



Knapton News

1st Quarter 2021

Welcome to the Knapton News and a belated Happy New Year to everyone, lets hope for a better year to come with life returning to some semblance of normality in June. The recent bad weather meant we were a bit cut off, but thanks to our local farmers the roads were soon passable with care. We must also say a big thank you to those who with their buckets spread salt from the bins onto our roads making them safer to drive on.

If you are new to the village we hope you will be happy here, we would normally have a What's on section in the Knapton News, but until we can reopen and return to normal this has been suspended. But you will find a warm welcome at all events. We hope that as soon as possible coffee club will start up again in the Village Hall on a fortnightly basis. The village website can be found at <https://knaptonvillage.org/>

If there is anyone out there who would like to be involved in the Knapton News please get in touch. The Editorial Team would like to thank everyone who has supported our efforts, and may they long continue. Please send all articles, events or items to the dedicated email address which is: knaptonnews@outlook.com

Church Warden's Whispers

With no physical services at present, and instructions from the Church of England awaited the Church Wardens decided that you would find the Rectors' message to the wider Benefice.

Dear Everyone

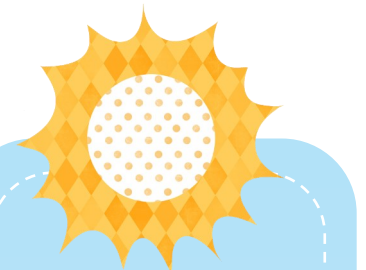
What a difference a week makes! Not long ago we were cut off by drifting snow and wondering when this current lockdown would end, and now sunshine aplenty with crocuses and daffodils indicating signs of growth and a change in season alongside a roadmap outlined by our Government. I personally am feeling encouraged by all these things and with vaccines for many in our church community already I feel we've turned a corner and we can begin to look at returning to church after this pandemic.

Our ministry team and churchwardens, who've been meeting weekly throughout the pandemic, have and will be discussing our own roadmap to recovery over the coming weeks once the detailed guidance from the Government is released. We hope to return to physical gatherings for both traditional and cafe church congregations as soon as we can.

This time, although difficult, has offered the leadership team space to re-consider the mission, ministry and worship of our group and we've recognised a real sense of togetherness as many have pulled together as one family under God. This has been a real blessing in the life of our church and one we do not wish to lose as the restrictions begin to lift and so we will be looking to build upon this way of being church as together we recover from the restrictions and look towards a flourishing future.

All that said, service will remain as an on-line only service and so if you would like to join in please do so by connecting with Facebook (@trunchgroup) or via Zoom.

Your Rector The Revd Andrew Jones, Trunch Rectory, 01263 722218
revandrewjones@gmail.com



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5th January 2021



NEWS RELEASE

Postal Voting in 2021 Elections

On Thursday 6 May 2021 elections will be taking place in North Norfolk with electors voting in the Norfolk County Council elections and the Norfolk Police and Crime Commissioner Election. There are also several Parish Council by-elections also scheduled to be held on this day. Given the ongoing situation with the Covid-19 pandemic we want to give electors as much time as possible to change voting arrangements if voting in a Polling Station during the pandemic is not desired. If you wish to vote by post contact us by email at postalvotes@north-norfolk.gov.uk or by phone on 01263 516046 and we will send you a form.

Local Returning Officer and Chief Executive Steve Blatch said: "Whilst we are making arrangements for the safe delivery of elections at Polling Stations within North Norfolk at the forthcoming elections we are aware that a higher number of our electorate may wish to conduct their vote by post on this occasion, given the ongoing Covid-19 situation.

The North Norfolk district has the oldest average age demographic in the UK, so by nature we will be seeing a larger number of our residents having a higher level of vulnerability from the virus, so applying for a Postal Vote is an effective way for our local electors to still have their say on Thursday 6 May"

Please note that any application for a postal vote must be completed by hand using 'wet ink' and we are unable to accept any digitally signed applications.

In order to apply for a postal vote, you must be a registered elector within North Norfolk. If you need to register the easiest way to do so is online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote but again alternatively you can contact us by phone on 01263 516046 to do so.

Completed applications can either be returned by email to postalvotes@north-norfolk.gov.uk or posted to Electoral Services, North Norfolk District Council, Holt Road, Cromer, NR27 9EN. Given the anticipated high volume of applications for postal votes we advise you to make your applications as soon as possible.

Census Day Sunday 21st March 2021

What is the census?

The census is a unique survey of all the people and households in England and Wales that happens every 10 years. There's simply nothing else that gives so much detail about us and the society we live in. It tells us what our needs are now and what they're likely to be in the future. It also gives a snapshot of how we live, for future generations to look back on.

The information given by the public during the census helps local authorities plan and fund public services. It informs where billions of pounds are spent, for instance on things like roads, schools and hospitals.

Information from the census is also important in helping lots of other people and organisations do their work. Charity and voluntary organisations often use it as evidence to get funding. It helps businesses to understand us as customers and, for example, decide where to open new shops. Plus, those doing research, like university students and people looking into their family history, use the information.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) plans and runs the census in England and Wales, working with other statistical agencies to create a clear picture of the UK. We report directly to the UK parliament, but we do not work for any political parties.

In addition, if you live in England and Wales, you must fill in the census form by law or you could be fined up to £1,000.

Visit the census website at www.census.gov.uk to find out more about Census 2021.

Parish Clerk`s Report – March 2021

Our strange times continue and the Parish Council is beavering away behind the scenes, led by our very hard working Chair, Peter Neatherway. We continue to meet virtually, which works quite well, but we hope to get back to face to face by the summer.

I hope you all enjoyed the beautifully lit Christmas trees. One was very kindly donated by councillor Tracy Smith and her partner David Bindley, who also did the fetching and carrying. Four parish councillors were responsible for erecting and lighting and Sue and Ted Bullock very kindly supplied the power for the one at the top of The Street.

The Knapton Angels continue to do a wonderful job. Councillor Liz Winter could have been spotted manfully making her way through snow drifts to get to Trunch to pick up supplies for Angels customers, as she has done on alternate days throughout the pandemic. Our Vice-Chair Pat Lee and his wife Jennie have been looking after a resident, shopping, doing little jobs about the house, and two kind ladies have been regularly `phoning a resident who lives alone and enjoys a friendly chat.

You will have seen our shiny new Speed Camera, which is moved to different locations. The information it collects is downloaded by Councillor John Lawton and sent to our chairman and the police. Once received and analysed, the police can then determine if a police speed camera is warranted and if so, when and where best to put it to catch the pesky speeders.

The Parish Council has been busy talking to NNDC about the allocation of houses on Wild`s Way. While we welcome all the new residents, it would be nice if people with a genuine connection to the village had been allocated more of the houses. NNDC have stuck strictly to their criteria but we hope to bring about some change in that for the future to help other communities.

Our County and District Councillors have been very diligent in attending our meetings. The new budget has been set. NNDC are proud of the fact they have made no increase to Council Tax but you will see a 4% increase from NCC.

Mundesley Parish Council has kindly agreed to pay half the cost of cutting the path to Mundesley. We are grateful to them for this as although the path is well used the cost of cutting to a small council like ours was getting disproportionate.

The plans for re-shaping the junction of the B1145, Hall Lane and The Street are progressing, as is the extension of the 30mph speed restriction in Hall Lane right up to the Butterfly Walk car park and we are simply waiting for Highways to confirm when they will be implemented.

The Victory Housing Trust offered the grassed areas of land on Wild`s Way to the Parish Council. Unfortunately they have now introduced some rather daunting covenants, so it may not prove to be viable to take it on. Peter Neatherway is working hard to sort this with VHT.

You may have noticed smart newly framed and mounted footpath maps (one by the `phone box and one in Green Lane). This work was done by the Men`s Shed, who do not charge for their work, only the parts. They have done a wonderful job and the council has made a small donation to them for all their hard work.

Roll on spring, warmer weather and the end of Lockdown.

Dee Holroyd

Parish Clerk



Knapton First Time Sewerage Scheme

Below is the letter that has been sent to all Knapton Residents in various forms either by post or email, one for those who have replied accepting connection and one those who have opted out of connecting.

Sadly some residents have not returned the Connection form, Anglia Water have said that it is vital that you return the Form by the 31st May 2021 (extended deadline) even if you do not wish to connect. They need to be able to plan which properties are being connected and if you don't wish to connect you must let them know by completing the form sent to you in the post at the end of January 2021. If you have lost/mislaid the Form please contact Lucy Foster whose details are in the letter below.

The Parish Council understands that the new commencement date will be mid summer 2021 but Anglia Water will advise us as soon as they can. This will also work to everyone advantage as the ground will have a chance to dry out following the bad weather.

Dear Customer

Knapton First Time Sewerage Scheme

As you know, we will soon be providing your village with mains sewerage. Construction was due to start in March 2021, however due to recent wet weather and continuous flood warnings we have had to prioritise our work so we can help our vulnerable customers, customers whose homes are flooding or where there is a risk to the environment. We now expect this scheme to start this Summer, we will update you once we have a confirmed start date.

Sewer connection form

You should have received a connection form for you to sign and return to us. Whether you decide to connect or not, it is very important that you return this form to us so that we can plan the construction of any required lateral pipes. We have extended the time you have to return this to us; **Please return this by 31 May 2021.**

Keeping you informed

We will keep you updated throughout the scheme, with regular newsletters by post and/ or email and weekly updates on our website www.anglianwater.co.uk/knapton-fts

If you need to get in touch, please contact me on 07545 051294 or via email at

lfoster3@anglianwater.co.uk. You can contact me between the hours of 9am - 4pm.

Coronavirus Our teams are following the latest Government advice regarding social distancing. As key workers we are continuing to work hard providing one of life's essential services - keeping taps flowing, toilets flushing and drains draining.

If you're self-isolating, our teams will take the necessary precautions if we do need to visit you. Our priority is always to keep both you and our colleagues safe.



What can we do about the weather?

Earlier this week I asked Norfolk County Council to set up a fund that would help put back miles of hedgerows along local fields, instead of giving thousands of pounds to councillors to spend in their own areas. My proposal would have created a 'Hedge Fund' of at least £150,000 to kick-start hedge planting where local people said it was needed. It would have created new habitats for wildlife and improved the appearance of the countryside.

Crucially it would have helped in the battle we are having with increasingly extreme weather. Almost all the villages in the area I represent had problems with blocked roads in the recent snow. Not just when the snow arrived but for days afterwards because of drifting. More hedges would have helped to tackle that problem.

New hedges can also reduce problems with flooding since they can delay soil erosion and drink up excess water.

The County Council Highways team has had a big job on its hands since Christmas dealing with flooding problems and then the snow.

I think we need to do more to stop those problems occurring in the future.

Sadly my 'Hedge Fund' idea was rejected but there is still scope for getting more hedges planted by making use of other Council schemes. If you know of somewhere that would benefit from hedge planting please do let me know.

And it was announced recently that Lord Dannatt is to take charge of a new Norfolk Flooding Alliance. I know Lord Dannatt is already listening to ideas from around the county. Flooding problems are only going to get worse in the years ahead unless we do something about them. If you want to have a say on ways to tackle flooding - either in your village or right across the county - just get in touch with me and I will make sure it is included in Lord Dannatt's review.

To get in touch you can email me on edward.maxfield@norfolk.gov.uk or text or call me on 07449 706215. Thank you! Ed Maxfield County Councillor responsible for this area of Norfolk



Are you fed-up with doing the same old walks?

Walking in Norfolk www.walkinginengland.co.uk/norfolk is the website for you!

With hundreds of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, contact details for all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Norfolk (part of the Walking in England suite of websites (www.walkinginengland.co.uk) – one for each county in England) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So home or away, check out the website and get walking!

John Harris

www.walkinginengland.co.uk

email: john@walkinginengland.co.uk



BT Says...

Connecting communities to fast fibre broadband

We're working hard to improve our network to get faster fibre broadband to as many people in the UK as we can. But there are some areas which we don't currently plan to upgrade, or areas we've upgraded to fibre where people want to have an even faster internet connection. We know this can be frustrating. But there is another solution – a Community Fibre Partnership.

What's a Community Fibre Partnership?

We work with your local community to build a customised fibre solution to bring fibre broadband to homes and businesses.

We put a joint funding arrangement in place, which means we contribute some of the costs and your community funds the rest. We'll then build the most affordable solution we can to meet your needs. **We'll also advise on any grants you might be able to get to help pay for your part e.g. from local authorities or the Government.**

If your area already has fibre broadband, you can also use a Community Fibre Partnership to upgrade to even faster speeds.

Knapton Parish Council says... **nag your neighbour.**

As we promised last year, we are now looking at the broadband situation in our parish. Councillor John Lawton is leading the way with a local resident, Peter Gallon, to see what BT would offer if we went down the route of setting up a Community Fibre Partnership.

There are many reasons for wanting faster, more reliable broadband as many of us have found out during the lockdowns. For many, it was the only window to the outside world...

If you like the idea and would like to know more, without any commitment at this stage, obviously, please **email your name and address to our Parish Clerk by Monday 22nd March**, who will compile a list of possible interested parties (securely) so that John & Peter can respond to BT and give them the (anonymous) information they need to be able to put forward a proposal.

When we have the figures, we will share them with you by email, allowing you to decide if it's something you'd like to be part of and only then we can all decide whether or not to move forward.

Don't forget, any correspondence we have with you on this matter remains absolutely confidential. We will share the results but without any identifying details.

And don't worry about existing contract terms at this stage, let's find out if the scheme would be viable first.

Clearly, as a community project, **the more participants involved the cheaper it will be for everyone** so **nag your neighbour** to reply and join in as well so everyone can benefit.

Replies to parishclerk@knaptonvillage.org

THE VILLAGE HALL

“FORGOTTEN BUT NOT GONE”

With a bit of luck and a fair wind it looks as though we'll be open for business as usual in June. And it can't come too soon, for nothing has happened in the hall, apart from one event (Sarah's Wreath Lectures), for a year. But we will be ready.

All the electrics are being reviewed and renewed and we are looking at a general upgrade to the kitchen as well as other parts of the building. I'd like to say we'll be connected to the main sewer, (exciting or what?), but it seems Anglian Water are deferring the start of works for reasons that are rather beyond me. We are going to be ready to open up as soon as we are allowed and we already have in place all the covid19 related equipment and so forth. The forgotten hall will spring back into life.

Can I put in A PLEA. We need another member of our little committee. At the moment it comprises me as Chairman, Jenny Foster as Treasurer, Mary Renwick-Forster our booking secretary, Allison Jackson, Revd Andrew Wood, Sarah Hammond, Carole Lancaster and Andy Weston. So if you would like to get involved PLEASE give me a call on 01263 720356 and I can tell you all about it. I promise not to make it a hard sell, and if you then decide it's not for you, I will perfectly understand.

Nick Holroyd

TALES FROM THE COMPOST HEAP

Hello all,

What a year this has been, but one good thing is that a lot of people are now gardening who have never touched a plant or soil before !

Everyone on the allotments are preparing their soil for Spring sowing and the larger allotments have been ploughed. The chickens are all laying and we have a new cockerel who thought he would pay a visit to the other chickens. Nobody would be happy if he started scratching up their seeds, so we had to clip his wing (it does not hurt him as it is like cutting our own hair) he is a lovely boy and did not mind at all, but we had to put a stop to his roaming and it has not spoilt his looks. Paxo (no 2) is still as handsome as ever and it will stop Mr. Fox from having him for his supper !!

My brussels and broccoli have germinated and my cucumbers are looking good, but they can be very temperamental and suddenly keel over so they need extra care.

I have just planted 180 sweet pea seeds, I hope to have a good show and the smell will be wonderful.

So many seeds to plant and it is always very exciting when they appear. It says new beginnings, lets hope this awful year is coming to an end.

We are trying something new ,we have planted carrot seeds on January 1st in a large tub , they have germinated and look very good at the moment lets hope there is something under the soil.

Our new allotment community have been working hard. Some wonderful wooden structures have appeared and lovely beds of daffodils also roses, looking forward to seeing the roses flowering. So many new people makes it very interesting for us old regulars. We are always prepared to learn new tricks.

We all hope 2021 is better for us all.

Best Wishes for 2021 everyone

Green Fingers



Useful Information

Doctors:

Emergency No: 111

Mundesley Medical Centre

Appointments & Enquiries Tel: (01263) 724 500 - Repeat Prescriptions Tel: (01263) 724 506
Munhaven Close, Mundesley, Norwich, NR11 8AR

Birchwood Medical Practice

Appointments and Enquiries Tel: (01692) 402 035 - Repeat Prescriptions Tel: (01692) 406 885
Park Lane, North Walsham, Norfolk, NR28 0BQ

Paston Surgery

Appointments, Enquiries & Prescriptions Tel: (01692) 403 015 - 9-11 Park Lane, North Walsham, Norfolk, NR28 0BQ

Hospitals:

Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital (NNUH)

Tel: 01603 286 286 Colney Lane, Norwich, NR4 7UY

Cromer & District Hospital (Minor Injuries Clinic only 8am to 8pm)

Tel: 01263 513 571 Mill Road, Cromer, NR27 0BQ

North Walsham & District War Memorial Hospital (No A & E)

Tel: 01692 408 070 Yarmouth Road, North Walsham, Norfolk, NR28 9AP

North Norfolk District Council

Council Offices, Holt Road, Cromer NR27 9EN 01263 513811

<http://www.north-norfolk.gov.uk/>

Norfolk County Council : 0344 800 8020 (Monday-Friday 9am-5pm)

<http://www.norfolk.gov.uk>

Water & Drainage: Anglian Water

Tel: (0845) 145 145 Freephone: (0800) 145 145

Power:

Electrical:

UK Power Networks - To report an electrical emergency or power cut:

Tel: 0800 783 8838

General Enquiries Tel: 0845 601 4516 - Customer Relations Tel: 0800 028 4587

New Connections Tel: 0845 234 0040

Gas Emergencies: National Gas Emergency Number Tel: 0800 111 999