

Smisby Newsletter Spring 2019

Issue 57

Commemorative Bench



Smisby Village was delighted to see a new commemorative oak bench installed on the corner of the Forties Lane and Chapel Street junction under the historic Beech tree. The beautiful bespoke bench was very generously and personally commissioned by local

resident, Peggy Moore, to recognise the 100 year anniversary since the 1st World War and the lives lost from Smisby.

The collaborative project saw the Parish Council seek the relevant permissions from the local authority and the Parochial Charity fund the installation, all in time for the Remembrance Service Armistice Day weekend in November.

If you have chance you should take in the wonderful vista from the bench itself looking across to the War Memorial and St James's Church.

Proposed Relocation of Smisby Telephone Box



There has been much discussion over the current condition and location of the Red Telephone Box on Chapel Street. Members of Smisby Parish Council would like to propose the full refurbishment and relocation of the Red Telephone Box from Chapel Street to within the grounds of Smisby Village Hall on Main Street.

The Telephone Box would be mounted within the grounds just inside the gate adjacent to the village hall and would be maintained in perpetuity by the Smisby Parish Council. This would then be visible for all residents and visitors to Smisby as you come into the village. Following its de-commission we have been exploring different projects for its usage which have been undertaken by other villages. It was something residents saw as an iconic feature and it was something we didn't want to lose. We want to go down the route of a complete refurbishment and turning it into something else. Some communities have transformed red phone boxes to host a community village Library and would act as a Book Exchange by holding donated books for residents of all ages.

The Smisby Parish Council, a locally elected body to represent the views of the residents, wholly supports the proposal of relocating the refurbished Telephone Box to within the grounds of Smisby Village Hall but has decided to conduct a full referendum for consideration by Smisby Parish residents to agree the way forward and to allow democracy to decide.

Please complete the voting form included within this newsletter publication and return the slip to; Chairman Smisby Parish Council, Truro Cottage, Chapel Street, Smisby by 30th April 2019.

Chapel Street Parking

It has been brought to our attention that vehicles are parking in and around the entrance to the Jubilee Grounds playing fields off Chapel Street, Smisby. Any unauthorised parking in this area poses a safety risk to pedestrians using the playing fields and is also a potential blockage for emergency access as well as general access for residents turning onto Chapel Street.

There should be no parking in front of this entrance. A SDDC No Parking sign will shortly be installed and visible on the telegraph pole enforcing this. Thank you in anticipation of your cooperation.



"Your Parish Council Needs YOU"

Smisby Parish Council Vacancies

Smisby Parish Council represents the needs and concerns of all age groups within the community and is a tier of local government. As we approach the forthcoming May AGM, the Parish Council is facing a situation where the number of councillors is very fragile. In order to maintain the minimum governance requirements to operate as an effective council we need to fill at least three vacancies. We could potentially lose control to the District Council as the first point of influence on local matters that directly affect Smisby residents if we are unable to fill these posts.

The same scenario occurred back in 2011 when faced with the same potential outcome; the current crop of serving councillors then stepped forward to volunteer and serve their community when needed most, and protect local matters important to village.

We would like to fill these 3 vacancies by co-option at our AGM on 14th May.

The Parish Council meets alternate months on a Tuesday night at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Meetings are generally no more than a couple of hours at the most. The voluntary post only takes up a modest amount of time but the time you give would be invaluable to the Community and can make all the difference. It is incredibly important we retain a control in Local Governance on all matters arising that affect the Village and our influence as a serving Parish Council should not be underestimated. We are particularly interested in potential candidates who are not already serving in role on another committee within the village.

If you are interested please speak directly to one of the current councillors who are Steve Hewitt, Sarah Rushman, Simon Barnett, David Waters and Chris Taft.

Is it now time for YOU to give something back to your Community?

VACANCY

Applications are invited to the post of
PARISH CLERK

Smisby Parish Council

The successful applicant will be responsible for the administration of the Parish Council and will work from home.

They will be required to attend the evening Council meetings which are usually held on alternate months on the 2nd Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September and November each year.

The Parish Clerk will be offered training to support this role. Salary dependent on experience currently a minimum of £8.87 per hour

Estimated at 4 hours a week with flexible working hours
For further information please contact Chairman Steve Hewitt
07908 620002 or email steve.hewitt@closebrothers.com

Parochial Charity

I thought it would be appropriate in the first newsletter of 2019, to remind everyone how 'The Parochial Charity in the Ancient Parish of Smisby' actually functions.

The Charity was set up in 1794 and is required to distribute its income, but to maintain its endowed capital in perpetuity. The value of the holding has grown over the years to its current value of £2.64M, which is a huge sum of money and carries with it a great responsibility. The Charity is run in accordance to a 'Scheme of Arrangement', which is its governing document. This states how we are to run the Charity, how the capital must remain intact and that we are only able to spend the income. Consequently, it is managed by 4 Trustees and assisted with part-time paid administrative support. The investment of this money requires specialist advice, which is provided by an investment company. For an agreed annual fee, they provide us with investment advice and we hold regular meetings with the company to discuss our options. For any land purchase that the Charity may make, we use a local land agent.

The charity is required to give half of its income (after deduction of expenses) to the Church Charity, for the benefit of St James' Church. This sharing rule dates back to when the Charity was set up in 1794. The other half is used for the benefit of the local Parish and resident Parishioners. There are many examples of these benefits:

- Providing an annual grant towards tertiary education, usually for university accommodation for students normally resident in the Parish
- Providing book tokens at Christmas for all schoolchildren between the ages of 2 and 16
- An annual grant to the Smisby Women's Institute to subsidise educational visits for the members (which has previously included a tour of the Houses of Parliament)
- Funding the Christmas Party held in the Smisby Village Hall
- Providing a Christmas Hamper for all Parishioners who have reached 60 (for ladies) and 65 (for gentlemen)
- Ad hoc funding of individual cases of hardship submitted by Parishioners
- Providing money for projects in the Village – e.g. refurbishment of the Village Green; updating facilities of the Village Hall – air conditioning; 50% of the audio/visual project
- Provision of funding for specialist events eg the party to celebrate 1000 years of existence of the village of Smisby

We always welcome ideas for funding new projects, particularly those that can benefit large numbers of residents, so please keep the ideas coming and help us make Smisby an even more attractive place to live.

Contact details for Trustees of the Charity can be found on the back page of the newsletter.

St James' Church



Harvest was celebrated as ever with a beautifully decorated Church, and thanks to people's generosity, lots of goods and produce were donated to help the homeless at Derby Padley centre. A delicious bring and share supper in the village hall followed directly afterwards. There was a good attendance for the 100th WW1 Anniversary Remembrance Service and a ceramic poppy for each local villager lost in conflict was used in our decorations.

Over the Christmas period there were several well attended events, with a full house on 1st December for the musical introduction to the village Christmas party. On 6th December Smisby W.I. hosted a good congregation for the "Harpur Crewe Group" Carol service in church. 23rd December saw the Church's traditional service of lessons and carols and on Christmas Day there was a morning celebration of Communion.

In the early part of this year we have experimented with having a few 4 p.m. services in the village hall, including a delightful Christingle service at which the local "Beaver" group and the other children sang for us. No conclusions have yet been drawn on whether to continue with these services in the more informal setting of the village hall as attendance has been patchy. At the time of writing we are looking forward to our Mothering Sunday service in Church at 4 p.m. on 31st March at which there will be flowers or plants for youngsters to distribute to their Mums.

Our Annual Church meeting is scheduled for 7th April, immediately following Evening Prayer at 4.00pm, and this is also in the village hall. We also extend an invitation to everyone to our Easter Sunday service in church 9.00am 21st April. This is always a joyful and meaningful occasion in the life of the Church, and we will be surrounded by spring flowers.

Special thanks go to Hazel who gives a lot of her time and effort to creating a children's choir for our special events, and it would be wonderful to welcome more local youngsters into St James on these occasions.

Smisby Village Hall



Smisby Village Hall is in a strong position financially as it enters the second quarter of 2019. At the recent AGM held in January, 2 Trustees stood down and one new one was elected onto the committee. A new chairman was elected at a subsequent Trustee meeting and other committee positions ratified. The previous programme of

monitor our electric consumption more closely now. Several upgrades is now completed, the last suggested that it would be beneficial for their visiting spe,project being the fitting of new blinds to the windows. Moving forward, the committee will decide on future improvements and events that will benefit the whole community living in Smisby.

The Village Hall continues to be well used and there is plenty of scope for more use, especially by local parishioners for their own events. Please contact the booking clerk for availability (details on the back page of this Parish Newsletter).

Remember, Smisby Village Hall is your hall, run for you by local volunteers, so please use it!

Ron Walker
Chairman of Trustees
Smisby Village Hall



Mental health awareness week

Starts every year on the second Monday in May. In 2019 from 13th to 19th May.

In a world that is increasingly opening up to and understanding those with mental health issues, it's no surprise that Mental Health Awareness Week is now a firmer fixture on calendars around the UK and beyond. It's organised by the Mental Health Foundation, and focuses on a major issue each and every year. Look out for further information on local events being held in Smisby organised by local resident Alex Ahern.

Ashby Art Club

Ashby Art club meets on Monday evenings and bi monthly Wednesday morning in the village hall. Visitors and new members are welcome. Information about the demonstrations and workshops can be found at www.ashbyartclub.org. The next demonstration will be on 13 April by Steph Coley, showing members how to produce a portrait using collage. Visitors are welcome and the fee is £5



Art Club members are working hard to get ready for the Annual Easter Exhibition at Ticknall Village hall, which runs from Easter Saturday to Easter Monday inclusive (20th to 22nd April).

The change to the Ashby festival date, moving it from the late May Bank Holiday to the early May Bank Holiday has meant that painting efforts have been intensified, as many members paint the 8' x 4' boards for the Outdoor Art Gallery, as well as exhibit in the indoor Art Exhibition. The theme for this year's Outdoor Art Gallery is "Name that Tune, with the boards going up a couple of weeks before the Art Festival and staying up for about another fortnight afterwards. The indoor Art Exhibition runs from 4th to 6th April and is also an open competition, like the photography competition which is displayed adjacent to the art.

VILLAGE ISSUES

HAVE YOUR SAY

Do you feel strongly about issues in Smisby village?

Do you want a say on local matters?

Do you want to give something back to your community?

Are you interested in volunteering in coming on to the Smisby Parish Council?

The current Committee have been together for a number of years now and are always keen to encourage and welcome new members to the Parish Council.

If this is something you would be interested in please speak to any of the current serving Councillors,
Steve Hewitt,
Sarah Rushman, David Waters, Chris Taft and
Simon Barnett

Yuk! Chewing gum - Please don't drop your gum outside my home

About your gum



Please wrap it and bin it

Yuk! dog fouling - Please don't let your dog foul outside my home.

Yuk! is the Derbyshire County Council campaign against dog fouling. Help to keep our Village free of dog mess. Dog fouling is ongoing problem and nuisance within the Parish. As always, unfortunately it is the responsible dog owners who are implicated because of the actions of a very small minority within a community who fail to follow the basis etiquette of being a dog owner and clearing up after your own pet. This requires vigilance by everyone and anyone observed not bagging up dog foul should be reported to the Council. South Derbyshire's Dog Control Order makes it illegal for an owner not to pick up after their dog in all public open land in South Derbyshire. They are also instructed to investigate all complaints about dog fouling and to act on any intelligence about possible offenders. Not only can dog mess cause stomach upsets and headaches, but also asthma and blindness. To help combat the danger you can display one of the weather-proof Yuk! signs. Pick one up from any Derbyshire library or complete the form on line and they will post a sign out to you. They can be attached to gates, fences, or displayed in a window. These signs should act as a reminder to the small amount of irresponsible dog owners to think of the health risks if they don't clear up after their pets. It is every dog owners duty to clean up after their dog. There are no excuses, fouling is unacceptable



Ashby Camera Club

For our forthcoming programme and to contact us, please visit ashbycameraclub.co.uk.

For further information and contact see www.ashbycameraclub.co.uk, or speak to any member.

Ivanhoe Countrystore

Remember to stock up on dinner for your best friend!



And don't forget the **FRONTLINE**

- ◆ Friendly service and advice on a wide range of pet foods to suit all diets ◆
- ◆ Easy free parking ◆

Ashby Road - Boundary - 01283 212300

Easy Free Parking - Friendly service and advice

Landscaping and Horticultural machinery for Sale or Hire

Kilworth
Kilworth Machinery Ltd
Anwell Lane, Smisby
Tel: 01530 412690
www.kilworthmachinery.co.uk

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Opening times:

March to October: 9am to 5pm (Sundays 10.30am to 4.30pm)

November to February 9am to 4pm (Closed on Sundays)

We are closed from December 24th to January 2nd

Tel 01530 413 700 Fax 01530 417 600

www.bluebellnursery.co.uk

Useful Smisby Village Contacts:

Parish Councillors:

Chair - Steve Hewitt (07908 620002)

Vice Chair - Sarah Rushman

Parish Clerk - Emma Stroud

smisbyparishclerk@gmail.com

Councillor - David Waters

Councillor - Simon Barnett (07855 969719)

Councillor - Chris Taft

Please contact the Parish Clerk if you would like to include anything in the next Parish Newsletter.

South Derbyshire District Councillors:

Councillor - Michael Stanton (07768 010251)

michael.stanton@south-derbys.gov.uk

Councillor - Peter Smith (07894 338129)

peter.smith@south-derbys.gov.uk

Derbyshire District Councillor:

Councillor - Linda Chilton

linda.chilton@derbyshire.gov.uk

Parochial Charity:

Trustee - Barbara Ball (01530 416411)

Trustee - Jeff Barnes (01283 217319)

Trustee - Simon Barnett (01530 412491)

Trustee - Rob Hounslow (07720 348860)

Clerk - Sheila Heap (01530 414179)

Village Hall Committee:

Chairman - Ron Walker

Bookings Clerk - Barbara Ball (07526 268698)

Smisby Church:

Churchwarden - Gary Margerrison (01530 414453)

Churchwarden - Carol Morgan (01530 411314)

Newsletter Publishers:

Steve Hewitt

James Barnett

Facebook:

Smisby Village News

[facebook](#)

Defibrillator Code

2131

Location: Village Hall

Forthcoming Parish Council Meetings; Held on Tuesdays @ 7.30pm in Smisby Village Hall.

Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Next meeting is - 14th May 2019.



"THINK BEFORE YOU PARK

The extra time taken
to reach an incident
can cost lives!

PLEASE MOVE YOUR CAR