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## Letter fom the Team

Like Villages and Towns across the world, we find our usual busy calendar of events has been curtailed. For the avoidance of doubt, here is a list of the events **we know are cancelled or postponed**. If you are at all unsure if an event not listed is running, please contact the organisers before making any attempts to travel. Hopefully, we can resume our normal service for the next edition, due at the start of June. In the meantime, take care of yourselves, your families and your neighbours! And if you need any help of any sort, please don't delay asking around. There are many villagers who are happy to assist.



Hepworth Angels	Mondays	Postponed
Café Hepworth	1st & 3rd Thur.	Postponed
Annual Parish Meeting	2nd April	Postponed
Kirbye Singers	4th April	Cancelled
Great British Spring Clean 2020	11th April	Postponed
Neighbourhood Plan Meeting	16th April	Postponed
Fish and Chip Supper	25th April	Cancelled
Annual General Meeting	7th May	Postponed
75th Anniversary of VE Day	8th May	Cancelled
Hepworth Walk & Lunch	25th May	Cancelled

All church events at St Peter's and across the Benefice have been cancelled until further notice. Please see p8 for a message from Rev Bladen with more information.









#### Letter from Reverend Bladen February 2020

Dear Friends and Neighbours,

As I write this mid March the government have just declared the COVID-19 Coronavirus to be a pandemic and new decisions are being made each day to try and reduce the spread of the disease and to protect the elderly and the

vulnerable. We are in uncertain times and with the constant media coverage there is a feeling of apprehension and in some cases fear.

But I want to encourage you that it is at times when things seem bleak and the way forward unsure that the best of humanity comes into it's own... and we can choose. We can choose either to look inwards, simply to our own needs, looking after number one and so feed our own fears and insecurities or we can look outwards looking to care for the needs of each other. The bible teaches us that we are blessed when we bless others. When we look to encourage help and support each other we begin to understand better the value of our own worth; when we look to bless each other so we are blessed as community care and spirit grows around us. So let's look to find ways to bless each other in this uncertain time and show humanity at its best. Folk who have to be isolated need not feel cut off or lonely if we make regular contact (preferably by phone or email or even chatting from a distance over the garden fence)... it might be that we can help with picking up essential supplies. The churches in our Benefice are going to put together lists of folk who might like a friendly phone call... if you would like to be added to that list please let Rev Cathy know or your churchwarden and we'll make sure you're contacted.

We're not sure as yet whether we will still be able to hold our Sunday services but in most villages the churches will still be open during daylight hours for anyone who would like a place to just sit and be. For many of us, whether we have faith or not, just being in church brings us a sense of calm and peace. There's something about just being in the building that gently reassures us that there is hope. And there is always hope! We may well have a difficult few months ahead of us but God's words from the Bible echo down through history to reassure us... 'Do not be afraid... for the LORD your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you.' (Deuteronomy 31:6)

In a couple of weeks time it will be Easter Sunday... the day when we celebrate Jesus' resurrection and His victory over death and we remember that Jesus is the light and '*The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.*' (John 1:5) We might be living in what feels like dark times at the moment but if we look for it we can still see the light of Jesus shining through with love and hope. We see it in nature all around us as Spring takes hold... we see it in the best of our God given humanity and we see it how we love one another.

God Bless Rev Cathy

### Hepworth Book Group reading suggestions

Over the past 10 years we have read and reviewed over 150 books and I thought it might be a good time to share some of our favourites with you. For one reason or another these particular books have provoked a lot of discussion and have stayed in our thoughts.

Atonement Ian McEwan Rebecca Daphne du Maurier The Grapes of Wrath John Steinbeck Perfume Patrick Suskind **Birdsong Sebastian Faulks** Angela's Ashes Frank McCourt The Ouiet American Graham Greene Remains of the Day Kazuo Ishiguro The Time Traveller's Wife Audrey Niffenegger The Road Cormac McCarthy The Book Thief Markus Zusak The Kite Runner Khaled Hosseini Half of a Yellow Sun Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie The Island Victoria Hislop The Goldfinch Donna Tartt Narrow Road to the Deep North Richard Flanagan H is for Hawk Helen MacDonald Jamrach's Menagerie Carol Birch The Wall John Lanchester

The book group won't be meeting in person over the next couple of months but we have talked about sharing our reviews via email/facebook. If anyone would like to read the books and then share their thoughts with us at the end of each month via the Hepworth Village Facebook page please do. We could have a virtual book group for a while!

The books that we will be reviewing next include 'Conclave' by Robert Harris, and 'His Bloody Project' by Graeme Macrae Burnet

Take Care! Kath Shearer



Along The Street:

January 2020: 2 sessions 1 vehicle logged Max. 48 mph

February 2020: 2 sessions 7 vehicles logged Max. 39 mph

For more information about Speedwatch, or to get involved, call Richard on 250 484.

## Gardening Services

General garden maintenance

Grass Cutting

Please call Andrew Gaskin

## 01359 408862

## A Message from the Benefice

Sadly **ALL CHURCH SERVICES and church activities** across the Benefice are suspend for the time being in compliance with government and Church of England guidelines.

However we can still pray and worship in our own homes. We can still show love and encouragement to each other and our communities with phone calls and emails. We will try and keep our Benefice Facebook page up to date with information and thoughts and links to one-line services. If there's something you'd particularly like added please let me know. The Churchwardens and Lay Elders will be points of contact for support as of course I will ... Please do get in touch with us if you need help or support of any kind, and we will do our best to help or point you in the direction of help.

The Benefice facebook page can be found at https://www.facebook.com/unitedbenefice/ also if you would like to receive our Benefice weekly notice sheet please email our Admin Assistant at unitedbeneficeofstanton@gmail.com and she will email it out to you each week

God Bless you .. look after yourselves and each other Rev Cathy

## **Supplies from Local Outlets**

We are fortunate to live in the countryside amongst farmers and smallholders where there is fresh produce, eggs, meat and local windmills that make the occasional bag of flour. Many of these can deliver direct to your door. This is not an exhaustive list!

#### Butchers

Rolfes of Walsham, Walsham le Willows Approx £2.50 delivery to Hepworth. Tel: 01359 259225

#### Fruit, vegetables and eggs

Field of Dreams, Thurston Accept telephone orders and payment. Delivery on Wednesdays only to Hepworth (order before 8am on Wednesday for delivery) Delivery charge is £4 under £20 order. Over £20 free.

Tel: 07513 350702

#### Eggs

Stanton Road Farm Eggs, Hepworth Currently deliver Thursdays in the Street. Limited supplies, but have 18 girls laying as fast as they can! £1 for a box of 6 eggs. No delivery fee. Tel 01359 250 594

#### Bakers, some deli and fruit and vegetables.

Wooster's Bakery, Bardwell Accept telephone orders and payment. No delivery but you can order by telephone and you arrange for someone to collect. Tel: 01359 408409

#### Fruit, Vegetables, Bread, Deli and Butchers

Hillcrest Nurseries, Stanton Accept telephone orders and payment. They offer delivery during this time. Tel: 01359 250327.

Please let us know if you would like to be added to this list in the future

#### HEPWORTH PARISH COUNCIL: DRAFT MINUTES

A meeting of the Hepworth Parish Council took place on Thursday 5th March 2020 at the village hall where the following items were discussed.

Attendees: Ms L Robinson (Chair), Mrs N Yorke, Mr A Yorke (Vice Chair), Mr G Bloomfield, Mrs A Thomas, Mrs M MacPherson, Cllr C Bull, Clerk Ms H Corris

Members of the Public: Four Members of the public were present

- 1. Apologies: There were apologies from Cllr Waterson and Cllr Spicer
- 2. Declarations of Interest: There were none
- 3. To Consider requests for dispensations: None received
- 4. Minutes of previous meetings: The minutes of the Meeting 9th of January 2020 were agreed and signed.
- 5. Progress reports on previous actions
  - a) Dustbins on A143 and in Layby at the top of The Street have both gone. West Suffolk Council are reviewing whether or not the waste collections from these bins will be continuing. Should we wish to replace them it is to be paid for by the Parish Council. Clerk will follow up the outcome of WSC review before we consider buying replacements.
  - b) The potholes leading to the pavilion can be filled but volunteers will be needed to distribute the hardcore that can be supplied by the landowner.
  - c) Memorial Trees should be purchased imminently and planted very soon.
  - d) Grit bins have not been purchased as yet. Decision required around whether or not the Parish Council can obtain some sort of Debit/credit card to allow for online purchases to be made in order that VAT can be reclaimed and to avoid using personal credit cards. Clerk will enquire with other Parishes as to how they manage this.
  - e) The Noticeboard glass has been repaired at minimal cost. The Village sign is in disrepair, two quotes have been obtained to replace it. The design will remain unchanged. There is a possibility that Cllr Bull will make a contribution towards the purchase of a new sign. The purchase will be made from Parish Council Surplus funds. Cllr Andrew Yorke has requested he obtain a third quote from a particular company before a decision is made.
  - f) The excessive mud on North Common was reported to highways and the Farmer. Warning signs were provided for display whilst the harvest was ongoing and the Farmer spoken to regarding clearing up afterwards.
  - g) Many reports have been logged with WSC regarding the broken street signs, footpath signs, nameplates and speed signs around the village. Some of the road name signs have already been replaced, some are due in May. Highways are being chased regularly and we are on their list. The Flooding down by the Bungalows towards North Common has been reported and chased up. It is not known whether the site visit has been conducted by highways. We will continue to flag this up. The ditch opposite Wood Lane is believed to be owned by Barker Farms, a letter has been sent asking that they clear the ditch as it is very overgrown. A reply has not yet been received. It will be chased up. Cllr Spicer will also chase up the landowner regarding this once we can confirm who it belongs to.
  - h) Footpath Market Weston Road; one more e mail received since the last meeting complaining about the proposed re-instatement of the path. The matter has not been progressed since the last meeting. Decision taken to remove the matter from the agenda until Cllr A Yorke is in a position to liaise with Cllr Spicer and seek clarification. Clerk will speak to Cllr Spicer about returning the funds received for a mini-excavator hire in the meantime.
  - i) Clerk has registered the Parish's interest in receiving information about the 2020 fund. Cllr Spicer advised that instructions on how to apply would be released in March sometime. Clerk will follow up.j) There is still one councillor vacancy. Clerk received one e mail expressing interest in receiving more
    - Page 10

information but nothing further. Vacancy remains open.

k) Amount of precept requested hasn't been minuted in previous meeting. Clerk confirmed the exact amount as £7201.

l) Came & Company are providing the Insurance for the Parish Council and will continue to do so for three years in total.

6. Public participation and Councillors reports: No Councillors present but a report was provided by Cllr Spicer: Two weeks ago I spent some time in Hepworth with the community engineer allocated to my area. We gave some discussion to increasing traffic calming in certain places and the installation for "unsuitable for HGV" signs at the A143 junction and the B 1111 junction in Barningham. To start this progress I have agreed to fund 2 sets of traffic counters to be put down for 2 weeks. This counts traffic, speed and size of vehicles. They should appear before too long. We both feel that it would be hard to make a case at this stage for a full weight restriction – but we will look carefully at the outcome of the traffic count. You have also enquired about verges and ditches (specifically opposite Wood Lane). Yes, the county council is responsible for verge cutting but on a C road is only once a year – likely to be mid-May this year. The only times they might do an extra cut (usually late summer) is if there is a visibility issue. If I could have the contact details of the farmer who is unable to clear the ditch I will get someone from SCC highways to meet him on site to see how they could help.

Report from members of the public. Parish Council were handed a petition signed by residents of Willow Green, The Street. They feel that the parking facilities at this location are no longer adequate and that the verges outside the properties have been churned up by parked vehicles. The situation is now causing friction amongst the neighbours. In the past hard standing has been refused by Highways/WSC as the layby is situated close to the double bends. However, the new development has an exit nearer to the double bends than the proposed hard standing area would be. Parish Council have agreed to hand the petition in to Joanna Spicer for submission to the relevant department.

7. Finance Clerks Report:

a) Parish Council appointed Cllr Bloomfield as the nominated Councillor to check the bank reconciliations as he is not currently a signatory on the account.

b) Bank Reconciliation: Business Current Account as of 19th February 2020 - £6755.05; Buisness Savings Account - £1835.85

c) Cheques presented for payment: 973 Cllr Thomas Training expenses £45.00; 974 Clerks January expenses £84.94; 975 SALC Cllr training course £132.00; 976 SALC Clerk Course £132.00; 977 Noticeboard repair £30.05 (Cllr Robinson); 978 Cheque not issued as incorrect Payee; 979 Clerks February pay £188.32;

- d) Letter already sent to bank requesting change of Clerk details.
- e) Authorisation agreed payment of Clerk on two- day training course. Clerk to contact payroll services.
- f) Risk Assessment has been reviewed and signed off.
- g) Internal Control statement adopted by Council.
- h) Financial Regulations and Standing orders have been reviewed and signed off.
- i) Internal Audit effectiveness has been reviewed.
- j) Internal Auditors appointed (SALC)
- 8. Consider Speaker for Annual Parish Meeting: It was decided to re-book the same speaker as last year but this years topic would be "Foul Murders of East Anglia"! Cllr N Yorke to provide speaker details.
- 9. Consider Credit /Debit card for online purchases: Discussion around obtaining a credit card for online purchases as currently the Parish account uses cheques. The bank will not issue a debit card due to the account having a complex mandate (two signatories required). Business credit cards all appear to incur a monthly fee. Clerk will speak to surrounding smaller Parishes and see what they do and re-present to Council.

- 10. Local Resident 100th Birthday: Occasion to be recognised by Parish Council.
- Neighbourhood Plan: It was agreed that a Neighbourhood plan should be explored as it may afford the village some protection regarding development in the forthcoming years.
   An Extraordinary meeting to be arranged for both council members and local residents on 16th April 2020. A speaker from the planning department will be invited to come and give a presentation.
   An advert for the Hepworth Herald and Hepworth Matters page will be written.
- 12. Correspondence received. Letter from Chapmans received in response to our letter dated 27/11/19 stating they avoid the use of Hepworth Road and The Street where possible.
  E mail from planning enforcement officer regarding Chapmans stating alleged breaches of routing agreement should be reported directly to Chapmans first for an explanation.
  E mail received objecting to re-instatement of Market Weston Footpath and also highlighting some broken signage etc around the village.
- 13. Consider effectiveness of meetings every other month: It was felt that this evenings meeting had progressed well and time had been used efficiently leaving time to spare at the end. If they continue this way there will be no need to increase the regularity.
- 16. Questions to the Chair, items to consider for next agenda.: Vehicle being driven dangerously Beck Street

Corona Virus contingency if necessary

Register of Interests – Consider including these via a link on website for transparency reasons, Clerk will establish full details in relation to legal obligations for Councillors consideration

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

The next meeting will be held 2nd April 2020 7.00pm Recreation hall. Annual Parish Meeting.



To help to communicate information and news around our eight churches better we have started to email out a weekly a notices sheet. This includes information about the next weeks services, the bible reading for the week, notices of things that are happening in your church and around the Benefice. If you would like to receive that weekly notice sheet please email the Benefice Administrator; <u>unitedbeneficeofstanton@gmail.com</u>

### Information and Advice

Check for the latest information at the NHS webpage at https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/

To help yourself stay well while you're at home:

- drink plenty of water to stay hydrated drink enough so your pee is pale and clear
- take paracetamol to help ease your symptoms
- stay in touch with family and friends over the phone or on social media, to help you avoid feeling low or lonely
- try to keep yourself busy you could try activities like cooking, reading, online learning and watching films
- · do light exercise, if you feel well enough to

Follow the link above for more advice about mental health and wellbeing and see their page on 'easy exercises' for some exercises you can do at home.

If you know of a neighbour who is self-isolating, use the card below to leave them your details if you would be able to help support them in any way

My name is	
I live locally at	
My phone number is	
If you are self-isolating due	to COVID-19 I can help with:
Picking up shopping	Posting mail
A friendly phone call	Urgent supplies
Just call or text me and I'll do	my best to help you (for free!)

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### Hepworth Art Club

The current situation has left us no alternative but to suspend the art club until further notice. We are all going to try to keep to our programme and email our efforts to each other. Such a supportive group, we are keeping in contact with each other.

Sadly, but unsurprisingly, we have also had our trip to The Gaugin Exhibition cancelled.

Everyone sends their best wishes to you all and - Keep Safe. wendy.summerell@btinternet.com Tel: 01359 244693

I would like to say a big thank you to all my family, friends and neighbours for the lovely cards, messages and flowers following my recent operation. It was so kind of you all.

God bless,

love Pat Anderson.

Do join a new Parish Council facebook page called "Hepworth Matters" which has up to date information about local matters of interest, notifications about village events and Parish Council information.

https://www.facebook.com/HepworthMatters/

## Did you know?

The Parish Council has prepared a Welcome Pack for people new to the village.

Do you have a new neighbour?

Copies from Helen on 01359 251 450 and can also be found on the Village Website at http://hepworthvillage.co.uk

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$\sim$	Hepwor (as measured	th Weath d on The		
1	Max. Temp:	13.9°C	14th	
January 2020:	Min. Temp:	-0.9°C	21st	
	Total Rainfall:	52 <b>.</b> 0mm		
	Wettest Day:	16.2mm	2nd	
February 2020:	Max. Temp: Min. Temp: Total Rainfall: Wettest Day:	14.1°C -0.7°C 71.4mm 12.1mm	16th 6th 22nd	$\mathcal{A}$

**January 2020:** An exceptionally mild month with average rainfall. The mildest January since records began at this station (2009) with a mean temperature of +2.4°C above the average, beating the old record of +1.4°C set in 2014. During a windy period around the middle of the month, there were gusts of 50mph on the 13th, 14th and 17th. Intense high pressure built rapidly from the 18th with the barometer reading 1048.7mb (30.97") on the 19th. Another record at this site. There were also long periods of 'calm' from the 21st to the 24th when the average wind speed was less than 1mph!

**February 2020:** A very mild and very wet month and exceptionally windy, particularly for East Anglia. The windiest month in any year since records began at this site and to 1990 in East Anglia generally. Frequent gusts between 40 - 64mph at various times between the 9th and 25th in the wakes of storms 'Ciara' and 'Dennis'. Only 2 days of air frost and 3 days of grass frost recorded for the month. Sleet/snow fell for a short time on the 27th.

Kindly provided by Richard Hinton. See the latest weather and historical Hepworth weather data at http://j.mp/HepworthWS



#### News from Hopton Primary School

This year, in order to celebrate Shrove Tuesday Hopton CEVC Primary School council members decided to organise and lead a pancake assault course/race.

We are getting good at this lead by example stuff...what better reason to lead us into Ash Wednesday than for us all to flip one of our favourite tasty treats up, down, under, over, in between, bounce bounce and a low crawl through to the end of a maze of an assault course...all for the good of raising money for charity, in this instance Sports Relief. We politely asked for donations of 10p per lap.

We lured the victims/classmates with the smell of sweet pancake before exposing them to a good workout. Giggles and even happy tears were aplenty and that was just the adults!

Just in case the competitors mistook us council folk for soft

touches, we introduced stacked pancakes with constant flipping rules and even blind folds before a master grand finale of chaos with whole-teams crazy caterpillar-ing their way through the course.

Well done all involved, we raised a healthy (pun intended) £32.60 and had a pancake flipping good time in the process. Claire Wright





#### We are on the hunt for Covers

Hepworth Herald would love to feature the talents of its residents (of all ages!) on the front cover. If you or your children have a seasonal painting, drawing or photograph you would like to share, please consider submitting it for future issues to hepworthherald@gmail.com Deadline for all copy (contents and adverts) for the June edition of Hepworth Herald is 15th May 2020. Please email all requests to hepworthherald@gmail.com

Hepworth Pavilion and Recreation Ground

Church Lane, IP22 2PU



Hall Hire:

£25 (£30) for an evening

£15 (£20) for afternoon or morning

£40 (£45) for afternoon + evening

£50 (£60) for all day.

(Prices in brackets are for non-residents)

Special prices available for regular or short hirings. The Recreation Ground Committee reserve the right to decline a booking. Bookings and Enquiries 01359 250 048

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Full Page	£60 (£22)	£80 (£29)		
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