support the church this Christmas.
5. Remember, "To Sue" is unlikely to get to Sue and "Sue, Timothy Road," will not fare much better.