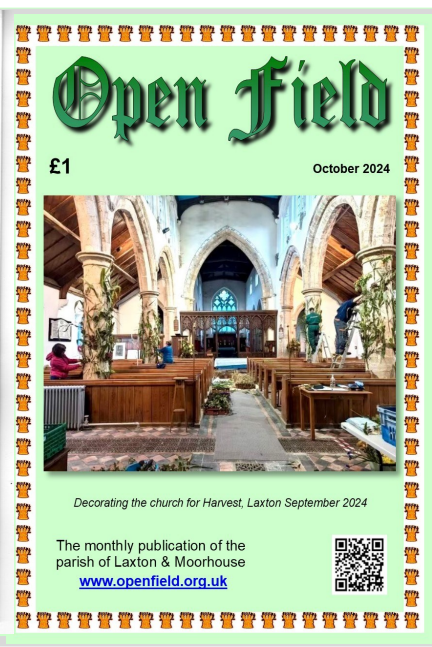
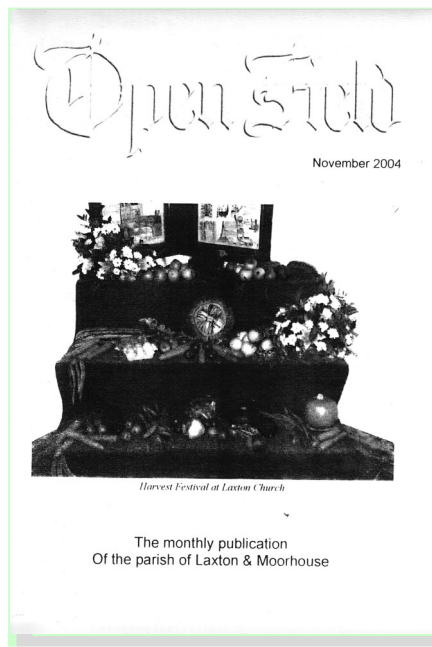


Open Field

£1

November 2024



20 Years of Open Field, Laxton 2024

The monthly publication of the parish of Laxton & Moorhouse

www.openfield.org.uk



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Parish Councillors: Chairman Mr Simon Hill 01636 822777

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Dik & Joy Allison

Open Field

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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 19th NOVEMBER PLEASE. Earlier preferred.** You can send in your contributions at any time.

Church News from our Churchwarden

I would just like to say a huge thank you to everyone who turned out on the morning of the 22nd September to tidy the church yard. It wasn't the best of days but everyone carried on with the work, including painting the railings, tidying up the edges of the paths



and rubbing down and treating the west end door.

Thanks again to everyone. It looks really good. Thanks to Dave for organising it and to Janet and Jean for providing the team with refreshments.

Brenda

Group Remembrance Service

Sunday 10th November, 10.30am

St Swithun's Church, Wellow

The service will be taken by Rev Alistair Littlewood

Wreaths will be laid

Everyone welcome

Sympathy - Tony Crothers

We are all sorry to hear of the passing of Tony Crothers of Egmonton. He passed away in Worksop hospital on Wednesday 9th October. Tony was the widower of Rosemary Crothers, née Grundy, formerly of Laxton. He leaves his sons Paul and Nigel and a granddaughter Joel. We send sympathy to them all.

Tony will be buried at Laxton Church, where Rosemary is buried, on **Tuesday 5th November 2024**. The service will be at **2pm** followed by the burial.

Everyone who knew Tony is invited to the village hall afterwards for refreshments and to share memories of him and Rosemary.

Sympathy - John Bacon

We were also sorry to hear about the death of John Stephen Bacon of Laxton on Sunday 6th October. John and his late wife, Viv, had three children; Kate who was married at Laxton eight years ago, and twin boys Alistair and Edward.

Get Well Soon - Helen Pick

We were very sorry to hear that Helen Pick had needed to spend time in hospital in Sheffield. We are delighted to know that she is now back home with Richard and Charlie and doing well.

We send very best wishes for a swift and complete recovery.

As always, we send best wishes to anyone else who is unwell or awaiting surgery. We hope you are soon back in the best of health.

Congratulations - Charlie

A little bird told us that one of our newer and younger residents, Charlie Pick, was wondering if his birthday might appear in the greetings list when he was looking at the magazine



last month.

Naturally Mum, Helen, let us know, which is the only way you get a greeting in the magazine.

We are delighted to have the opportunity to send Charlie a very big 'happy birthday' for his 8th birthday on 16th November 2024.

Many Happy Returns, Charlie. Have a great day.

Coffee Morning Corner

1st Saturday	15 Kirton Park, Kirton	10:30am	None in Nov
2nd Saturdays	Egmanton Village Hall	10 - 12	09/11/24
3rd Saturdays	Laxton Village Hall,	10:30 - 12:30	16/11/24
5th Saturday	Ossington Hut,	11 - 1	30/11/24

Please note the change of date, for this month only, for Ossington Coffee Morning. In December they will hold a Luncheon Club but no Coffee Morning because of the way dates fall over Christmas.

Village Hall News

“Laxton Chop & Chat” - a Laxton Alive Project

Please come and join us, at 11 on Monday November 4th to prepare and cook a roast pork dinner together, in Laxton Village Hall

All the food is provided, and the costs are covered by a grant from NSDC, so just bring yourself and a potato peeler.



11 am to 2 pm, on the 1st Monday of the month from October to March

Don't let travelling be a problem, we should be able to sort something out. Everyone is welcome, although numbers are limited, please contact Dave Sheard on **07941 625 761** to book a place, so we can get the catering right.

Fitness Class

The first Pilates session has been and gone, with 13 scattered around the village hall on mats, moaning and groaning. Truly a sight to behold. A good time was had by all, hopefully the first of many.

We are currently fully booked, but let me know if you want to join the waiting list. Thursday evenings between 18:30 and 19:30. **7th, 14th & 21st November** then hopefully becoming a regular weekly event.

The Wi-Fi hotspot at Laxton Village Hall is up and running. All of the information to access it is on the notice board outside the village hall.

Please spread the word, especially to visitors, who need to access the internet whilst in the village, but struggle to get a phone signal.



Winning Children's Prayer

The following prayer was the winner in one of the Harvest Competitions in October 2004. It was published in the November edition. The writer still lives in the village. Does anyone, including the writer, remember who wrote it? (No cheating, those of you with a full set of magazines covering all these years!)

Dear God,

Thank you for all your gifts,

For making the darkness of the night,

For making the morning light,

For all the animals I love so much,

And all the flowers I can touch,

For giving us food and drink,

For giving us minds to think,

All these things you sent from above,

But the most precious gift of all is love.

December Quiz

Now on Friday 29th November, following the normal format, with Joan & Roger as our quiz hosts.

Contact the trustees to book a table.

Thank you for your continued support,

Dave Sheard

Sherwood Forest Rotary

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Community**

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**Meeting every 2nd
Wednesday at**

Ollerton House Hotel

Visitors always welcome

www.rotary.org/1220

Free Lunch

There's no such thing as a free lunch

Oh, yes there is!

At least there is for Laxton residents and guests from the locality.

In the village hall on the first Monday of October a few of us enjoyed a wonderful free lunch, courtesy of Newark and Sherwood District Council and the excellent cooking skills of Dave Sheard.

Whilst sitting in the café area, enjoying a cup of coffee, we chopped the vegetables and chatted away to each other, putting the world to rights.



The preparation over, Dave, who was making full use of the village hall kitchen, cooked two roast chickens, (with all the trimmings), roast and mashed potatoes, three veggies and gravy. He followed this with a superb apple crumble and cream. Thank you, Dave.

All this cost Laxton and Moorhouse villagers nothing at all. Our two guests who came along to enjoy the occasion made a donation.

It was a lovely social occasion, where some of us got to know each other a little better. There was time to simply sit and talk, to recall and to recount, and to laugh together.

On **Monday, November 4th** a lunch will be held once more in the village hall, this time with roast pork on the menu. Get it in your diaries now! Where else can you get value like that!

All villagers are welcome and if anyone knows of others in the locality who would benefit from coming, please bring them along as guests. If transport is a problem, it can be arranged for you.

Please contact Dave in advance if you plan to come as he needs numbers to get the catering right:

Dave Sheard, Orchard View
07941 625 761

Joan Cottee

CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERIES,



Christmas is not far away. Do you want to save on postage or save your legs walking round the village? We have the answer! We will be putting the Christmas card box out again in the church.

If you wish to have your cards delivered, just pop them into the box on top of the bookcase at the back of the church with a contribution to church funds in the metal box on the wall. Then they will be sorted and delivered for you.

The first day will be Saturday 30th November finishing 14th December ready for sorting and delivery. Thank you

Remember, just post your cards into the box and make a donation to the church, from **30th November - 14th December, for delivery soon after.**

Please note the advice below.

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.**
3. Remember, "To Sue" is unlikely to get to Sue and "Sue, Timothy Road," will not fare much better.
4. Please support the church this Christmas. The income from the donations is very valuable.

Thank you

Brenda

Peace Doves at Lincoln Cathedral



There is still time to go along to Lincoln Cathedral to see this lovely spectacle suspended above the nave at the season of Remembrance.

Peace Doves will be on display until **14th November 2024.**

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NOVEMBER CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to everyone celebrating this month. The birthday roll of honour is:

Ivan Rayner, Jean Hennell, Janet Cooke, Jackie C, Charlie Pick(8), Lesley Tindall, Marti Waterfield, Julia Banks, Richard Banks, Heather Storton, Dik Allison.

We have no details of any anniversaries this month:

Very best wishes to everyone mentioned. To anyone we may have missed, we wish you all a wonderful day and a happy and healthy year to come.

If you would like a mention for your special day, however long you have been associated with Laxton or Moorhouse, we would be happy to do so.

Brenda



20 Years of 'Open Field'

Last month's was the final issue of the 20th year with the current editorial team. Jean Hennell had held the role of editor for some time before that and for a while the magazine had been put together and printed by Beth Shalom, now the Holocaust Centre.

Their change of plans meant that the magazine had to rapidly find someone else to compile it and also to print it. The new team was announced in the November 2024 edition, when I took over the compilation. I was 'invited' to take it on just three weeks after we moved here and was still going through packing cases. It was announced to the readership in the following article:

Open Field - production changes

You may notice some changes to the layout of the magazine this month. The people at Beth Shalom are no longer able to produce it and we offer them our thanks for the hard work they have put in to produce 'Open Field' in the past.

Joy Allison has been invited to take the job over - with technical assistance from Dik. Some readers will be familiar with Joy and Dik, who have been regular visitors to Laxton for many years. They are often to be seen 'working on their NVQ in farming' around Bottom Farm at Laxton or in the fields. They recently decided to make their holiday home their permanent home and moved into Egmanton.

Joy says she first learned to use a computer when editing a parish magazine in Essex more years ago than she cares to admit to, so in a way it is coming full circle.

Dik is the computer whiz, and he has been responsible for setting up the template to retain much of the look that 'Open Field' has had in recent times.

If you have any comments or suggestions to make on the style or layout, please let Jean Hennell or Joy know. As ever, all contributions gratefully received. It is always good to know there is someone out there reading what we produce!

A temporary printing arrangement was secured to produce the November edition, but you can see from the examples here why changes had to be made.

It wasn't long before we found Tony Tucker, previously vicar at Norwell, later at St Giles, Balderton, and now in 'retirement' at Claypole. He has considerable knowledge of printing and he is still arranging printing for us.

The magazine has gone through some changes. Early on we agreed that full page adverts for events was not good use of space, and we limited them to half a page maximum. The magazine was in black and white and it was some time before colour printing was good enough and there was enough in the kitty to afford to offer colour adverts and have a colour front and back. Our last year has seen the magazine in full colour due to an arrangement between Tony and a local school.

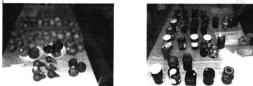
We have had a couple of full colour commemorative editions, which were presented free to readers by the church, which underwrites the magazine. Our latest new venture is to offer a small number of copies for sale at Hall Farm, Weston on the counter of the Birds Nest Coffee Lounge and we are trialling it at Sally Mitchell's Gallery.

After 20 years, we would very much welcome any ideas for improvements or offers of help in any way. We could benefit from someone to manage the advertisements and to find new advertisers. If you have any thoughts or offers, or indeed would like to offer a contribution in any form, please get in touch with Jean on 870276 or at Blacksmith's Cottage.

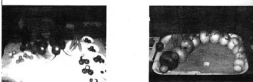
This is also an opportunity to send a big thankyou everyone who has contributed to the magazine over this period. Without you all we would have had nothing to print and nobody to deliver it.

Joy

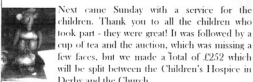
Laxton Harvest Festival



On Friday the church was beautiful. The service was enjoyed by everyone. Thanks to the readers and choir, 61 people attended the supper afterwards. In all it was a lovely night.



Saturday came along with the competitions. A lot of people joined in, but could we have a few more competitions?



Next came Sunday with a service for the children. Thank you to all the children who took part - they were great! It was followed by a cup of tea and the auction, which was missing a few faces, but we made a total of £252 which will be split between the Children's Hospice in Derby and the Church.

Supper Dance

In Laxton Village Hall
Music by Images
8 - Midnight
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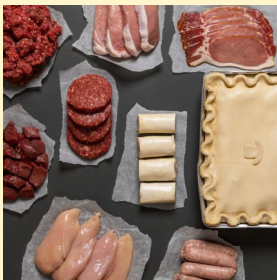
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Firework Safety



If you're planning a firework display at home for Bonfire Night, here's what you need to know:

- Make sure you buy fireworks from a licensed retailer, both in-store and online. Do not buy fireworks from unknown retailers on social media sites.
- Store fireworks in their original packaging. Lock them away from children and animals.
- Remember that the cut-off for fireworks on Bonfire Night is midnight, and that Christmas and New Year's Eve is 1am. Any other time it is 11pm.
- Make sure you read ALL of the instructions on the box. If you don't understand them, don't set off the fireworks.
- Tell your neighbours that you'll be having a firework display so they can make any arrangements for pets etc.
- Keep all cats and dogs inside and give outdoor pets extra bedding so they can burrow in it.
- Ensure that fireworks are out, soak them in water overnight, then put them in a rubbish bag and in the bin



Laxton & Moorhouse Annual Christmas Light Switch-on Sunday 1st December 2024

Dukeries Band

Hot drinks

Mince pies

Sausage rolls

Mulled wine

A warm welcome

5.00pm

Laxton Village Hall



Laxton History Group



In September, we welcomed one of our most popular speakers, John Whitfield, who is always a fount of knowledge. This time he was speaking about the Women Pilots of WWI.

Setting the scene during the 1930's in the run up to war, John described flying aeroplanes as man's work. Flying lessons were expensive. Locally, £5 per lesson was charged at Tollerton at a time when a worker's wages were around £1-£2 a week. In the Home Counties however some women from more affluent backgrounds could afford the lessons and gained their pilot licence.

Military leadership in the UK at the outbreak of war in 1939 was largely an aristocratic hierarchy. However, the RAF were aware of a waste of resources using trained combat pilots to transport planes from factories to active service airfields. Advertisements were placed for civilians holding a pilot licence to undertake this task, in the expectation of applications from men who were too old for combat.

In 1940 a new civilian organisation was created, the Air Transport Auxiliary (ATA). Based at White Waltham in Berkshire the ATA was under the administration of Gerard d'Erlanger a director of British Airways Ltd. Through his social contacts Mr d'Erlanger recruited both men and women to the ATA. An initial pool of 7 men and 3 women grew to attract 600 men and 164 women volunteers during the war years.

At first the women pilots were only cleared to fly de Havilland Tiger Moth training biplanes from Hatfield to Scotland. Even at the height of the Battle of Britain they were not permitted in Hurricanes or Spitfires.

Under the leadership of the redoubtable Commander Pauline Gower, the first transport flight of a Hurricane by a woman pilot was allowed in 1941. The women pilots were not allowed to enter combat in the planes. Eventually women pilots were incorporated in all the ferry pools and were permitted to fly virtually every type of plane flown by the RAF. For most journeys they would fly solo but when ferrying the four-engine heavy bombers e.g. Lancasters, they were accompanied by a flight engineer.

One notable feature of the ATA was that women received the same pay as the men of equal rank. This was unusual at the time when women were paid considerably less than their male colleagues undertaking war work e.g. in factories building the planes.

British women pilots were joined by volunteers from the British Empire, Chile, Argentina, Poland and the USA. They were seen as glamorous by the press and photographs appeared on the cover of magazines such as Picture Post.

One of the early applicants to the ATA was debutante Diana Barnato Walker, daughter of Woof Barnato, a racing driver and financier whose family wealth derived from diamond mining. She continued intensive flying with the ATA until the organisation was disbanded in 1945. By contrast, another early ATA pilot, Lettice Curtis came from an academic and sporting background gaining a degree at Oxford University and captaining the University Tennis and Fencing teams. Lettice was the first woman pilot to deliver an Avro Lancaster bomber. Her war service was described as flying “thirteen days on, two off, for sixty-two consecutive months.”

When the USA entered the war following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour in December 1941, President Roosevelt turned down the prospect of female pilots serving in the forces. This attitude prompted several American aviatrixes to volunteer for the ATA. Most prominent among these was Jackie Cochran, a brash pilot and businesswoman. Cochran returned to the US in 1942 using her experience to obtain official authorisation to form the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP). Ann Wood was an American pilot who remained with the ATA until the end of the war. She later described some of the challenges she faced. Particularly memorable was the time she followed her male colleagues flying Spitfires under bridges spanning the River Severn when en route from the West Bromwich factory to the West Country.

Air transport was a dangerous occupation. Weather conditions were a constant concern, in particular low cloud masking obstacles, at a time when the pilots could not fly by instruments alone. There was also the possibility of mechanical failure. One in six of the male ATA pilots and one in eleven of the women were killed in service. The most famous to lose her life was the aviatrix Amy Johnson. In 1941, when flying an Airspeed Oxford via Blackpool to an airfield near Oxford she went off-course in adverse weather conditions, reportedly running out of fuel and crashing over the Thames estuary.



Next month will see our popular Craft Fayre, with its great selection of gift ideas as well as games, a light lunch and a good chance to chat to friends and neighbours. This year it falls on **November 16th**, so please put the date in your diary.

Our final meeting before the winter break will be on November 20th, when the subject will be ‘The River Trent and the Countryside’, with Keith Small .

We welcome villagers and anyone interested in hearing more about the topics on the programme. There is no membership fee - just £3 at the door and attending once in the year makes you a member. We look forward to welcoming you.

Nature Notes from Moorhouse



As I sit and write this in mid October, the leaves are colouring up and falling serenely with every gentle blow of the wind. The skies are generally quiet and bird song at a low. That being said, this morning I recorded quite a few gold crest in the Christmas tree field and a pair of bull finch in the woods. As always at this time of year, I can hear the robin, with its powerful yet serene, solitary and beautiful voice. There is also the wren with a song that never ceases to amaze in its volume and variety for such a small bird. Both are in full swing.

The house martins have all left now and the swallows a good month prior. I'm already yearning for the day they return, when spring will be well and truly underway. In the wood we are currently being treated to an epic display of spindle berries, sloe and hawthorn. I enjoy collecting the sloes and making sloe gin ready for Christmas!

Unfortunately, though I have noticed extensive damage to quite a few trees caused by the non-native grey squirrel. This may well prove fatal to the trees, which are field maple mainly. Apparently, they strip the bark and eat the sugary sap, resulting in lots of damaged trees and they are very difficult to control!

Around the wood and on the many well-established trees we have lots of ivy, which is such an undervalued plant species. You must stop and only briefly observe ivy this time of year to see how important it is. It provides autumn food for so many insects, in particular, bees, wasps, hornets and butterflies - just fantastic to watch. Then later in the year it is a vital food source with its berries..... please don't chop it down!





The garden feeders are as busy as ever with woodpeckers, gold finches, long tailed, blue, great and coal tits, chaffinch and starlings all making regular appearances.

We were also treated recently to a tree creeper on the oak tree next to the house. It is a beautiful bird to observe. No sign of our winter visiting fieldfare or redwing yet. They usually arrive late October and early November to feed on windfall apples and the many berries that our climate provides.

Please don't forget to regularly clean and disinfect your bird feeders. This is really important to stop devastating diseases such as trichomonosis and salmonella infection that particularly affects finches.

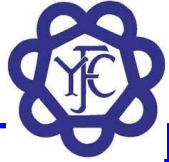
I have just installed a barn owl box and a nest box specifically aimed at



encouraging willow tits. Sadly they have declined by an astonishing 94% since the 1970s. The Willow Tit is a specialist nester that builds inside rotting trees by hollowing out the pulp and it is believed loss of habitat and suitable nesting sites, due to tidying up dead trees, is the cause. Keep your eyes open everyone and enjoy each beautiful season.

Paul Longmuir

Tuxford Young Farmers



We had a great start to this month with Tuxford Young Farmers. We began with a talk about the focus on farmers and their mental health and physical well-being.

The week after that we held our AGM. I would like to welcome everyone to their new positions in this club. I



would also like to say 'Well done'

to Evie for stepping up and being the new Chair of Tuxford Young Farmers Club.

On September 18th we had a lovely talk from Andy Guy, who is the NFU rep and consultant.

We went and had a look round the Country Victualler Butchers and Bakers, where we were shown around the factory.

We were shown some of their produce and we each got to make our own steak pie, which was lovely.

The following week we had a New Member meeting, where we



got lots of new people and we did a few ice breakers before we tackled a quiz at the end.

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped at the Southwell Ploughing Match and Show on 29th September.



Ossington Events

Ossington will be hosting a **Quiz Night on Friday 8th November** at the Hut - 7pm start. Wine, soft drinks and light refreshments, plus raffle. Tickets £8.50/head including first free drink.

Please contact Judy or Peter Geldart on **01636 823832** or judygeldart@gmail.com for more information.

There will be a **Remembrance Gathering on Monday 11th November at 10.45am** at the War Memorial to remember all those lost from the parish during war and conflict. There will be light refreshments in the Hut afterwards. All are very welcome to attend (Please note that the Art Group will meet on Tuesday 12th November instead).

Ossington Church is still closed. They continue to wait for an assessment of the damage to the church and an estimate of cleaning costs. For this reason there was no chance of holding November's service in the church. The service will be in the Hut at the usual time of 10.30 am on Sunday 17th November and they are still hoping they may be able to celebrate Christmas in a freshly cleaned and painted church.

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Laxton, Moorhouse and Ossington Solar Concerns Group

Would you like to join our WhatsApp Group?

We are a group of residents residing in the above locality. We exist to influence and question the designs and concept of the GNR Solar Project. Our objective is to interact with Elements Green, JPAG, NASSAG and the Parish Council. We are concerned about the massive potential impact in our villages and surrounding areas of the proposed solar farm. Impacts such as, The Landscape, Character and Visual impact, Ecology and Biodiversity, Agricultural land classification, Noise, Public Right of Way and Conservation and Heritage. If you would like to help, contribute, attend our meetings or just lend your support, please email your contact number so we can add you to the group. Thank you.

theholdings.moorhouse@outlook.com





Christmas Cards!

Come in and view our huge range of Countryside, Dog, Equestrian and Sporting Christmas Cards.

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Sports Field Bonus Ball Weekly Draw

21/9/24	56	Clive & Sue Corah
28/9/24	12	Roy & Jean H
5/10/24	19	John & Carol S
12/10/24	37	ROLLOVER

Since last month, Bonus Ball numbers **32** has recently become free, so we now have 6 of the 59 numbers available for anyone who would like an additional one or who would like to become a new member.

The available numbers are: **32, 34, 37, 51, 52, 53** As a reminder, all proceeds go to supporting the Laxton Sport and Recreation Field facilities.



Group Oil Order

The daily price published by Boilerjuice for the average price of 1000 litres of oil in England has been falling steadily, but took a sharp upward trend on 12th September which continues. It is to be hoped that it will come down again before we need to order again, but it had reached a recent peak of almost 74p inc. VAT, which is the wrong way altogether!

The pre-Christmas order is planned to be in the later part of November, as close to the end of the month as seems possible unless the price says otherwise. **Please start sending orders now.**

You are welcome to join the ordering group at any time provided that you can be contacted by email.

Everyone orders as much as they want and when they need oil at the time of an order. There is no obligation to order and nothing stopping members ordering with any supplier between group orders.

Please use my personal email if you have it. oil@openfield.org.uk is a general address you can use if you don't have mine, which I don't publish because of the amount of spam it generates. Joy

NOVEMBER SERVICES IN OUR VILLAGE CHURCHES

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

3rd November

10:30am Laxton HC Rev. Margaret

10th November

10:30am Wellow **Remembrance Group Service**
with Rev. Alistair

17th November

10:00am Walesby HC Rev Vaughan

10:30am Wellow HC Rev Ford

24th November

10:30am Kirton HC Rev Alistair


1st December

10:30am Laxton **Advent Sunday**

Advance Notice


15th December

4:00 pm Laxton Carols and Readings



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

NOVEMBER



Mon 4 th	Chop & Chat Luncheon Club (Pork)
Thurs 7 th	Exercise class (LVH) Pilates
Weds 13th	WI
Thurs 14th	Exercise class (LVH) Pilates
Sat 16 th	LHG Craft Fayre including the Coffee Morning
Weds 20th	History Group
Thurs 21st	Exercise class (LVH) Pilates
Tues 26 th	Parish Council
Fri 29 th	Village Hall Quiz Night (note new date)
Sat 30th	Christmas card collection until 14th December

Forward Planning:

DECEMBER

Sun 1st	Lights Switch on at LVH, 5pm
Mon 2nd	Chop & Chat Christmas Lunch
Thurs 5th	

Regular Events:

<i>Parish Council</i>	<i>4th Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September and November</i>
<i>Quiz Night</i>	<i>1st Friday March tbc</i>

**Copy Date for DEC 2024 / JAN 2025 edition:
12 noon, 19th NOVEMBER 2024**

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.



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- .Mange Tout
- .Celery
- .Garlic Bulbs.
- .Lettuce
- .Tomatoes
- .Cucumber
- .Peppers
- .Spring Onions
- .Soft Fruits
- .Apples
- .Satsumas
- .Pears
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- .Grapes
- .Local Honey

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Our President welcomed everyone to the meeting, including two new members, Julie and Daphne, and three visitors Helen, Sarah and Rebecca.

Janet, Sandra and Sue were thanked for knitting hats, scarves and mitts to be sent abroad for the children in Romania, Ukraine, Bosnia and Belarus. These will be sent by lorry in time for the children for Christmas.

Three members have applied for tickets to go to the county Christmas afternoon tea at the Hostess restaurant at Sookholme which will be followed by entertainment by Lily Taylor Ward, a classical soprano singer.



On 3rd October we held another of our fashion shows, staged by Suzanne of S.O.S. Thanks to everyone for their support and special thanks to the models Margaret, Jenni, Julie, Rebecca and Emma.

Our speakers for our evening meeting were husband and wife Paul and Janet Barrass. The title of their talk was “My Mum had one of Those”, and how

fascinating it was. They do a huge selection of talks and presentations, having already given 161 this year. They have over 1000 articles in their collection which they take with them according to the subject of their talk.

The first article was a brown teapot with a knitted cosy. They say brown pots make the best cup of tea. They had



different packs of tea, including Indian Prince tea, 99 and Hornimans. You were allowed 2oz per person per week as your War ration. Then we had a go at the song opened "A Nice Cup of Tea".

Following that came the Ovaltinies and their song. A basket of underwear was next, including the liberty bodices, silk bloomers and passion

killers which all caused a laugh. They had a lovely display of items for us all to look at and they were very knowledgeable about everything.

At our November meeting on the 13th, we will be making Christmas cards and in December we will be going out for our Christmas meal.



Parking Ticket Scam

This month Nottinghamshire County Council want to make you aware of a national scam circulating relating to parking fines, and remind you that they will NEVER contact you by text message about a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN). As part of the parking scam, victims are told that their local council has issued them with a PCN and that if payment is not received within 28 days it may double.

If you receive a scam text message you can forward it to the National Cyber Security Service on 7726.



Pay Up-Front Scams

Been asked to pay an up-front fee for a product or service? Taking a moment to stop and think before parting with your money or information could keep you safe. Ask yourself if it could be fake. It's ok to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you. Contact your bank immediately if you think you've been scammed and report it to Action Fraud.



Southwell Ploughing Match

What a glorious day dawned to welcome the 2024 Ploughing Match, which this year was at Oxton. The sun shone and there was a gentle breeze which combined to make it a perfect day for walking around the site.

The Young Farmers were there again, organising the tractor and trailer rides. The tents hosted the produce and crafts, including some fantastic bakes and beautiful flower arrangements.



There were ploughmen with horses. Unusually there was one single Shire horse with a plough. There were three other teams of Shires and the pair of Norwegian Fjords which come every year.



As they paraded in the ring, the announcer said they are 20 years old.

Also in the ring were bloodhounds and a pack of fox hounds accompanied by hunt personnel dressed for the hunt.



They cleared the ring, dismounted and then invited the children in to meet the hounds. Both seemed to enjoy it and it was quite a job clearing the ring of children to allow the dancing diggers to enter and perform.

Youngsters who are fans of tractors were not disappointed. There were plenty to look at and some they could climb into.





Dave Sheard was up early to get these two lovely photos. Above: Glebe Field
Below: from their landing.

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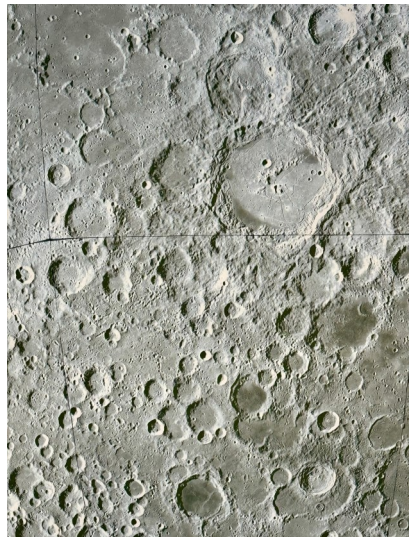
Museum of the Moon at Southwell Minster.



The latest large scale astronomical installation opened in Southwell Minster on the evening of October 11th. Fittingly it was a bright, moonlit night with a half moon shining brightly over the queue



outside. Cathedrals are ideal spaces for such spectacles. The accompanying music sounded perfect.



News from the Museums of Tuxford

As we reflect on Remembrance day and the wars that still exist around the world, our thought turn to how simple things in life can bring us hope. At the Walks of Life Museum we look to nature. Our last rose of summer to bloom is named in 'Loving Memory'. It is to be recommended as it has a lovely scent as well as being a delight to look at. Planted in our memory garden the growth of trees and flowers brighten the landscape.

It makes you think of how those at war might look for small signs of hope in dreadful surroundings, and to nature in a more peaceful moment and to support from their comrades.

Out of disaster in World War I, the soil disturbance provided the prime conditions for poppies to flourish. As a result, the red poppy became a symbol of remembrance, which is nationally recognised today. It inspired Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, a physician, author and artist, to write the famous poem 'In Flanders Fields'.

The museum has a display of war time memorabilia and tributes to those lost at war. Do come along and look at our collection, much of which reflects local history.



We are planting a 'Chelsea Pensioner' rose (a red hybrid tea) in the rose garden as a tribute to the Chelsea Pensioners. The Royal Hospital Chelsea was started by Charles II in 1682 as retreat for veterans. Initially it was responsible for paying out British Army pensions.

The 300 retired British service men and women living there today remain a lasting reminder of service, especially at historic events. The joy of comradeship

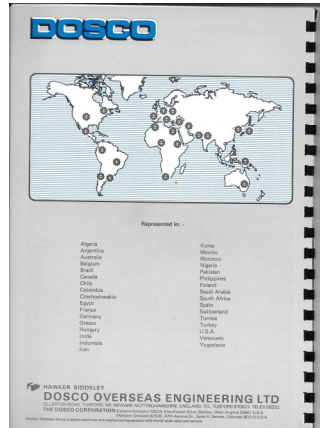
is remembered in all walks of life today.

Tuxford has a rich history of various types of trades. DOSCO overseas engineering company was a major employer in Tuxford for 30 years and a considerable influence on international trade. Those

who worked there have started to share their memories and we will be holding a informal gathering at the Museum at a future date. If you are interested in coming along please get in touch.

We are still working on restoration of the farm house using traditional building skills, led by the conservation officer, Jason. If you are interested in finding out more please contact us. The museum is open on Thursdays and Saturdays 11am to 4 pm other dates by arrangement .

Contact Diane **01777 872776**
dianehunt08@btinternet.com



The Museum of the Horse wonders how many people give a thought to the million horses that also gave their lives for us. Even in the lines where they were tethered whilst not in use, they were key targets for the Germans. If they destroyed the horses the guns could not be got to the front.

The pack horses carried ammunition and food supplies to the men in the trenches and carried away the wounded. The horses' and the men's suffering was so far from the glorious act of war portrayed to encourage them to join up willingly.

One of the posters is illustrated here. In the Museum of the Horse in Tuxford we have a lot of memorabilia from WWI, including gas masks for the horses and

pack saddles for the wounded.

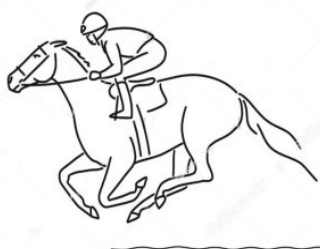
Also on at the moment is the exhibition of travel and Tuxford as well as Malcolm Coward's horse painting.

The gallery and museum are open 9am - 4 pm daily and 10am - 2 pm on Saturday. Entry to the museum is free and donations are very much appreciated. Contact the Museum of the horse:

Tel **01777 838198** or
email **curator@museumofthehorse.co.uk**

EGMANTON VILLAGE HALL

Race Night



Friday 8th November

Doors: 6.30pm for 7.00pm

Pie & Pea Supper plus Bar

£12 per head

**Full details and tickets via the Village Hall web site:
www.egmantonvillagehall.org.uk**

Wellow Winter Fair

Saturday 23rd November

10am - 3pm

Wellow Memorial Hall

Wonderful gift ideas for the festive season.

**Bring your friends. Enjoy home-made
soup and roll, tea, coffee and home-made
cakes**

Free entry



East Markham Pantomime

The ever-popular Markham Players are preparing to bring you John Birchley's adaptation of the traditional favourite, Aladdin, directed by Jo Crutchley, in January 2025.

There will be five performances at East Markham Village Hall over two weekends:

Markham Players present

Aladdin

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25th January matinee - 2.30pm
1st February - 7.30pm



Adult £7.50 Child £5.50 Family (2A + 2C) £24.00

Tickets available from: Sally Mitchell's Gallery, Tuxford
or East Markham Post Office (Tues & Fri 11.45am – 1.45pm) from 3rd Dec

Advertising in 'Open Field'

Standard 1/6 page box: £30 p.a.(colour) £15 p.a.(B&W).

Larger sizes pro rata, e.g. £45 p.a. for 1/2 page (B&W)

Please contact advertising@openfield.org.uk or
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Milton Mausoleum

Our next event is the popular **Christmas Gifts and Crafts Fayre** held in the Mausoleum from **10am – 3.30pm on Saturday 9th November**.

In addition to lots of new gift ideas we have hot & cold refreshments and a raffle. Free Entry. Come and see the monument of Lady Georgiana, who died shortly after the birth of her twins, sculpted with her.

We value your support for this event and look forward to seeing you on Saturday 9th November.

The Mausoleum is open every Sunday, 2-4pm until the end of September. No need to book.

NB Sat. 7th Dec Carols at the Mausoleum. It is never too early to book your place for this ever popular event!

*The Milton Mausoleum is cared for by the Churches Conservation Trust
Milton Mausoleum, The Avenue, Milton NG22 0PW*



Christmas at Doddington



The annual Christmas spectacular at Doddington Hall is now open for booking on the web site. The theme this year is 'A Christmas Chorus'. Opens November 9th to December 23rd.

All the main rooms are decorated and the display extends over all three floors. It is an opportunity to soak up the seasonal festive atmosphere in this family home, with a four hundred year plus history.

Tickets are £15 for adults, Children 4 - 16 £8.50 and 3 and under free. There are family tickets for 2 adults and 2

children at £40 and for 1 adult and 2 children for £27.

Doddington season ticket holders go free if the card is shown at the gate, but other cards which are accepted on most dates in the year are not accepted for this special event.

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Are you over State Pension age and on a low income?

As a single person, do you have less than £218.15 per week coming in to live on...or, as a couple do you have a joint weekly income below £332.95?

If your answer to both those questions is 'Yes', but you are currently not receiving Pension Credit, then you could be missing out on a key state benefit that you may well be fully entitled to.

If you are over state pension age, even if you own your own home or have some savings, it may be worth checking to see if you are entitled to receive Pension Credit to help with day to day living costs.

Pension Credit also opens the door to other benefits such as the Winter Fuel Payment. The Winter Fuel Payment is an annual one-off payment to help pensioners pay for heating during the winter. Depending on your age and if you live with somebody else who's eligible, it could provide up to £300 towards your bills.

Recent changes announced by the government mean that only those receiving Pension Credit or other means tested benefits will now be eligible for WFP.

Pension Credit is tax free and tops up your weekly income to a minimum level of £218.15 a week for single pensioners or £332.95 a week for couples. Even if your income is higher, you might be eligible for Pension Credit if you have a disability, you care for someone, or you have housing costs.

Around a third of those eligible for Pension Credit are not claiming it and could be missing out on this extra financial help which can also open the door to other help available such as Housing Benefit, Council Tax reduction, help with NHS costs, Winter Fuel Payment, Cold Weather Payments and a free TV license for those over 75.

People can have savings, or even another pension and still be eligible for Pension Credit. Almost half of the people who get Pension Credit own their own home. You may still be entitled to Pension Credit – even if you're not entitled to a State Pension. It's always worth checking.

We can help to check if you are eligible for pension credit and if so help you to apply. Visit us in person on the details below or call us for more information.

You can contact Central Nottinghamshire Citizens' Advice in the following ways:

In person

Ollerton office Monday/Wednesday
9.30 - 2.30, 5 Forest Court, NG22 9PL

Newark office Tuesday/Thursday
9.30 - 2.30, Castle House NG24 1BY

We also have a number of outreaches throughout the local area which may be closer to home or work - to access the dates and times check online at our website or call us on the number below.

Phone our local office on **01623 861769** (you may be offered a call back)

Website www.ca-centralnotts.org.uk

Email admin@ca-centralnotts.org.uk

Fund Raising Events at Kirton

2nd November: Halloween / Bonfire Disco supporting Macmillan Cancer Support. The Fox pub.

An event combining these two occasions to make some money for this charity as well as entertaining everyone. Fireworks, bonfire, games, music and food and more. £5 entry. Half towards the cost of fireworks and half to Macmillan.

Weds. 20th November, 7pm, The Fox pub:

Quiz in aid of Paul's Pit Stop. The money raised will go towards supporting people with mental health problems and raising suicide awareness.

£12 a ticket to include curry etc. and a fun filled quiz.


Contact The Fox for information about these events.

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 23/07/24

Present: Councillors: S.Hill (chair); M.Hennell; D. Sheard; A. Moorhouse
R. Creighton

In attendance at parish council meeting

C. Wilson (Clerk); S. Michael (District Councillor); J. Carter-Davis (RCAN)
Member of the public (x1)

1. **Apologies for absence:** Councillors noted with great sadness the passing that day of their longstanding colleague and former chair, Mr J Godson. The meeting observed a minute's silence as a mark of respect.
2. Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Mr. J Hill and Mr S Rose. Mr Pringle was also absent.
3. **Declarations of interest:** There were no declarations of interest, direct or indirect, in any items of business on the agenda.
4. **Dispensations:** None required.
5. **10 Minutes public speaking:** Reference was made to the incorrect address provided for planning application 24/01056/FUL relating to land at Church Farm. Councillors noted that, contrary to the address stated in the application, Church Farm was not in Moorhouse. The chair reported that he had previously contacted NSDC twice to let the officer know and had received assurances that the address would be amended. However, the amendment did not appear to have been effected.
6. **Thoresby Estate report (if any):** No report.
7. **RCAN – Presentation – Jodi Carter-Davies – Development and Delivery:**
Ms Carter-Davis:
 - a. Outlined the role of RCAN. This is to unite communities to take action with the assistance of RCAN's team of three staff members
 - b. Explained that RCAN operates a membership scheme which purchases RCAN's
 - help identifying funding, supporting with engagement, marketing and promotion
 - information sheets and model documents
 - twice yearly cluster group meetings which provide access to external organisations
 - events during village halls week
 - links to NALC, NSDC, NCC, Police and Crime Commissioner and CPRE
 - c. Confirmed that RCAN works with communities rather than individuals
 - d. Explained that RCAN is different from NALC because it focuses on community engagement and funding
 - e. Confirmed that, if the parish council were to join, the Visitor Centre, Village Hall, church and sports field committee could benefit

- f. Invited a parish councillor to attend the next cluster group meeting from 10 am until midday on 28 September 2024 and Egmonton village hall.

Councillors thanked Ms Carter-Davis for attending and providing insight into RCAN's services. Ms Carter-Davis left the meeting.

7. **Minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 28 May and 18 June 2024:** The minutes of the parish council meetings held on 28 May and 18 June 2024 were agreed as a true record and signed by the chair subject to the amendment of LMPC/71/24 to refer to Moorgate Farm instead of Marlow Farm.
8. **Matters arising:** There were no matters arising.
9. **Reports from councillors:** Mrs Michael apologised for missing the May meetings and reported as she would have had she been able to attend the Annual Parish Meeting. Her report referred to:
 - a. Grant funding made available by NSDC following Storms Babet and Hank
 - b. NSDC's successful bid for levelling up funding which will cover the A46/A1 link road at Farndon
 - c. The new glass recycling scheme
 - d. Land set aside to promote biodiversity and the possibility that the new government may make changes which have an impact on the district and NSDC.
 - e. The chair reported on the July SNG meeting and that the principal issues discussed related to:
 - i. Rural crime and speeding
 - ii. A van which had been stolen from a property in Laxton
 - iii. Cold callers in Southwell.
10. **Property matters including sports field, lease and pavilion and Glebe Field matters (if any):** The clerk had shared the insurers' reply to Mr Rose's specific enquiries on to the insurers. Having established that the parish council was the owner of the pavilion, councillors discussed the need, particularly for risk management reasons, for the parish council proactively to oversee the overall condition and use of the pavilion. It was acknowledged that the pavilion's day to day management is undertaken by the Sports Field Committee and that it is intended that this should continue. It was **decided** that the parish council should take steps to establish the pavilion's present condition and understand the ways in which it is being used. The chair will liaise with Mr Rose to take this forward. They will report back at the September 2024 meeting.

The clerk will again contact Mr Pierrepont in relation to consent to sub-let the field to the Sports Field Committee.
11. **Planning matters:**
 - a. **Applications: 24/01056/FUL | Construction of New Three Bedroom Farmhouse with Farm Office | Land at Church Farm Moorhouse Road Egmonton:** Councillors discussed the application and unanimously **agreed** that the council should take issue with the address but that otherwise, they had no objections to the proposal.
 - b. **To note planning decisions by NSDC: 24/01025/DEM - Application to determine if prior approval is required for demolition of 1 barn and 2 grain silos as per Schedule 2 Part 11 Class B – Ide Farm, Moorhouse Road, Laxton, NG22 0TB –** Noted that prior approval was required and

had been granted.

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

12. **Parish council use of social media:**

- a. Approve and adopt Code of Practice: Councillors had received and read the draft Code of Practice circulated by the clerk.
- b. Nominate councillors to publish posts: Following discussion, councillors unanimously authorised Mr Sheard, Mrs Creighton and Mr J Hill to post information on the parish council Facebook page in addition to the clerk. All noted the need to apply the highest level restriction of third party comments to every individual post. The clerk will add each of the authorised councillors to the account.

13. **Defibrillator:**

- a. Inspection report: No report available.
- b. Replacement: Councillors discussed funding opportunities noting that funding had been restricted since the change of government had taken place. The clerk had shared the outcome of her research into the models available and costs by email. After discussion, councillors decided to defer a decision to the September 2024 meeting.

14. **Financial matters:**

- a. Financial position as at 30 June 2024: Councillors considered and noted the clerk's report showing the precise financial position at 30 June 2024 (incorporating the 2024-25 budget figures). The clerk referred them to the various out of date uncashed cheques. Councillors discussed the best way forward. It was **decided** that the uncashed cheques to:
 - ii. two councillors should be reissued, councillors being covered by the code of conduct in the event of any attempt to cash the out of date cheques
 - iii. Laxton PCC, which had been returned, should be reissued
 - iv. Christmas event band and the Dovecote should be returned and reissued once returned.
- a. **Accounts for payment:** Councillors unanimously **approved** eleven payments totalling £998.91. The clerk will follow up reimbursement for the dog bin expenditure from Mr Pringle.
- b. **Bank signatories – Update:** The clerk reported on the continuing difficulties being encountered with Nat West bank in relation to the change of signatories and errors in the bank's records. Councillors recognised that the bank's issues were creating issues for the parish council but **agreed** that, in the circumstances, their options were limited. The clerk will continue to liaise with the bank.

15. **Parish environment and appearance, including:**

- a. **Mowing of verges:** It was reported that the resident who cut the Laxton verges voluntarily was leaving the village. There was discussion of appointing Mr Sheard to mow the verges on the parish council's behalf with the parish council making a donation towards the associated fuel costs. It was decided that Mr Sheard should make an initial in principle approach the church to seek its views on its mower being used on this basis. He will report back to the council at the next meeting.
- b. **Parish benches - Inspection arrangements:** After discussion of the current arrangements, it was **decided** that Mr Sheard will undertake twice yearly visual inspections of the parish benches (September and March) to assess any damage, defects or required repair and maintenance.

- c. **Parish roads and pavements:** The NCC officer's report that the overhanging vegetation at Smithy Farm would be cut on 17 July 2024 was formally noted. Councillors confirmed that the cut did not appear to have been completed. The clerk will let the NCC officer know that the overgrowth remains.
- d. **Flood resilience – Working party report and associated decisions:** The clerk passed the plans received from Mr Marshall, NCC flood officer, to Mr Sheard. Mr Sheard confirmed that, separately, he had sent maps of the areas requiring attention to Mr Marshall. He also reported that he had tried unsuccessfully to contact the Internal Drainage Board ("IDB") with a view to a representative attending a meeting. Mrs Michael will follow this up with IDB direct. The working party is planning its next meeting.
- e. **Community tidy up:** Mr Sheard reported that he had organised a tidy up of the church and churchyard and hoped that the railings at the church gate would be painted. There was discussion of his suggestion that the parish council contribute to the cost of the paint. Councillors **decided** that a maintenance contribution to a private landowner would not be an appropriate use of public funds.
- f. **Christmas event 2024 – Planning:** Councillors considered the most appropriate approach to organising the 2025 event. They unanimously decided to form a parish council Christmas event group comprising all councillors. The group will explore initial ideas and undertake initial planning. These plans including the risk assessment will be brought to the September 2024 meeting for approval.
- g. **WWI and WWII remembrance memorial on the Green:** Councillors discussed the acquisition of a silent soldier silhouette. The clerk will investigate and circulate costings.
- h. **Parish environment enhancement in recognition of previous serving parish council members:** Councillors discussed ideas for an enhancement to the environment. They unanimously **agreed** that a new bench of the same design as the new bench in Moorhouse would be an attractive and useful addition. The chair will circulate a photo of the proposed location. The clerk will then contact NCC with details of the location and bench design to establish whether any permission is required.

16.Service faults: None

17.Correspondence: All items of correspondence noted.

18.5 minutes public speaking time: Speaking as a village hall committee member, Mr Sheard enquired whether the council would approve the use of the noticeboard to publicise Village Hall events. Councillors **approved** such use.

19.Agenda items for next meeting: See above.

The clerk will enquire as to the possibility of a planning officer attending a meeting to discuss NSDC's approach to planning in the parish. She will also request an update on the conservation area review.

20.Date of next meeting: 7.30 pm Tuesday 24 September 2024 at the Visitor Centre.

Egmanton Village Hall

www.egmantonvillagehall.org.uk / 01777 871171

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

- ◆ **Yoga** – with Karen Baker Mondays, 7pm - 8.15pm
Email karenbaker321@outlook.com mobile **07399 669380**
- ◆ **Pilates** - Thursdays from 5:30pm - 6.30pm with Holly Rye.
Contact **07415436001** Email holly-rye@hotmail.co.uk
Egmanton WI - Third Thursdays in the Hall
- ◆ **Coffee Morning: November 9th** 10 - 12 then every second Saturday of the month. Next will be **December 14th**. All welcome.

All events appear on the web site - see above

Reporting Potholes

A reminder about the pothole reporting contact details are:

www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/roads/potholes/report-a-pothole

Or ring Customer Services on 0300 500 8080



Laxton Defibrillator

The defibrillator in the Visitor Centre, is always accessible as neither the Visitor Centre door nor the cabinet housing is locked. Please do remember that the defibrillator must only be used once authorised by a call to 999.

Michael Manning

Booking Laxton Village Hall

The Hall is available for anyone to book and bookings are taken through the web site. Please visit:

<https://www.laxtonvh.org.uk/>

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 Christian 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

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

Cardiac Arrest? Say "Alexa Activate Emergency CPR" to an Alexa device

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@nottsc.gov.uk 0115 977 5661

Parish Council website: www.laxtonandmoorhouseparishcouncil.co.uk

Laxton Village Hall

Craft Fayre

Saturday 16th November, 11.00am – 2.00pm

£1 admission inc. cup of tea / coffee

- ★ Lots of local crafts for those tricky Christmas presents
- ★ Start your Christmas shopping at the stalls
- ★ Cake stall for cakes of all sorts to take home
- ★ Traditional home made cakes & soup
- ★ Raffle, tombola etc.

Everyone very welcome

Firework Time Again

Please Think of the Animals

With bonfire night just around the corner, it seems a good time to remind people to take care when having firework events. They can be terrifying for animals and some people as well. At this time of year everyone with animals tends to be on alert for a week or so before to a week or so after 5th November.

If you are planning to let off fireworks at any other time during the year, please let your neighbours with animals know so that they can take precautions.

Animal owners, and horse owners in particular, will quickly spread the word amongst each other so everyone will be safe and happy and your tip off will also let people who would like to watch and enjoy the spectacle know when to be at their windows.