

Open Field

50p

March 2018



*The Laxton Estate from the air, taken from above the Kirton end of
Kirton Road, 24th June 2016*

The monthly publication of the
parish of Laxton & Moorhouse
www.openfield.org.uk



Priest in Charge
Churchwardens LAXTON
MOORHOUSE
KNEESALL
WELLOW
WELLOW

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Open Field

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**Your contributions are
always welcome. We can
help if you are not sure how
to write what you want to
say.**

**ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO BE WITH
THE EDITOR BY 16th MARCH
PLEASE. EARLIER PREFERRED.**

Photographs of children appear in Open Field and on the web site with the consent of their parents / carers. Open Field appears on the Web in its entirety

Cover photograph by Chris Belton
with thanks for permission to use.



Letter From Revd. Zoe

Dear friends

As we journey through the month of March, the daylight hours continue to draw out as we look forward to spring and the new life that follows. In the church calendar we are now in the season of Lent and I invite you to consider some Lenten themes (5R's) as we journey through God's spring time towards the light and new life offered at Easter.

Lent invites us to reflect and reconsider. The Bible reveals that Jesus went into the wilderness for '40 days' to reflect and reconsider his life in relation to his Father and what he was called to do - his vocation. During this time, we are likewise invited you to reflect upon our relationships with God, with each other, with ourselves and with the world around us: to consider our own lives in relation to the other. We are invited to consider searching questions such as: who am I? What is the purpose and meaning of life? Is there more to life than I have experienced here on earth?

Lent is a time of renewal, refreshment and recommitment. As Jesus experienced the wilderness, the desert place, he discovered that it was a place of hunger and of danger, both physically and spiritually – danger coming in the form of temptation, testing and wild beasts.

Traditionally people often give up something for Lent and fasting formed part of the traditional Lenten discipline. Have you given anything up? If so, why have you given it up? What new understanding or insight do you hope to gain for this practice of 'giving up' to shape and form your character? But can Lent be more than just giving up chocolate, for instance? In more recent years, there has been a renewed practice of 'taking something new up'. I have known people use this time to recommitment to reading a chapter of their Bible each day from one of the four Gospels or to establish a regular habit or re-establish a pattern of prayer.

People have also engaged with '40 acts' challenges either individually or as a group or school. Mothers' Union offer the 'Count your blessings' initiative. These initiatives seek to make a difference and can be as simple as smiling at someone. These acts encourage us to give our best even when it hurts and to reflect upon how we might give with the whole of our lives. One generous act a day can impact families, friends and communities and mirror God's generous heart and the gift of Easter which we will all look forward to.

Someone once said to me that Lent is a 'preparation for a lifetime of big heartedness'. Lent is a journey of longing, hope and preparation

for new life; a journey into increasing levels of light. May I take this opportunity to say a big thank you to everyone for their acts of generosity and kindness; for flowers, prayers, cards, messages of hope and all the lovely baking for my mum's reception – '40 acts' of love and light shining in the darkness after the loss of my mum in the New Year. As we all journey through Lent with the Lenten challenges and disciplines don't lose sight of the hope and new life that Easter offers as a gift for all people. May God bless you.

With love

Rev Zoe

Sympathy

We are sorry to hear of the death of Russ Smith of Egmont on Saturday 10th February. The funeral is due to take place at Egmont on 22nd February. Our thoughts and sympathy go to his children, Linda, Wesley and Jane and all family and friends.

Congratulations Keith & Anne

Anne and Keith Dutton celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on 14th February. Not many people achieve the remarkable milestone of their 'Sapphire' anniversary which appropriately symbolises loyalty.

Very many congratulations to them both.



Congratulations Joseph & Michelle

We send congratulations to another couple, this time at the very beginning of their marriage.

Joseph and Michelle Harris of Laxton were married at The Derbyshire Hotel on Saturday 20th January 2018.

Joseph is the son of Pip Harris of Egmanton.

Love and congratulations from family and friends



Mothers' Union

In March the meeting will take place at Janet's house in Timothy Road. It will be on 26th and will involve planning events for the year.

Laxton Mothers' Union celebrates its 120th anniversary this September, so one item on the agenda will be planning a celebration for that. Everyone is welcome.

Sports and Recreation Field

Following our recent meeting we felt we need more Committee members and we wondered if anyone would be interested in joining.

We only meet every 8-10 weeks and basically manage the field facilities and finances and look to encourage its use for all the village. You don't have to be particularly "sporting minded" but more keen on looking after the facilities for everyone to use.

If you feel you could spare a bit of time please ring either Neil Randall the Chairman or myself.

Michael Manning



Supper Dance

Friday 16th March

Laxton Village Hall, 7.30 pm

Tickets £7

from Jean, Brenda or Margaret M

Supper included

**Please bring your own drink and
glasses**

All proceeds to Laxton Church



LAXTON VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT THEIR

QUIZ NIGHT

FRIDAY 2ND MARCH

AT 7.30PM

**PRICE £7.00 INCLUDES HOT
SUPPER**

RING 870844 TO BOOK YOUR TEAM

**PLEASE NOTE TO BRING OWN DRINK
AND GLASSES - READING AND WINE!**



Village Hall Update

The full Committee met again on 30/1/18 and progress was discussed. Planning Permission has been submitted by the Architect and this was discussed at the Parish Council meeting and naturally approval was given. We wait now for Newark and Sherwood to progress the Planning Permission.



Regarding confirming the legal position of the Hall's ownership to satisfy the Lottery, a huge step was taken forward on 13/2/18 when the Chairman was able to collect the original title deeds to the Hall from the Nottingham firm of solicitors who, after initially denying that they had them, suddenly found them!!! This was only because we were able to find a letter dated 5th March 1963 written by them confirming that they did in fact have them!!! Unfortunately this has slowed down the process with the Lottery as they needed these, but now we will be able to forward to them and Land Registry!!

The result of this is that we will not be able to start the work until much later in the year than we wanted - possibly towards the end of the summer. As the magazine goes to press we have submitted the Development and Business Plans to the Lottery and providing all is OK we will have a start date when the next issue of Open Field is due.

The next Committee Meeting will not be until 20/3/18. However if any issues arise in the meantime, we will meet as necessary.

Village Hall Events

The March Quiz on Friday 2/3/18 followed a couple of weeks later by the Church Dance but these will be the last this year as the Hall will be closed in November.

As we said before, as soon as we know fixed dates we will let you all know.

Michael Manning

Hot Cross Bun Service

**Sunday 30th March, 10.30am
Laxton Church**

Everyone is welcome

**Come and enjoy a cup of coffee
or tea and a piece of hot cross
bun.**



Easter Sunday Holy Communion Service



**Sunday 1st April,
3.00 pm
Moorhouse Church**

**The service will be taken by
the Rev Phil Howson**

**This will be the first service after the
church being closed for the winter.**

Old Laxton Photos



Roy Hennell has recently been passed a collection of old photos by a relative hoping to identify the people in them. Can you help? We start with this one on the green outside Crosshill House. Please contact Jean Hennell on 870276 if you can help.

Problems with Telephone Service

Are you having problems with your land line telephone? We are aware that a number of people have experienced issues with their telephone line over a period of a couple of years. Some people have pronounced crackling noises and for others the line goes dead. These problems seem to be mostly intermittent, but occasionally last for quite some time. Some people who have tried to get the issue resolved have had a frustrating time.

Egmanton Parish Meeting has taken up the issue with BT and, as the lines to Laxton run through Egmanton to Laxton, have invited Laxton & Moorhouse Parish Council to join forces to take up the problem on behalf of all residents. A fact finding questionnaire is being prepared, but in the meantime BT have announced that they will be carrying out remedial works soon after this issue goes to print. Please take note of whether you continue to suffer problems after 16th February with the dates you notice them. This will help to take the case forward if the proposed works do not solve the problem. Please look out for more information next month.

Things to Do this Month

Use your old paper £10 notes before 1st March

Feb 28th Rotary Quiz Night with Meal. South Forest Leisure Centre, 7 for 7.15pm. £11 inc. meal and quiz. Book on 01623 823866.

Mar 2nd Village Hall Quiz - take a table! **VH**

Mar 14th WI Craft evening 7.30pm, **VH**

Mar 16th Church Dance, **VH**

Mar 21st History Group screening of 'Rural Britain' **VH**

VH = Village Hall VC = Visitor Centre

Price of Stamps Going Up 26th March

The price of first and second class stamps are increasing on March 26th. First Class stamps will go up by 2p to 67p, while the price of a Second Class stamp will increase by 2p to 58p. The price of a Large Letter First Class stamp will also rise by 3p to 101p. A Large Letter Second Class stamp will rise by 3p to 79p.

Coffee Morning

8th March

10.30am - 11.30am

The next coffee morning will take place on Thursday 8th March at Ivy Cottage, opposite The Dovecote Inn.

Why not come and join us? Everyone is welcome to this informal group. You don't have to come every month and are welcome to pop in to enjoy some friendly, cheerful company.



Tuxford Young Farmers



Photo courtesy of Andrea Turvey

The Annual Ball at Colwick Hall Hotel was another successful evening for Tuxford. Having not won the 'Miss Nottinghamshire Young Farmers' title for over 20 years, Jess Rose of Laxton won last year and it was great to see her crown pass to Daisy Haigh, the winner for 2018 and who last year was named Junior Member of the year.

Also celebrating was Tuxford's Harvey Gillatt who came 2nd in the competition for Mr Nottinghamshire Young Farmers. Congratulations to them both.

In February members of Laxton History Group went to entertain the Young Farmers and performed their dramatised account of life in Laxton in 1900 - 1920 based on the papers they had discovered during their research for their books produced by their Heritage Lottery Funded project.

Most of the young men in the audience would have been of fighting age during WWI. Some young men signed up with false ages as they had been convinced they would be doing something glorious for their country and wanted to be part of it. Some were as young as 14.

When those who signed up were medically examined it came to notice how poor their general health and nutrition was. People were smaller then, with the average chest measurement for a soldier being 34" - not much more than 100cm. Stuart Rose had loaned the uniforms worn by his grandfather, Elmer John Rose which were shown to the Tuxford members. They might have fitted several of them, but almost certainly not one of those who would have been eligible to fight.

Events to Look Forward To

There are two weekend events already in the diary for the summer. Tony, Bishop of Sherwood will be visiting our Group of churches over the weekend of **8th, 9th and 10th June**. Details are yet to be announced. On **July 7th and 8th** The annual Open Churches weekend takes place. We will be working on the theme 'Wedding Fair'.

The Dovecote Inn at Laxton

Your Local Village Pub



Monday 5th March Butcher's Block Steak Night 6pm - 9pm
Whole joints of Aberdeen Angus beef from Doncaster's' family butchers of Newark. 30 day dry aged on the bone, cut in the restaurant and cooked to your liking. Prices are size dependent

Sunday 11th March 3 Course Mothering Sunday Lunch
12 noon - 6.30pm

A special 3 course meal to make your mother feel special
£21.95 per person, £9.95 children under 12

Booking essential. Book early to reserve your preferred time.

Friday 23rd March Speciality Sausage Night 5.30pm - 9.00pm
A special selection of sausages served with creamy mash and inclusive of a pint or equivalent.
£13 per person

Thursday 29th March Gin Tasting Night 7.30pm
Start the Easter Bank Holiday in style.
Served with a selection of canapes. £30 per person

Book now for all these events.

For further information or to book a table, please call us on 01777 871586, visit the Website www.dovecoteinnlaxton.co.uk or find us on Facebook.

All events can be booked and paid for on line using PayPal

**Look forward to seeing you all soon at your local pub,
The Dovecote Inn at Laxton**

Laxton History Group



The first meeting of 2018 was an entertaining one which attracted a good audience and plenty of items from members for our speaker Steven Watson, of Northgate Auction Rooms to look at.

Before Stephen took the floor we heard that the money released from the contingency fund we had created for our HLF project being distributed as agreed.

We have booked to exhibit at the Great Nottinghamshire Local History Fair in Mansfield on 13th May and members were encouraged to attend.

Roger introduced a discussion about expanding the work we are doing with the Michael Wood Award to a second school now that we have allocated additional funds and the project has proven it's potential at Kneesall. Members agreed that we should approach Norwell Parish Heritage Group to see if they would be happy for us to approach Norwell School to discuss working with them.

Jean presented the 2018 programme and advised members that the Group will meet at Egmonton Village Hall while Laxton is closed.



John Chambers introduced Stephen who explained how he had left school with no idea what he wanted to do and fallen into auctioneering almost by accident. He then worked his way through each item we had brought in turn. He gave

guide prices at the end.

There was a wide variety including some memorabilia from the Ancient Order of Foresters, Victorian jewellery boxes, a lady's pen knife, a microscope from approx. 1850, a silver and glass ink stand, sets of cutlery – one of which unusually had 7 spoons, a daguerreotype (an early photograph) dated on the reverse as 1857 and an impressive casket given to a



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member's great grandfather when he became Lord Mayor of London.

Stephen interspersed his comments on the objects with something of the history of Newark and some of the people he had dealt with and the items he had auctioned including the stories which had brought them to him.

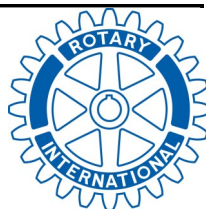
Stephen then moved on to items he had brought with him, including a good quality china jelly mould and a silver topped dressing table set. A silver plated cruet and tureen on legs with a spirit heater were to be auctioned soon to help pay for the funeral of a gentleman with no family and whose funeral was arranged by the Council. Finally Stephen spoke about a framed photograph taken from Newark Castle tower in the panoramic format of large school photos. It showed Newark from approx. 1900. The hospital could be seen and there was no island by the Ossington.

Stephen had brought a 'mystery object', which turned out to be a travelling bird cage. He had bought this from a sale of items found in what is now the Flintham shop and museum.



Final Wednesday Speaker Evenings with Meal

Your local Rotary meets at South Forest Leisure in Edwinstowe. Guests are always welcome, male and female, all ages, and often transport can be arranged if required.



The 'Final Wednesday of the Month' Speaker Programme is rapidly approaching the end of the Rotary year and hopefully all those with a quiz team enjoyed the Quiz Night on February 28th.

Our March Speaker is Phil Randell whose great interest is Astronomy. He will be presenting his illustrated talk on 28th March, details the same as usual, are below. If you would like to come along just contact me on 07711 802683 or phone South Forest Leisure Centre direct on 01623 823866. Diary Details. Wednesday March 28th, 7pm for 7.15 start. The £11 includes meal and speaker. Transport could be arranged for up to four people from Laxton.

Jeff Naylor

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Laxton's Historic Open Field Farming System - Public Meeting 23/1/2018

The Trustees of the Visitor Centre Trust invited villagers to attend a special meeting in the Village Hall for a presentation by their Chairman, Sir John Starkey. Sir John, as has been reported in Open Field over the last few months, has been liaising with the Crown Estate and others about the future management of Laxton, especially now that the Crown Estate has put its Laxton Estate up for sale.



The Open meeting held at 7pm on Tuesday 23/1/18 prior to the Parish Council meeting was very well attended with a reporter from the Newark Advertiser in attendance. We think that there were about 75-80 present.

Sir John presented his ideas and suggestions to the meeting and asked for questions. There was a lively debate and a very good show of hands to support the ideas to preserve the System at a local level but with support and guidance from a number of organisations.

Sir John thanked the meeting for support for his ideas, saying he will be arranging a number of meetings with these organisations and report back his progress.



Sir John Starkey

A report of the meeting appears at the back of the magazine with the Parish Council Minutes.

Following this meeting, the Parish Council met, confirmed its support and the following e-mail was sent to Sir John:

Dear John

At the parish council's meeting on Tuesday 23 January 2018, the councillors unanimously decided to support and pursue to the next stage the possibility of the ownership and control of Laxton passing from the Crown Estate to the village itself.

The councillors believe that this new and radical system of ownership would allow the whole community to preserve, develop and capitalise on Laxton's unique farming heritage and that this is a hugely exciting opportunity not only to preserve what this community has now but for the whole community to thrive and prosper for the long term.

Kind regards
Catherine Millward

Clerk to Laxton and Moorhouse Parish Council

Many thanks to the WI for providing excellent refreshments.

Sir John has been as good as his word and has begun negotiations with interested parties. He sent the following email to me to update us on what he has done:

'On Thursday I had a very good meeting with Sir John Peace and Vice-Chancellor of Nottm Trent University Edward Peck at Brackenhurst. They are both very enthusiastic about participating in a solution. The prospect of The Open Fields System playing a part in defining Sustainable Farming to underpin future Government Policy they find very intriguing. We left it that I would prepare a paper for Sir John on how I saw Laxton 5 years hence if our project could be effected and also that I would try and make arrangements to meet Ken Jones with V-C Peck with a view to having a look at the Estate's finances.

I feel that this is all very encouraging but that we also need to keep University of Nottingham in the frame as a participant. To that end I have a meeting with Pro-Vice-Chancellor Chris Jagger arranged for 14th February.

Late on Friday I received a very friendly letter from Ken Jones advising me that he was writing similarly to the tenants and the Parish Council. The object was evidently, first to correct some misunderstandings which appeared to have crept in and second to advise that steps were being taken to arrange a sale in the Spring at

which point interested parties would be invited to submit proposals via Iain Mills.

I have immediately enquired what is the proposed method of sale and whether it is still appropriate for V-C Peck and myself to meet him in advance. (In the context of the “sale” and the inference that others are to be invited to submit bids which would safeguard Laxton I have posed the question how could any individual or institution claim to be a better guardian of the Laxton heritage than the jurors i.e. residents of Laxton themselves?!)

After the meeting at Brackenhurst on Thursday I attended a plaque unveiling ceremony which provided a most useful opportunity to brief informally Kay Cutts, Leader of Notts CC and Roger Blaney, Leader of NSDC. Both were very supportive, the former with an eye on future tourism potential.’

The following is the text of the letter sent to tenants by Carter Jonas, agents for the Crown Estate on 5th February:

‘Dear ...

THE CROWN ESTATE: LAXTON

We write with an update on behalf of The Crown Estate following feedback from the tenants meeting on 2 November, attendance at the Court Leet and the recent meeting hosted by the Visitor Centre Trustees on 23 January.

The Crown Estate have also now received feedback from DEFRA with regard to a possible sale and have been discussing with its legal representatives as to how The Crown Estate can ensure that the intention of the Parliamentary Undertaking can be passed to any new owner and of course any subsequent owners. A further meeting is being organised with DEFRA to ensure that The Crown Estate is happy with these proposals and then, in light of the responses received from stakeholders so far, and assuming they are happy, the plan is to formally protect the open field system with a view to look to start actively talking to interested parties in the Spring.

The Crown Estate is aware from comments from tenants and Local Press articles that there have been local meetings at which it has

been suggested that: The Crown Estate might effectively donate the Estate to a local trust for nil consideration; that in the event that the Trust was not able to manage the Estate that it could be somehow handed back to the State and that both Ken Jones and Iain Mills have said the Estate would not be sold to a private individual or commercial organisation.

In respect of the proposed 'donation', The Crown Estate has a commercial mandate and is required under The Crown Estate Act to obtain best consideration in respect of all of its sales. It is therefore difficult to envisage how it could pass on the Estate for nothing as it produces a positive rental return, has a not insignificant value and The Crown Estate purchased the Estate rather than it being gifted. The second suggestion that somehow the Estate could be passed back to the State is similarly tricky as if The Crown Estate has sold the Estate there is no legal or other mechanism for it to be handed back to either The Crown Estate or the Government so this is also an unlikely outcome.

Finally in terms of who The Crown Estate may or may not sell to, notwithstanding the statutory obligation to obtain best consideration which it cannot forget, the most important factor will be the purchasers commitment to the open field system and the management of the Estate as effectively a heritage asset, albeit one that does produce a commercial return. The view that both Ken Jones and Iain Mills have publicly voiced is that they feel the purchaser may therefore not be a private individual or commercial organisation, but if either could show an appropriate commitment then there is no reason why that might not be the end result.

I hope this provides an update on the current position. Should you have any further questions then please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss further.

Yours sincerely

Kylie Roberts'

A regular update will appear in Open Field.

Michael Manning

'Our Farm 'cross t'road'; Corner Farm.

Memories of John 'America' Rose as told by his granddaughter, Madge Quibell, {1907– 2002} and grandson, John Frederick Sampson {1911– 1994}.

*Photo taken about c1898
outside the farm.*

Standing- Mary Jane Rose
néé Twidle.

Irene Rebecca Rose.

Seated -. John 'America' Rose,
Dorothy Violetta Rose, Anne
Rose nééLacey. Bertha
Christine Diantha Rose.



'I am not sure when Grandfather bought his threshing set, engine, drum and picker, but he had it at Corner Farm. His younger brother, Fred, was the engine driver, his brother, Tom, stacked the straw and another brother fed the drum. Grandfather didn't go himself with the threshing set but he had a waggoner, Fred Duckmanton and a lad who did the milking. They helped out at busy times.'

'Grandfather was the first man to buy and use a binder in the three fields. Before that he and his men had to be in the field, carrying their scythes, by 4 o'clock in the morning. The womenfolk had to take breakfast and dinners and sometime teas to the men, often walking a very long way away in to the far open fields.'

Early in the 1900s Grandfather Rose wrote to the Estate Office saying farming conditions were so poor that unless he got the rent reduced he would give up the farm. One Wednesday, when Grandfather was driving home in the trap from Newark Market, he saw Grandfather Newboults walking home and gave him a lift. He told him what he had done. Grandfather Newboults went straight to the Estate Office and applied for the farm. And got it! They never spoke again.'

'But....before he left Corner Farm Grandfather carved his name, J. Rose, onto the beam in the barn!'

Footnote:

John Rose and family moved from Corner Farm to School Farm in 1905. For a picture of the threshing set see Open Field Farming - Mary Haigh. Fred is most likely the one standing close to the engine.

In census 1891 and 1901 Fred is described as an engine driver and thresher.

MWS

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Film at Maplebeck Village Hall

Hell or High Water (15)

Tuesday 27th March

Tickets £5 on the door For more info please phone 01636 636421

This is a fantastic rustic thriller, invoking the spirit of the Coen Brothers, in a story of desperate men in desperate times. Set firmly in the shadow of the financial collapse of 2008, it sees two redneck brothers teaming up to rob a series of banks in Texas. Jeff Bridges is brilliant as the Sheriff on their tail.

New Fitness Activity at Maplebeck

'Clubbercise' is a new class which claims to 'bring a night out to your workout'. It will be held at 8.30pm in Maplebeck Village Hall. There are limited places and booking is essential.

Fun, easy-to-follow dance fitness routines to club anthems from 90's classics to the latest chart hits taught in a darkened room with disco lights.

Because of the high and low impact options Clubbercise dance fitness classes are great if you're just starting out on a fitness regime or if you're already a fitness freak!

More details and booking available from 07967 208230.

Robin Hood Award - 2nd Winner

Last month we received a notice congratulating Nicola Batty from Kirton on winning this annual Rotary Award. This month we have been told that Nicola was actually presented with the Award jointly with Beverley Pottinger, the organiser of 'Forget-Me-Nots' at Tuxford.

This is a twice weekly club for people worried about their memory, with a diagnosis of dementia, their families and carers and people who are lonely in the Tuxford area. The service has recently been used and valued by families from Laxton, and one of these nominated Bev for the award.

The winners will hold the trophy for 6 months each. Congratulations and thanks for all they do to both of them.

CHURCH SERVICES FOR OUR VILLAGE CHURCHES

MARCH 2018

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

25th Feb Lent 2

9am **Laxton HC**
10.30am **Kirton HC**

4th March Lent 3

9am **Kirton HC**
10.30am **Kneesall HC**
4pm **Wellow EP**

11th March

9am **Lent 4 – Mothering Sunday**
 Walesby HC and Kirton WfA
10.30am **Laxton WfA,**
10.30am **Kneesall WfA and Wellow WfA**
4pm **Egmanton WfA**

18th March

9am **Lent 5 - Passiontide**
 Egmanton HC and Walesby HC
10.30am **Wellow HC**
10.30am **Bilsthorpe MP**

25th March

9am **Palm Sunday**
 Laxton HC
10.30am **Kirton HC**

Holy Week in March:

Monday 26th

7pm **Stations of the Cross Service at Kirton**

Good Friday 30th

10.30am **‘Hot Cross Bun’ service Laxton**

Sunday 1st April - Easter Day

9am **Kirton HC Egmanton HC and Walesby HC**
10.30am **Kneesall HC and Wellow HC**
3pm **Moorhouse HC**



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2018

Mar 2nd

Village Hall Quiz

Mar 8th

Coffee Morning

Mar 14th

WI

Mar 16th

Church Dance

Mar 21st

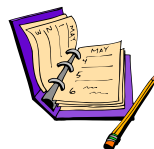
History Group

Mar 26th

MU

Mar 27th

Parish Council



Forward Planning

April 15th

Spring Fair, Idle Valley Nature Reserve

May 12th & 13th

Notts County Show, Newark

May 13th

Great Nottinghamshire Local History Fair

May 22nd

Parish Council with Annual Parish Meeting

June 8th - 10th

Bishop's visit to our Group of churches

July 7th & 8th

Open Churches Weekend 'Wedding Fair'

Jul 24th, Sep 25th, Nov 27th Parish Council

Details of other events will appear later, bearing in mind the closure of the Village Hall for works.

NB New entries appear in ***bold italics*** for the first month.

If you know the date of a meeting or an event, please pass it on so that others can take it into account when planning.

Copy Date for April: 16th March.

Please ensure we receive your contributions for the magazine by this date. We cannot guarantee to publish anything received later. We appreciate receiving items as early as possible.

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Laxton WI



Once again Brenda began the meeting by welcoming a visitor - Joy Robinson from Laxton. We hope she enjoyed her evening and will come again.

Brenda continued with a very full programme of opportunities offered to us through the county Federation. Two members had been fortunate to get tickets to go to the Bingo night with fish supper and had thoroughly enjoyed it. Their evening was a huge success. They reported that the food was lovely and, even better, they won both £45 and a raffle prize. Brenda suggested we might organise a games night one evening and this was greeted with enthusiasm.

Sandra is planning our annual party, which this year will be at Egmonton Village Hall on 4th April. Caterers and entertainers are booked and members who missed the meeting need to choose their starter.

We are again giving thought to the Notts County Show in May and Brenda asked for volunteers to help with the Group entry. The theme this year is 'Reduce, Reuse and Recycle'. This will be quite a challenge to make a craft item, a collage and a floral item.

This is the Nottinghamshire Federation's Centenary and the new National Chair, Lynne Stubbings, will be one of the speakers at the Spring Council on April 26th which several members plan to attend.

We have not had the best of luck with our speakers this year. The first one failed to arrive and Sue Floyd, who had been coming to speak to us this month about Royal Brides, was stricken with the seasonal flu. Fortunately Brenda was able to find a substitute at very short notice and we were very grateful to Margaret and Peter Foss for coming to speak to us about 'Iceland: Land of Fire and Ice'.

Margaret introduced them to us, saying we may have seen her name associated with the Bramley Apple competitions at Southwell, which she organises. She and Peter clearly love Iceland, despite the cold, the wet, the wind and the duct storms, and their interesting presentation was full of personal accounts and information they had gathered from local people which made it much more than just travel photos.

We learned that there is a single road going around the island which is now mostly tarmacked. A key bridge is usually an early casualty when lava flows in its direction, closing this road. Before motorised transport a guide was necessary to help horses negotiate a safe path. There are restrictions on travel into the uninhabitable interior which is for those in proper vehicles who know how to use them. Tourists in hire cars or on normal organised tours stay on the main road.

Charity Needs Stamps, Please Save Them



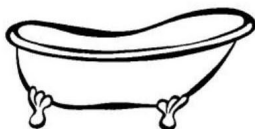
Sandra Clarke collects stamps for Bransby Horses throughout the year. If you like to would pass yours on, they can be left in Laxton with Jean Hennell or in Egmonton with Joy Allison and they will be passed to Sandra.

Thank you.

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Iceland is becoming very popular with visitors despite the high cost of living resulting from everything having to be imported. Most of the photos we saw were taken some years ago and we saw virtually no people.

On our anticlockwise tour starting at Reykjavik we soon came to a USAF base where the astronauts preparing for their trip to the moon had trained. There is a small museum describing the training. In addition to museums we saw a number of churches - modern, light airy structures with clean lines and colourful older buildings with colourful interiors. One stood on the site of the first Christian church on the island built around 1000 AD.

We learned that the Icelanders still respect their pagan heritage and are wary of upsetting the gods, hence an area called 'Neighbourhood of the Gods' with streets named after these deities. Christianity began to take hold but it was not until the Norwegian king threatened to stop trade if they remained pagan that a decision had to be made. The people were very dependent on imports from Norway and so after much discussion and the senior elder of the community meditating on the matter, he decreed that Christianity should be the official religion and the church referred to above was built.

A crack between the American and Eurasian continental plates runs directly through Iceland, giving rise to the many areas of volcanic activity, geysers, hot springs and boiling mud. This has shaped the scenery with black volcanic ash, black sand and outcrops of lava fields. We saw a plot representing 600 earthquakes / volcanic events in one day. The atmosphere is hinted at in the name Reykjavik, meaning 'Smoky Bay'.

The oldest democratic parliament in the world is in Iceland. The early tribal gatherings for the purpose of deciding laws were called 'Thyngs', which members remember being explained in relation to Thynghow at Birklands near Worksop.

A volcanic eruption had totally buried a community which has now been excavated by archaeologists. They discovered the remains of a long house where the whole community would have lived. This had been recreated and along with other buildings they were turfed and windowless. Even a collection of modern houses was turfed at the back and had very thick stone side walls for insulation. The front was corrugated metal due to lack of native wood. We saw a selection of lovely furniture made from driftwood.

We learned that 1st June is the start of summer while viewing a shot on that day of snow falling. The puffin is the symbol of Iceland and there is a local colony. Whales also put on a show for tourists in the boats which once killed them. Surprisingly tomatoes are an abundant local crop because hot water from the geysers is piped to heat greenhouses. This industry has been expanded to include other under cover crops.

The competition was for a wedding photo - old or new and there was a lovely selection on view. Next month Elizabeth Banks will be running a session on Easter crafts and we have **been challenged to bring a decorated Easter bonnet - and model it for the competition.**

Citizens Advice Sherwood and Newark - tips for people to land a new job

We are sharing tips with people who want to change jobs, from how to find a role that's a good fit, to the best way to tell your boss you are moving on. Past research has found 1 in 5 people consider changing jobs in January, making it the most popular time of year for job hunting.

National Citizens Advice helped with 1,100 problems concerning references when applying for jobs last year. Often people can struggle to get hold of a reference that is suitable, or can't get hold of one at all. Other problems workers sought help from on include when to disclose an illness to a potential employer, or how much notice they're required to give when nothing is specified in their contract.

It's really important to get your references lined up and to pass any other checks that are required before handing in your notice. Otherwise, you could run the risk of having your job offer withdrawn and your current employer may not be in a position to rehire you.

Top tips for finding the right role and handing in your notice

Do your homework

Do a bit of digging on what the employer offers to see if it matches your priorities. Most employers publish their staff benefits on their website, so you can see how much holiday and parental leave you can get, and how much they pay into your pension. If they don't have a website, contact the person who's posted the job ad directly.

Disclosing an illness or disability

You shouldn't be asked about having an illness or disability during the application process, and you don't need to disclose this unless you want to. However, if you need reasonable adjustments to be made at an interview let the employer know - the law says they have to be accommodating.

Make sure the job fits your circumstances

All employers need to consider requests for flexible working, but they don't have to accept it. It's your call when to make a request about changes to working hours - you could bring it up at interview or when you're offered the job.

Get your references lined up

An employer usually only gives a firm job offer once they've received one or more references. It's best to tell your employer you've been offered

another job and ask them if they'd be happy to provide a reference. Keep the conversation or email professional and friendly so as to avoid any problems later if the job offer falls through. If your current employer refuses, ask your new manager if they will accept a previous employer. Or you could try a school, college or university tutor if you've recently left education or supervisor from any voluntary work you've done.

Handing in your resignation

You should only resign from your current job when you have a definite job offer, preferably in writing, rather than a conditional one. This is when you've passed any checks set by your new employer, and they're happy with your references.

Check your notice period

Normally you have to work the notice period written in your contract. If you don't have a contract or no notice period is specified, by law you only need to give one week's notice. If your new employer wants you to start the job before your notice period ends, see if you can negotiate with your current boss. However, they have the final say.

Use up any holiday you've got left

Check your contract for rules around your remaining leave. If it says you should take your leave during your notice period, you can either take the leave or see if your employer will consider paying you holiday pay instead. If it's not specified, they may still ask you to take time off - but they need to give you notice to do so.

Getting a bad reaction from your employer

Most employers will handle your resignation sensibly, but Citizens Advice has heard reports where rogue bosses sack someone soon after they resign. This is against the law and you may be able to take them to court for unfair dismissal. If this happens, contact your local Citizens Advice who can help you navigate this process.

Anyone requiring advice or support can get help online at www.citizensadvice.org.uk or from Citizens Advice Sherwood & Newark Open Door Advice Sessions held at:

New Ollerton: 5 Forest Court, New Ollerton, NG22 9PL
Monday & Wednesday: 9:30am – 2:30pm

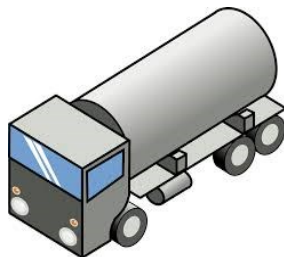
Newark: Castle House, Great North Road, Newark, NG24 1BY
Tuesday & Thursday: 9:30am – 2:30pm

Advice Line: 0344-411-1444 (Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm)

or Call Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on:

03454 04 05 06

Group Oil Order



The surprising news this time is that the price was not a lot higher than last time. Watsons secured the business for 21 customers at 42.62p per litre. There was a huge variance between the quotes this time, with Boilerjuice offering 46.4p for a local delivery of 1000 litres and Certas (Bayfords etc) offering 49.20p. Seldom do the prices vary quite so much.

We always negotiate for the best price and the discount is entirely governed by how much we are ordering. We need your order to hand before we contact the suppliers to ensure everyone gets the best deal. This time one supplier was asked their price for a 1000 litre drop and it was 2p a litre more than they were quoting for the group, so everyone wins by ordering together.

The next order will again be based on the price and the severity of the winter, but despite how cold it has been recently, we hope not to need to order until approx. July / August. In recent years the order has gone in between the end of July and the end of August.

If you want a delivery with that order, please make your requirements known from mid July - unless we find ourselves in a new Ice Age and an earlier order seems needed.

Please notify the volume you need to oil@openfield.org.uk.

Our order covers the Kneesall, Laxton, Egmonton, Tuxford, Weston, Sutton and Carlton area and you are welcome to tell your friends or neighbours.

One final point, if you have not received the reminder email and have previously ordered with us it is because you have not advised a change of email address. Everyone is contacted at the email address last notified. If yours has changed, please get in touch.

Kirton Coffee Morning

Kirton Hall Farm, Kirton (next to the post box)
10.30am Saturday, March 3rd, 2018

Entry £2 - includes tea, coffee and cake etc.

Cake Stall, White Elephant, Raffle

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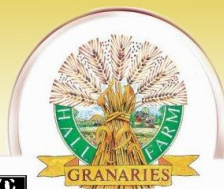
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Recent Bonus Ball Winners

Date	No	Name
20/1/18	47	J and D Geldard
27/1/18	16	Janet Cooke
3/2/18	38	Dorothy Cree
10/2/18	13	Colin Cree

Thank you all for your continuing support for our Sports Field. The total number of balls is 59, the same as the National Lottery. There are numbers available. **If you would like to join, you can choose from the numbers 1, 11, 52, 53, 56, 57 and 59. Anyone with a current ball is also invited to take another.**

To take a new ball please contact either Ken Shep on **870605** or myself on **870844**. Thank you.

Michael Manning



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Phantom Debt Fraud



Action Fraud notes more calls to members of the public by fraudsters requesting payments for a “phantom” debt. In a cold-call, someone purporting to be a debt collector, bailiff or other type of enforcement agent claims to be working under instruction of a court, business or other body and suggest they are recovering funds for a ‘debt’ which is, in fact, non-existent. They request payment, sometimes by bank transfer, and if refused, threaten to visit homes or workplaces to recover the ‘debt’. Victims have been threatened with arrest. Action Fraud reports this type of fraud is occurring throughout the UK.

It is important to recognise that there are key differences between the various entities who seek to settle debts or outstanding fees in England and Wales. These differences range from the type of debt they will enforce to the legal powers they possess. To learn more, please take a look at some of the helpful information and links on website; <https://www.stepchange.org/debt-info/debt-collection/bailiffs-and-debt-collectors-differences.aspx>

Report suspicious calls to Action Fraud by calling 0300 123 2040.

Protect Yourself

- Check carefully if you get a cold call. Bailiffs should always be able to provide you with case and warrant numbers, plus their name and the court they are calling from. Note all details provided to you.
- A Court Bailiff must always identify themselves at the earliest opportunity. Ask to see their identity card, which they must carry, and which shows their photograph and identity number. They will also carry the warrant showing the debt which will be endorsed with a court seal.
- If you are contacted in your working role, speak with your manager or business owner. *Never* pay the debts on behalf of the business. It has been suggested employees make payment and claim reimbursement by their employer, yet in truth there is no debt.
- Caution! Don’t believe someone is genuine because you’ve found something on the internet. Fraudsters easily create fake online profiles to make you believe them.
- Confirm with the body they claim to work for that the call is legitimate. If you use a landline ensure you hear the dialling tone prior to dialling. The caller could still be on the line and you could be speaking to the fraudster(s) to confirm the non-existent debt. Also search for a telephone number to call yourself. Never use a number provided by the caller.
- Do not feel rushed or intimidated to make a decision based on a phone call. Take five and listen to your instincts.
- If you know you have a debt, keep in regular contact with your creditor and check the debt type as soon as possible to help you to understand who might be in contact with you regarding any repayments or arrears.

The Dukeries Singers

*"Spring is near and yet more rain
As flash frosts kill the early shoots
A bit of gardening is in vain
As mud clarts up our wellie boots"*



A far more cheerful quote from Thomas Hardy;

*"This is the weather the cuckoo likes
And so do I"*

Let's hope we get cuckoo weather as we sing into Spring.

We have purchased a new keyboard and accompanying hardware for the Choir. The old one was really past its use-by date and let us down at some of our Christmas engagements. Ash, our Musical Director offered to research the project so we availed ourselves of his expertise and thanks to his diligence we now have a shiny new instrument which "plays all the right notes and necessarily in the right order!" (Memories of Morecambe and Wise and "Mr. Preview.")

We continue to work on our repertoire for our upcoming engagements and are concentrating on the perfecting of singing in parts. When all the harmonies are right and fit together there is no better sound. All voices blend to form wonderful music that is a pleasure to hear and perform.

The Choir rehearses every Wednesday evening from 7.30pm. until 9.15pm. in the Concert Hall at the Dukeries Academy in Ollerton. This is best accessed via the Leisure Centre entrance and car park. You will find more information regarding the Choir on our website:

www.thedukeriessingers.com

You can also find us on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube

Our Diary Dates:

A concert at Weston Church, a joint concert with Newstead Abbey Singers and a concert at the R.A.F.A. club Newark are all to be confirmed.

Our Annual Summer Concert will for this year break with tradition and will be held at The Jubilee Hall on the Wellow Road in Ollerton. It will be on Saturday 23rd June and this will also be our Choir's 40th Anniversary.

We have also been requested to sing at Milton Mausoleum on 21st July. A truly magical and atmospheric venue at which to sing.

If you would like to book the Choir to sing for your Fund Raising, Charity, or Celebration event please contact Phil on **01623 822070**, he would be delighted to hear from you.

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Laxton & Moorhouse Parish Council - Minutes of an open village meeting at 7.00 pm and subsequent Parish Council Meeting held on 23 January 2018

Present: Councillors: M. Manning (Chair), M.Hennell, J.Godson, S. Hill, R.Hennell, J.Hill, D. Brown

In attendance at village meeting:

C. Millward (Clerk), S.Michael (District councillor), Sir John Starkey, Dr Patrick Candler (CEO Sherwood Forest Trust), Residents/Members of the public (50+)

In attendance at parish council meeting

C. Millward (Clerk), S. Michael (District councillor), Members of the public (x2)

The meeting was preceded at 7.00 pm by an open meeting at which Sir John Starkey, Laxton Visitor Centre trustee, presented to the village the possibility of the land currently owned by The Crown Estate ("the Laxton Estate") being transferred into the collective ownership of the village.

The village hall was full. At least 50 members of the public attended.

Sir John Starkey's presentation focused on the following in particular:

1. The history, constitution and role of Laxton Visitor Centre Trust and the possible need for the Trust's objects to be revised if it were to become the owner and custodian of the Laxton Estate
2. The conflict between the Crown Estate's obligation to produce a 5% net return on all assets and to maintain the open field system. This conflict had been demonstrated by the recent split sale of one of the open field farms which separated the land and buildings. Concern regarding the implications of that transaction and any future similar transactions had led to the parish council raising the matter with The Crown Estate
3. The Crown Estate's conclusion, having liaised with interested parties and considered these concerns, was that the Laxton Estate might better be owned elsewhere.
4. The current situation was unprecedented and had arisen against background of wider changes, both structural and in outlook. Essentially, these were Brexit, the appointment of Mr Michael Gove MP as Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and a shift towards sustainable agriculture.

5. The overriding need for stewardship meant that another individual or institution was unlikely to be suitable. Sir John Starkey's view was that the only appropriate custodian was the Laxton community itself through a charitable trust which would be ideally situated to preserve, strengthen and develop the historic open field system. There would need to be a decision as to whether the Visitor Centre Trust should take ownership or whether it would be more appropriate to set up a new bespoke trust for this purpose.
6. Such a method of ownership would ensure that the village was able to control and decide how best to develop and take advantage of new opportunities to build on the community's unique heritage. These possibilities included a farm shop, the scope to develop Laxton as a retail brand, to develop the Laxton Estate as a centre of agricultural education in conjunction with Nottingham and Nottingham Trent universities, to promote the area as a visitor destination and to provide a benchmark model of sustainable farming.
7. Such a scheme, whilst exciting, would need a great deal of help and support to bring into being. There would need to be extensive consultation with the Court Leet, farmers, residents, relevant local authorities, the universities, MPs and councillors.
8. As regards finance, although the scheme would be eligible for Heritage Lottery funding, that would support development costs only but would not extend to the acquisition cost. Funding for this would need to be raised elsewhere. There would also need to be negotiation with DEFRA for a contract to deliver a sustainable farming benchmark. Both working capital and development costs not covered by a Heritage Lottery grant would need to be raised from the public.
9. The basis for the purchase from the Crown Estate would need to be established early in the process. The price is likely to prove key. Funds will need to be raised. In addition, although the estate is not loss making, investment funds will be needed for maintenance and improvement of assets comprised in the Laxton Estate, such as buildings.

An open floor question and answer and comments session followed when the following in particular were raised:

- a. Time constraints – Sir John Starkey confirmed that there were no specific time limits but, if a scheme is to succeed, it is most likely to do so by taking advantage of the current momentum as regards the Crown Estate and political and environmental changes
- b. The need for a healthy gender balance in the trust taking ownership and stewardship
- c. The limited nature of trustees' liabilities
- d. The unlikelihood of the Crown Estate giving the Laxton Estate to the community free
- e. Difficulties in making a living under the open field system which is at

- odds with prevailing agricultural trends
- f. The unsustainability of continuing the system as it is with farmers needing alternative incomes or farming at least two farms each to make a living
- g. The benefit to the community of having control over its future and all associated decisions
- h. The importance of incentives for young farmers and of provision for succession. Key to this was facilitating tenants' retirement.
- i. In essence, the choice would be between the village making decisions and the Crown Estate
- j. The risks of pursuing community ownership weighed against the risk and uncertainty of taking no action and allowing external agencies to determine the village's future.
- k. The extent of the interest in the project outside the village

Dr Candler addressed the meeting briefly and:

- i. Pledged the support and expertise of his organisation
- ii. Referred to his organisation's record of success in raising funds to support rural communities
- iii. Emphasised his belief that Laxton was a valuable national resource ideally placed to pioneer a brand new way of owning, farming and administering land.

Sir John Starkey concluded by outlining the next stage which was to enlist support, including financial, professional, governmental and political and to quantify the value of the Laxton Estate with a view to establishing that the proposed scheme of ownership was viable. He asked all present to indicate, on a show of hands, whether the village supported taking the scheme to this next stage. The majority of those present voted in favour of going forward.

1. **Apologies for absence:** There were no absences. Councillor Pringle's apologies were noted.
2. **Declarations of interest:** The chair declared an interest as a member of the sports field committee in item 11 (Property matters – Sports field) and an interest as member of the village hall committee in items 12 a i (Planning applications 17/02309/LBC and 13 b (Village environment – Village hall refurbishment project). 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 following matters were raised:
 - A. The new LED streetlights do not cast light widely enough creating dangerous dark areas on the pavement. The clerk will notify NCC
 - B. Currently, the 30 mph speed limits at the Kneesall Road, Bar Road and Moorhouse entrances to the village begin within the built up

area rather than at its edge. The clerk will contact NCC Highways to ask for these speed limits to be extended beyond the first houses in the village to ensure that traffic is travelling at an appropriate speed on entering the village itself.

- C. The absence of an asset register from the website. The clerk confirmed that the requirement extended only to public land. After discussion it was agreed that the fixed asset schedule which forms the basis for the Annual Return would be published on the website in any event. It was agreed that, given the audited system of approving and recording payments and the publication of payments over £100 on the website, the minuting of individual items was not required.
5. **Minutes of the parish council meeting held on 21 November 2017:** The minutes of the meeting held on were agreed as a true record and signed by the chair.
6. **Matters arising:** Concern was expressed at a delay in circulating the papers. All present recognized the importance of circulating them as quickly as possible. Where documents are also electronic, the clerk will circulate them by email as well as paper. There were no other matters arising.
7. **Reports from district and county councillors:**
Councillor Michael reported that:
- A The Old School House, which is currently empty, is not the subject of a planning application and is being marketed for sale
 - B For conservation reasons, Bar Farm House is now under the planning department's jurisdiction. Works required by Environmental Health have been completed.
8. **Reports from councillors:** The clerk will report the following matters identified by councillors:
- A Deep potholes across the straight section of Kneesall Road
 - B Flooding of the road in rain at Brockilow Bridge and at Kneesall crossroads. She will also raise concerns that the road at the Bridge is insufficiently wide for agricultural vehicles
 - C Overgrowth on the footpath outside Smithy Farm which needs to be cut back.
- Mr S Hill had attended the recent SNG meeting at which fly tipping, increasing fuel theft and hare coursing were discussed. Councillor Michael will chase NSDC regarding the removal of oil cans dumped in the parish.
9. **Approve equality and diversity policy:** Approved.
10. **Financial Matters:**
- A **Financial position as at 31 December 2017:** Councillors considered and noted the clerk's report showing the precise financial position at 31 December 2017 (incorporating the 2017-18 budget figures).
 - B **2018-19 insurance arrangements:** Councillors reviewed the

renewal documentation. Councillors decided to enter into the 2018-19 insurance contract with Zurich.

- C **Accounts for payment:** The council unanimously approved nine payments totalling £751.12.
- D **Appointment of internal auditor:** The clerk will continue her enquiries of other clerks.
- E **To consider the financial information provided by the Clerk and NSDC's letter regarding 2018/19 precept estimates and to agree the precept for the year ending 31 March 2019:**
Councillors considered the financial information provided by the clerk. Councillors unanimously decided to retain the precept at £4600 but with the re-allocation of the £550 budgeted for the village hall to the capital project budget, the village hall now benefiting from substantial grant funds for its refurbishment which, in turn, would significantly reduce its costs. The provision of a capital budget will allow the council to begin to build funds for other enhancements to the parish.

11. **Property matters including sports field and responsibility for sports field rent:** Having declared an interest at LMPC/2/18 above (Declaration of interest), the chair withdrew from the meeting for this item and the next (Planning). The clerk reminded councillors of all minuted references to the sports field rent she had identified and of the contents of the chair's email dated 5 December 2017, sent in his capacity as a member of the sports field committee, which confirmed that there were no committee minutes recording the position. Councillors discussed the history of the sports field and its use by the community. They felt that the monies currently being used to fund the rent might now be more appropriately applied for the benefit of the village community more widely. However, they recognised that a decision to end the interim arrangement entirely and revert to the original position would have financial implications for the committee. They discussed a transitional arrangement and decided to seek reimbursement of 50% of the rents payable in March 2018 and September 2018 with a view to seeking reimbursement in full from 2019. The clerk will make a formal request for reimbursement of half the rent due in March will follow at the appropriate time.

12. Planning matters:

A Applications:

- i. **17/02309/LBC** | Internal alterations and improvements, new external doors and fabric repairs. Replacement of existing roof coverings. | Laxton Village Hall High Street Laxton: Councillors considered the application and unanimously decided to support the proposal. They noted that at least two neighbours had not received notification of the application. The clerk will clarify the position as regards notifying neighbours with NSDC. The chair

returned to the meeting.

- ii. **17/02302/LBC** Full refurbishment of the Grade II Listed property (internal and external) | Brockilow Farm Laxton Road, Kneesall: Councillors considered the application and unanimously decided to support the proposal.

B To note planning decisions by NSDC:

- i. **17/01585/FUL** | Proposed change of use of land and buildings formerly in agricultural use to residential. Conversion of attached building to residential annexe and relocation of adjacent barrel roofed barn for use in connection with the existing dwelling- Approval noted
- ii. **17/01772/FUL** | Householder application for construction of single storey side and rear extension and demolition of a uPVC porch and the construction of an Orangery. | Twitchill Farm House Cross Hill Laxton - Approval noted

C Compliance: No issues raised

- 13. Village development including The Crown's long term strategy:** All councillors had been present at the preceding open meeting. They discussed the outcome of the meeting. They agreed that this new and radical system of ownership would allow the whole community to preserve, develop and capitalise on Laxton's unique farming heritage and that this is a hugely exciting opportunity not only to preserve what this community has now but for the whole community to thrive and prosper for the long term.

Councillors unanimously decided to support and pursue to the next stage the possibility of the ownership and control of Laxton passing from the Crown Estate to the village itself.

14 Village environment and appearance, including:

- A. **Location of and access to community resilience container:** Mr R Hennell confirmed that the containers are situated at Corner Farm and at Holme View Farm. They are left unlocked for swift access. There was discussion as to whether the second container should be re-located from Holme View Farm so that open access is available. It was agreed that Mr S Hill and Mr J Hill will explore the options for a location at the top end of the village.
- B. **Village Hall refurbishment project:** The planning application had been discussed and decided at LMPC/12 a i above. The chair confirmed that the village hall was likely to be closed for a period of six months whilst the works were completed. This is scheduled for 1 April 2018 at present but may be delayed because of various legalities.
- C. **Brown information road signs:** Absence of ready funding noted. Deferred indefinitely pending developments in relation to the village's future ownership.



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D. **Moorhouse – Village fingerpost including LIS funding application:** Councillors noted that the LIS grant criteria in relation to village signs had changed since their November 2017 meeting with monies having since been set aside and the removal of the requirement for any match funding. Councillors considered the quote obtained by Mr S Hill from Malcolm Lane & Son which totalled approximately £1500 plus VAT. They decided to apply for LIS funding one fingerpost with a contribution from the council of £750 made up of £200 already donated by Laxton History Group, £350 grant from councillor Pringle and £200 funded by council from general reserves. They authorised the clerk and Mr S Hill to undertake all necessary steps in relation to the application.

E. **Permissive access – Land surrounding cricket pitch:** Councillors noted that the existing permissive access provides the only view of Castle Mound. It was agreed that this should be preserved if the landowner is agreeable. The chair will make an initial approach to the landowner.

15. **Service faults:** See LMPC/18/18 above (Reports from councillors).

16. **Correspondence:** Item a NCC – Mill Field finger post replacement – The clerk will let NCC know to contact Mr R Hennell for access. All other items of correspondence noted together with the opportunity to purchase lamppost poppies for this year's Remembrance. It was agreed that the clerk should order twelve poppies.

17. **10 Minutes public speaking time:** The clerk will make enquiries of NCC as to the footpath cutting schedule. She will also report:

B Surface damage and poor drainage caused by root growth on the footpath which runs from Main Street opposite The Dovecote to church grounds

C Overhanging/surface vegetation leaving the path surface in a poor condition and covered with detritus which makes it dangerous to walk on the path which runs from the corner of the church grounds to join Chapel Lane.

18. **Agenda items for next meeting:** As above.

19. **Date of next meeting:** 27 March 2018 at Laxton Visitor Centre

Egmanton Village Hall

www.egmantonvillagehall.org.uk / 01777 871171

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

- ◆ Tuxford Young Farmers - Wed 7th & 21st
- ◆ Yoga with Greg – Tuesdays at 7:30pm
- ◆ WI - Thurs 15th March
- ◆ Children's Dance Classes - Saturday mornings (Jill, 07790 601877)
- ◆ **Computer Problems?** - Call 01777 871171.
If your computer is misbehaving or you need help setting up a new

Help! 'Roundabout' Needs Distributors

The Ollerton Community Magazine, 'Roundabout' is struggling to find volunteers to distribute the copies around Ollerton and Boughton. They had a person in each street who would do this, but time has taken its toll and now fewer people are available. If you know anyone in Ollerton or Boughton who might be able to distribute a number of copies each month in their local area, please would you ask them to **call Sheila Scott on**

01623 836600 or email rbt-newsdesk@tiscali.co.uk

Maplebeck Village Hall Events

www.maplebeck.org.uk / 01636 636692 / 636185

Regular Activities

Yoga	Tues 9.45am and Fri 9.30am
Fitness	To be announced shortly
Walkers	Weds 10.00am
Kurling (without the ice!)	2nd Weds monthly 7.30pm
Book Club	Tues 7.30pm <i>20th Mar, 24th Apr, 5th Jun</i>

Upcoming special events

14th Mar 7.30pm Kurling
27th Mar 7.30pm Film

Kurling
Hell or High Water

Useful Contact Details

Defibrillator Contacts:

Neil Randall 01777 871229 & 07710 398745, evenings and weekends
Pat Naylor 01777 870601, evenings
Jeff Naylor 01777 870601, as required
Mark Hennell 07812 908316, evenings
Stuart Rose 07939 228353, as required
Linda & Max McNaught 01777 870127, as required
David & Linda, Dovecote Inn 01777 871586, as required
Jeanette Geldard 07956 959135, daytime in Kneesall,
evenings / weekends
Anne-Marie & Geoff Rose 07961 933290 / 07957 991002, as required

Police

PC Gary Sipson 07525 226575 or 101 x 800 7673
Email : gary.sipson@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk

PCSO 4741 Keith Crowhurst 07889 702823 or 101 x 8007671
Email : keith.crowhurst4741@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk

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

Danger to life or crime in progress	999
Otherwise police switchboard	101
Crimestoppers (anonymous crime reports)	0800 555111

Medical

Tuxford Medical Centre	01777 870203
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
MP Mr Robert Jenrick: robert.jenrick.mp@parliament.uk	01636 612 837
County Councillor: cllr.mike.pringle@nottscc.gov.uk	0115 977 5661

Parish Council website: www.laxtonandmoorhouseparishcouncil.co.uk

Mothering Sunday Service

**Sunday 11th March, 10.30am
Laxton Church**

The service will be taken by Reader Joan Wood

Everyone will receive a posy of flowers

**Please come along and bring
the family - everyone
welcome. Why not stay for tea
and Simmel cake?**



Palm Sunday

Holy Communion Service

**Sunday 25th March,
9.00 am
Laxton Church**



**The service will be taken by
the Rev Anna Alls**