

The Three Towers

October 2021

Serving the communities in and around
Edenham, Swinstead, Witham on the
Hill, Toft, Lound and Manthorpe



Parish News

TOFT CUM LOUND AND MANTHORPE PARISH EMAIL DISTRIBUTION LIST To complement the new Parish website, there is a parish email distribution list. Should you wish to ensure that you receive timely news of events via email, **residents of Toft, Lound and Manthorpe**, who are not already on the list, **are asked to send their email address, name and house address to the editor:** the3towers1@gmail.com

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED to form a Jubilee Playing Field Management Team to manage the Toft cum Lound and Manthorpe playing field. Please contact the clerk: Rosemary Trollope-Bellew Tel: 01778 560634 or by email: tlampc2@gmail.com

WEDDING CONGRATULATION to Hannah Brock (daughter of Elaine and Duncan Brock of Witham on the Hill) and Devin Greenwood on Monday 2 August in Rye, Sussex. Wishing you both much happiness.

WEDDING CONGRATULATION Lauren Mason and Robert Russell of Scottlethorpe on 18 September at Edenham Church

THANK YOU to the Six Bells for donating 4 picnic benches to Witham on the Hill village green and a further 2 to the Jubilee Playing Field in Manthorpe. Thanks too, to Richard Hartley for transporting them. It is greatly appreciated.

THANK YOU to Geg and Ruth Atter for their help in delivering this magazine for the past 13 years. Many thanks to Lissette for stepping in.

THANKS to all who helped with the Church working party on Sunday 20 August, with a special thanks to Gene Plews who spent hours strimming the day before. Well done all of you!

SAMARITAN'S PURSE SHOE BOXES I hope you haven't lost your leaflet, or forgotten about the shoe boxes! I'm sure you are busy filling shoeboxes with gifts and useful supplies for children suffering as a result of war, famine, or natural disaster. The collection week is **15-22 November**, when you can take your shoe box to the Nottingham Building Society in Bourne or Stamford. If you need help with this, contact Jane Clark 01778 590232. Thank you for your support.

Dates for Your Diary

Thursday 30 September, 7pm. Toft cum Lound & Manthorpe Parish Council meeting in St Andrew's Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill.

Friday 1 October 7pm. Harvest Supper in Swinstead Village Hall. Quiz & raffle; tickets £12 (supper includes one glass of wine) available from Pat Wright 01476 550829 or Mollie Lunn 01476 550393.

Sunday 3 October 10am—4pm, Corby Glen Sheep Fair. It should be a fun packed day. The Sheep Show, all the fun at the fair, vintage tractors, cars, fire engine and bikes, craft stalls and fantastic food. There will also be entertainment and live music on the main stage.

Sunday 10 October 6pm. Harvest Festival, St Andrew's Church, Witham on the Hill, followed by supper in the Parish Hall. Donations for the Foodbank - dried and tinned goods, long-life milk etc are greatly needed - they can be placed in the plastic box in the Church porch or in the cross on the floor of the north aisle. If you would like to join us for supper, please put your name on the list on the table near the church door or contact Trudy Templeman 07754 493792 or Jane Clark 01778 590232. Everyone is very welcome.

Monday 11 October 7.30pm. Witham on the Hill Historical Society talk on Stamford Industries by Philippa Massey in the St Andrew's Parish Hall, Witham. Members £2, visitors £3—all welcome.

Saturday 16 October 10am 'til noon. MacMillan Coffee Morning in St Andrew's Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill. All welcome.

Sunday 17 October 11.15am Harvest Eucharist then lunch at 1pm, the Vicarage Edenham. Tickets £7.50 (BYO drinks). tel: 591358 or email: edenhamoffice@gmail.com



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The Vicar Writes

It's hard to know what to expect these days when your twenty-one-year-old daughter tells you that she has something 'serious' and 'important' to tell you. As it turned out, the news in question was that Jessica was getting a dog! Though still studying at Hull University, Jessica was living in a rented house that allowed for pets and her housemate Holly had recently graduated in zoology (always handy to have a zoologist about). Having made this momentous decision, Jess also informed us that she was planning to adopt a Romanian rescue dog from a charity dog home in Hull.

Having decided upon a dog called Willow, it fell to me to hire a van to fetch her in her cage back from the charity (my car just wasn't big enough). So, on a Sunday evening back in March I hired a van, drove to Hull, picked up Jess and Holly and headed for a dimly lit industrial estate. Willow, in her cage and looking utterly petrified, was loaded into the van and we headed back to the house.

I left Jess and Holly to it and drove off waiting to hear how Willow would settle. I think even Jess would admit that it was all a little up-and-down to start with. The first evening Willow

was very reluctant to come in from the yard (it took hours to entice her back into the house) and backed away from any attempt to reach out to her. Before too long, things began to change. Willow quickly developed a preference for the sofa and, eventually, allowed Jess and Holly to pet her. Regular photos and updates arrived via text and it was soon apparent that Willow was settling in well and beginning to find her feet. As lockdown restrictions eased, we were able to meet Jess (and Willow) for a turn around a local park in Hull. I can't describe how lovely it was when Willow first allowed me to pet her. She was wary of anyone raising a hand over her head but wasn't so reluctant to be stroked under her chin (and even less so to receive a beef and cheese dog treat!).

All seemed to be going well until Jess began to talk of coming home to work for the summer. Having a dog in the house wasn't so unusual for me (we had two dogs at home growing up) but Lesley, being a farmer's daughter, was more used to 'animals outside, people inside'. This was going to be a sizeable adjustment!

As the time grew near, we hatched a plan as to where Willow would sleep and how we could let her out into



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the Coach House yard. The journey from Hull saw Willow curled up in the footwell of the car shaking and looking more than a little frightened. A quick stop at Starbucks near Retford fortified her nerves with a Puppochino (a puppy-sized cup filled with whipped cream).

I don't think I'd be doing Willow a disservice to say that she was a little disappointed not to be allowed on the sofa once we arrived (it was my Gran's) but she soon settled down and began to enjoy her walks. Early mornings saw Willow attentive on 'squirrel watch' at the yard gate and, as time went on, her personality and sense of playfulness began to emerge.

However, Willow remained deeply troubled by anything that made a noise (hoover, lawnmower, washing machine, fire alarm etc.) and even looked nervous when her dish was placed down on the floor (as if someone was about to swoop down and take it). It's sad to think that Willow's past as a street dog (and a year spent in shelter where she would have eventually been put down) has left her with irreparable fears and insecurities that no amount of love, affection or reassurance will ever cure; one minute she can be full of life and fun but if you drop your

phone or even reach for an umbrella, she will run a mile.

It can be hard to have to admit there are some things that we simply cannot fix. While we can offer love, friendship, support and security to our fellow man (and to his best friend), there are some hurdles that our kindness cannot overcome. The resulting feeling of helpless isn't easy to live with but it can lead us to focus a little more on the here and now and to take things one day at a time (spending time with Willow has certainly taught me that).

There are people I've come to know over the years who carry burdens that will probably never leave them. Sometimes they ask if those same burdens will follow them into eternity. And yet God reassures us in Revelation 21.4 that in the world to come he will "wipe away every tear, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things will pass away." There will be a time when our burdens will be lifted from us, there will be a freedom like nothing else we have ever known before. I've often heard it said that the only scars in heaven will be those on the hands, feet and side of Christ. That may sound a little poetic but it's worth considering that those same

scars remind us of how our freedom has been won and the extent of God's extraordinary love and mercy. In the meantime, St Paul reminds us that God's love is "patient and kind" that it "bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things" (1 Corinthians 13). Let us try to embody that same love in our dealings with others, especially those who carry heavy burdens, vulnerabilities or troubles and let us place our hope and trust in the freedom and deliverance that Christ has won for us, and that will surely one day be ours.

Fr Edward

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

South Kesteven District Council is signing up to the national Mental Health Challenge for Local Authorities in a commitment to support residents' wellbeing and wellness. We have established a cross-party mental health working party that meets every eight weeks. The pandemic has badly affected some people, which is why mental wellbeing will be among the priorities in Council decision-making and policy. This will thread through all our areas of responsibility, including housing, community safety, engagement, planning and leisure.

We had a phenomenal response to our new Community Awards, with 122 names put forward. Outstanding nominations have been received for every award, with 24 in the Helping Hand category, 20 in the Community Wellbeing category and 17 for the Local Community Champion award.

This year has brought home the value of community support and we look forward to highlighting some special people who have made a real difference. We have heard some quite humbling stories about people's contributions to their communities put forward across all categories. Nominations are now being shortlisted with winners to be announced in September.

During the next few weeks SKDC will be contacting around 66,000 residential properties by email or by post to ensure our electoral register is up to date. This will help identify any residents not registered, so they can be encouraged to sign up ready to vote in any elections. However we make contact, by email or post, simply follow the instructions we send to you as it will make sure you get to have your say at election time.

You can walk through Historic Grantham with the help of the new sound walk – it launches on Friday 10th September “traces and echoes” explores the many changes Grantham High Street has been through. It is self-guided and



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Cllr. Penny Robins, Ward Councillor for Glen Ward

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Email: penny.robins@southkesteven.gov.uk

A MESSAGE FROM THE TOFT CUM LOUND AND MANTHORPE CLERK

Toft cum Lound & Manthorpe Parish Council's next meeting takes place in St Andrew's Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill on 30th September at 7pm, all welcome. If you wish to attend, please contact the Clerk email tlampc2@gmail.com before 5pm on day of meeting.

There will be public forum before the start of the meeting where members of the public may ask questions or make a short statement to the Council.

Councillors will discuss the planning application at Church Hill Farm, Toft for change of use of an existing agricultural building to form 5 dwellings.

C.Cllr Robert Reid had reported to Councillors that the Toft 'Welcome Sign' was still in the programme. The Highways officer is to discuss traffic calming at Toft with The Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership and arrange for speed signs to be cleaned. The reinstatement of the hazard marker posts were considered as non-essential due to carriageway edge line and bend warning signs present. Highways manager is to contact the parish council about a village name plate request for Lound. It is hoped that Natural England will provide a license to enable LCC Highways to remove the badgers from between Manthorpe/Thurlby road so that they can be re-located and work to re-instate the road.

Rosemary Trollope-Bellew, Clerk to the Council



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Witham on the Hill WI

The August meeting was planned as games on the village green but it turned out to be a cool drizzly evening. We did manage to have a good chat and catch up with members but the only game played was giant Jenga. Members were given a triangle of fabric to decorate on the Climate Change theme to use as bunting for the Big Green Week in September. We retreated home before the rain became too heavy.

In September Terry Cook from Mutts Nutts, the local animal charity, gave us a talk in the St Andrew's Parish Hall. It was good to meet again under "normal" circumstances, despite the hand gel and giving each other space!

Terry told us the charity was formed 10 years ago by her and 2 friends who wanted to help elderly and terminally ill people to look after their pets.

They get referrals from care workers and vets. They rely on volunteers to help walk dogs, foster animals and take them to the vet for treatment. Several of our members were so impressed that they offered their services.

The bunting made by members was on display and plans were made for a litter-pick on Sunday afternoon 19 September, followed by a picnic on

the village green. Scarves are being made as part of Lincolnshire South's project to knit the length of the Viking Way (147 miles) which will be a lot of scarves, 60-80 inches long each! It is hoped that Witham WI will produce at least 4.

The next meeting will be in the St Andrew's Parish Hall on Tuesday 5 October at 7.30pm. There will be a talk by Dawn Blunden, a cake maker to royalty! Visitors and new members always most welcome. For more information on the WI contact Secretary: Jane Clark tel 01778 590232.

Sue Hagan

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Castle Bytham

There can be few of us who have not seen the great earth mound at Castle Bytham, the remains of the old castle, which has fascinating links to the Norman conquest and the Barons' wars against King John and Henry III. It was a motte and bailey castle, consisting of the earth mound, the motte on which the keep was built, surrounded by a fenced area for ancillary buildings, the bailey.

The castle was constructed sometime before 1086 by Drogo de la Beuvriere, Lord of Holderness in Yorkshire. Drogo fought alongside William the Conqueror when he invaded England in 1066. As his reward, Drogo was granted extensive lands in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, including the manor of Bytham.

In the late 1100s, the manor was granted to William de Colvile, and then in 1215 to William de Forz, 3rd Earl of Albermarle, an Anglo-Norman nobleman. He was actively engaged in the struggles of the Norman barons against King John and King Henry III but changed sides as often as it suited his policy.



These struggles were rebellions against these Kings in protest against their tyrannical will, their foreign friends governing the country and oppressive taxation.

After King John's death in 1216, de Forz supported Henry III, fighting in the Battle of Lincoln Fair in 1217. His real object was to revive the independent power of the feudal barons, and he made alliances with other rebellious lords. In 1220 de Forz refused to surrender two royal castles of which he was constable. Henry III marched against them and they fell without a blow. In the following year, however, de Forz, in face of further efforts to reduce his power, rose in revolt.

In the winter of 1220-21 de Forz fortified the castle at Bytham, and King Henry III laid siege in February 1221 requiring the use of heavy siege weapons. It held out for nearly a fortnight against Henry. After the rebellion was quashed miners were brought in to slight the defences. The manor was returned to the Colviles, who rebuilt and re-occupied the castle until the late 14th century. The castle was clearly highly regarded for John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, chose to raise his children at Bytham including Henry of Bolingbroke, later King Henry IV. In the 15th century it fell into decline and by 1544 was in ruins. The castle was subsequently dismantled for building stone and by 1906 no stonework was visible above ground.

Excavations in 1870 revealed a large keep with a great cylindrical tower 60 feet in diameter with curtain walls and outworks including water defences drawn from the neighbouring beck and local springs.

The remaining earthworks are in excellent condition and are an impressive sight especially from the road north to Swayfield. The castle is on private land and access to the mound is not really allowed. But there is a bridge over the stream and footpaths surround most of the site giving excellent views. On my last visit there were useful information boards, giving a history of the castle, a map of the earthworks, and an impression of it in its heyday. Parking is on the road alongside, a bit risky perhaps. Altogether, well worth a trip.

Dick Mundy.



Tommy Plummer

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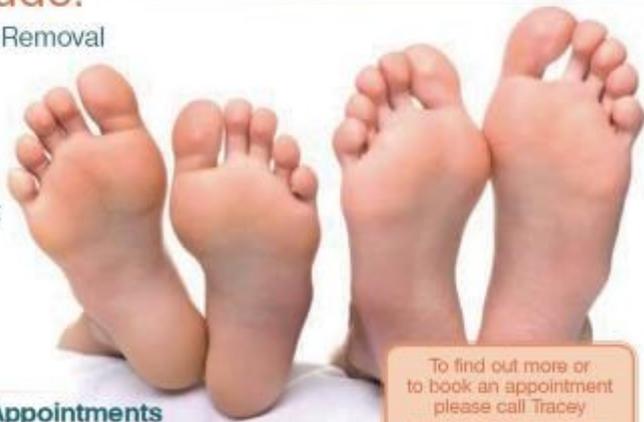


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Steam Action Veg and Produce Show 2021

On Saturday 11th September, Steam Action held its first large event at Edenham Village Hall since the end of lockdown. The Annual Veg and Produce show had to be cancelled last year causing much disappointment, so this year it was even more important to the committee to start trying to get the community together again. Over Friday night and Saturday morning entries came in for the various classes ranging from home grown vegetables, home baking, homemade jams and chutneys, photography, handicrafts and various children's classes.

After entries closed, the committee arranged for external judges to come in and judge all the classes anonymously. After some tough decision making all the winners were decided and points totted up to award the trophies.

At 2pm the hall was opened to the public to view the entries and the winners. Refreshments were served and it was great to see the Village Hall buzzing again. Following the presentation of trophies, all the entries were auctioned off with some fierce bidding wars, particularly over the homemade vodka!

Over £700 was raised, which will go towards the Christmas party in December. Thank you to all who attend and support us.



Advertising manager: nobby236@gmail.com



Editor: the3towers1@gmail.com

LINCOLNSHIRE CHURCHES TRUST RIDE AND STRIDE

Jane's story of the day

A light breeze and sun peeping out from the clouds made a perfect day for a cycle ride. Bob and I set off from Witham on the Hill just after 10am and headed for St Faith's church in Wilsthorpe. We were pleased to find it open, so enjoyed a bottle of water and a packet of mini chocolate fingers. There was a good selection of second-hand books on offer and I was very tempted but decided I didn't want extra weight in my backpack.

On to St Margaret's at Braceborough and then to St Thomas church at Greatford. The next stop was St Martin's at Barholm and there we discovered beautiful lilac coloured streams of flowers decorating the archway. On closer inspection they turned out to be artificial! An even bigger surprise awaited us inside – the same flowers adorned the pew ends, tables and surfaces, complete with big bows of purple and white net. It looked stunning.

The wedding hadn't yet happened but we hope the happy couple had a wonderful day.

We sat on the churchyard wall and waited for Sue Pennant Jones, Christian, Sebastian and friend, Roman, to catch us up. Having arrived, we cycled on to St Michael's at Langtoft. Here staff were clearing away after a coffee morning and knew nothing of the Ride and



Stride. No coffee or cake on offer, so we sat in the churchyard and ate our packed lunches.

Our next church was St John's at Baston but, as we had children with us, we decided that going along the A15 was not a good idea. Instead, we took the quieter route along the fen road, past all the flooded quarries with plenty of wild fowl. It was much longer and we were all very hot and tired on reaching Baston. We found a tiny bat on the floor of the church, which we were worried would get trodden on. Sue picked it up and poured some water on her palm and it appeared to drink. She then put it on the floor near a curtain and it scurried away behind the curtain.

By now it was two o'clock, and we decided to head back. Sue and the boys cycled home but we decided to head for Waterside Garden Centre for tea and cake. However, we were disappointed to discover they could only take debit cards and we only had cash. So, we set off for home, stopping at Wilsthorpe again as my water bottle was empty. This time we bought the books and even a DVD as we didn't have far to cycle home.

Needless to say, we pushed our bikes up Witham hill, getting home about 3.30pm. A very enjoyable day out in the countryside with all the harvest gathered in and even fields already ploughed. There was an abundance of red hawthorn berries and trees full of apples. We did encounter other cyclists doing the same event, so that was very encouraging. Unlike last year, during the worst of the pandemic, all the churches were open this year.

Thank you to all my generous sponsors. Once all the money has been collected, I should have raised about £170 - half of which goes to the Lincolnshire Churches Trust and the other half to St Andrew's, Witham on the Hill. In the light of the current financial problems facing Lincoln Diocese, and the Resourcing Sustainable Church report, fundraising is more important than ever. Thank you for your support!

JANE CLARK

LINCOLNSHIRE CHURCHES TRUST RIDE AND STRIDE

Frances' story of the day

For the first time in many years, I did this sponsored cycle on 11th September. Peter and I set off from outside Oasby, near Osbournby, stopping for coffee and cake with friends within a couple of miles of leaving the car. We then cycled to St Michael's Heydour, where several people were decorating above the Lychgate for a wedding that afternoon. Sadly the church was locked and even the flower arrangers could not get in.

From there we went to Aisby and took the byway down to the A52 which we crossed to Haceby. We missed the church there (so well hidden is it) and went along beautiful country lanes amidst recently harvested farmland to St Nicholas Sapperton. The church was open so we enjoyed a look around this small parish church set up with tables between the (movable) pews.

Leaving there we headed for St Andrew's Pickworth. Here there was a sign saying "Welcome Ride and Stride" plus water in the porch and an open church. This is a beautifully maintained church with medieval wall paintings, which were restored 30-40 years ago.

From Pickworth we continued to St Nicholas Walcot and then St Botolph's Newton - two delightful villages but both with locked churches and no sign that they knew about the sponsored cycle. We ended up at The Red Lion at Newton, hoping for a late lunch, to find it was closed for a function.

Rather dispirited and hungry we cycled back towards Haceby where we got involved herding sheep blocking our path. This did mean that we found the church (St Barbara's) and, importantly, the entrance to it (up a grassy overgrown slope beside the churchyard wall). It was open but is a redundant church and, although delightful and with medieval wall painting, it is hidden by an overgrown pathway and churchyard.

Our journey back to the car took us along a short part of the A52 to St Lucia's Dembleby , again locked and finally to the church of St Thomas of Canterbury at Aunsby, also locked.

Peter and I had a lovely day of cycling in beautiful countryside but of the eight churches visited only three were open. This I find hard to understand as this sponsored cycle happens every year on the same weekend and is expressly to raise money to potentially help preserve and upkeep the very churches which we found locked and with no sign of welcome for the cyclists who are helping to raise these funds. Well done to Witham church which was open and offered squash and biscuits as well as stickers for sponsor forms. Thank you to all who sponsored me (in the region of £200 when collected) and I look forward to next year and to trying out a different route.

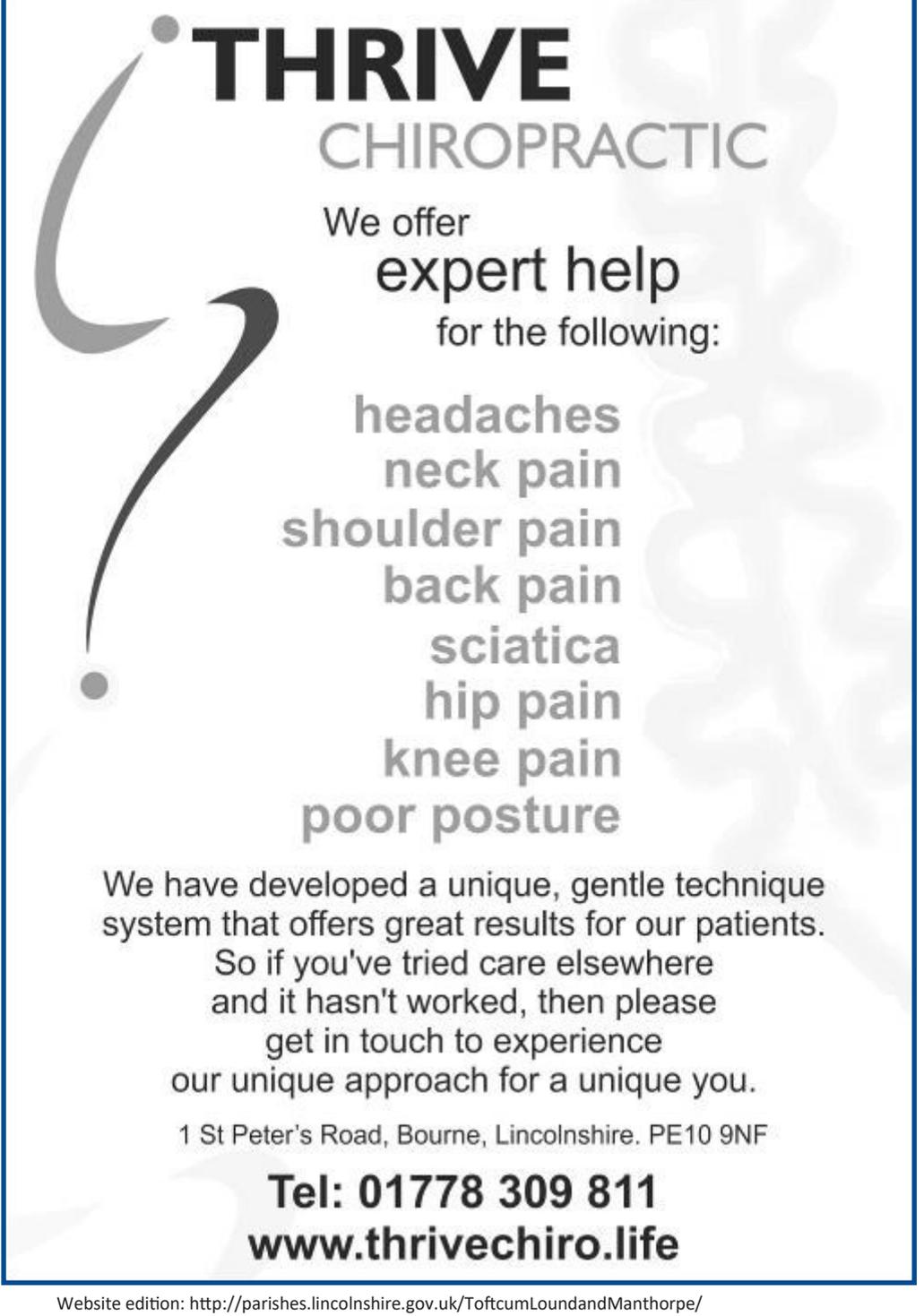
Frances Plummer

Witham community efforts - Witham village green, Bywells and churchyard are looking really well cared for thanks to the efforts of a few people, both resident and non-resident. It is lovely to see painted benches, strimmed graves, straightened gravestones, the removal of brambles from trees and the tidying of the lower Bywells area. Great job!

Book Exchange - Do remember there are quite a number of books to look through and take away to read in the church porch at Witham. Because of the quantity of books can we stop collecting jigsaws and just keep to books please.

Foodbank - Thank you very much for all who continue to make contributions to the Foodbank. I continue to go to the Bourne one every 2-3 weeks depending on how much there is to take. Donations can always go in the box in the church porch or under cover at Manor Cottage. The Foodbank are currently in need of food stocks, rather than toiletries, especially soups etc.

Frances Plummer



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Witham on the Hill Parish Council Meeting

13th September

The following summarises matters discussed. The full draft Minutes are available on request from the Clerk, wothpc@gmail.com

Those attending, Cllr Charles Henriques (Chair), Cllr Janet Kirkwood, Cllr Paul Smith. Bernard Champness (Clerk). Cllr Penny Robins and Cllr Nick Robins (SKDC). Cllrs Lynne O'Hara and Sue Pennant-Jones made their apologies.

Cllr Kirkwood reported that the footpath to the north of the village was overgrown. Cllr Smith said he had been contacted in connection with the unauthorised felling of timber in the wood bordering the left side of the road coming up the hill into the village from the crossroads. However, as this was outside the conservation area boundary, there wasn't the usual requirement for planning.

District Councillor Penny Robins was welcomed to the meeting by the Chair. She thanked the Council for the invitation and would try to attend all future meetings. She was able to report on the following:

Both the County and District Councils had helped in assisting Afghan refugees settle into the county.

Regarding Covid19, the present figures indicated that approx 323 people per 100,000 were infected locally.

She wanted to recommend 'Historic Grantham' which was a new online assisted walk around Grantham. The website provides a commentary while you are guided round the walk. She will send the link to the Clerk.

Regarding the budget this year had been difficult and challenging.

New data breaches had come to light and were being investigated.

SKDC is making arrangements for all staff to return from working at home to the office. This was going to take a while as it will be on a phased basis.

Planning Services will be changing and are currently under review. She noted the planning applications on the agenda were minor and likely to be dealt with by a Planning Officer rather than full committee.

She was able to give an update on the health of Cllr Bob Adams and the Council wished him well.

Planning Applications to Approve:

S21/1742 - Proposal: Remove Maple tree (T1) in front garden to just above ground level, Reduce Pissard's Plum (T2) by 2m. at Cedar House, 3 Home Farm Lane, Response by 17 September 2021. Resolved: no comment

S21/1745 - Proposal: Reduce spread of 3 neighbouring Ash trees (T3, T4 & T5) back to the

Boundary at Somersby House, Main Street. Response by 17 September 2021. Resolved: no comment

S21/1746 - Proposal: Reduce height of the Ash tree (T6) by 3m and reduce spread by 1.5m to shape crown at Park House, 2 Home Farm Lane. Response by 17 September 2021. Resolved: no comment

Planning Applications approved:

S21/1176 - Proposal: Erection of storage and workshop building at Witham Hall Preparatory School Main Street

S21/1362 - Proposal: T1 - ash - 4 lowest limbs to be removed over the footpath.

at Rag Rose Bottom Street

S21/1272 - Proposal: Removal of maple tree at New Home Farm Main Street

Cllr Henriques reported he had again been in touch with the company who are to supply the reactive speed sign to clarify invoicing arrangements, payment and a delivery date. Progress has been slow due to holidays and the disruption caused by the pandemic. In the meantime, he had received 6 static signs from the Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership which could now be deployed around the village. Both he and Cllr Smith will undertake this shortly.

The village website was discussed as there had been initial teething problems since the new site had been set up by LCC, in a format common to other local councils. Consideration was given to developing our own website independently but given the Clerk was getting the hang of it and the cost of doing so, it was felt that the current arrangements should be maintained for the time being.

It was agreed that the Clerk would look into the cost of a laptop, Office 365 and a printer, to be discussed again at the November meeting. Having a

Parish owned laptop would make any future handover of the Clerk's role much easier.

A resident had made a request to have the verge in front of their property excluded from the contractors cutting schedule, to encourage self-seeded wild flowers. The Clerk had emailed residents in the immediate vicinity asking them to comment on the proposal. While there were no strong objections it was pointed out that the verge needed more active management to prevent it looking untidy.

There had been requests for help from residents whose gardens were being infested with spear thistle seeds from the pasture on the southwestern side of the village. The landowner has been contacted but it was understood there were limited options to deal with this given the land is in a low input grassland scheme and the time of year. It was agreed that the land owner be contacted again early next year to request that preventative steps be taken.

At the July meeting following a question raised by a resident, it was agreed that we would support voluntary work to redecorate the various benches around the Green, as this would be quicker than relying on SKDC to schedule the work. The council noted that another bench has been redecorated since by Martyn Hyde. The council wished to express their thanks and will be happy to reimburse the cost of materials.

Remembrance Sunday was discussed and it was agreed that although this had not been formally supported for many years, we should commemorate Remembrance Day. It was agreed that a wreath would be purchased to be laid at the Service on Remembrance Sunday and Cllr Smith would attend to perform this task. In addition, it was agreed that we would purchase poppies to be placed on lamp-posts in the village subject to availability.

It was reported that building work was being carried out at a property in the village which adjoins the roadway and concern was expressed that ladders and scaffolding were not being secured at night. Whether this was a Parish Council matter or for the Health and Safety Executive, it was not clear but if any Councillor wanted to approach the developer as a concerned resident, this would be a practical way to deal with the issue.

The date of the next meeting will be Monday 8th November, 7.00 pm in St Andrew's Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill.

IT'S CHILD'S PLAY AT EDENHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

Pupils at Edenham CofE Primary School have returned from their summer break to discover a fantastic new outdoor area in which they can play and learn in a safe and fun environment. Specially designed to meet the educational needs of Edenham's reception class, the fully refurbished facility includes an outdoor classroom, reading shed, stage, bike track and construction pit. The reading shed, which will be available to use at any point throughout the day, was purchased with donations in memory of a former Teaching Assistant who passed away at the beginning of 2021. The outdoor classroom will be used all year round to enhance the school's writing and maths provision, particularly for younger pupils.

Each area features equipment to promote active play, from building bricks and blackboards to toys and trikes. Edenham has also added an exciting woodland trim trail that is suitable for all its pupils to use. Head of School, Michael Pasqualino, stated the children have been asking for a trim trail for some time and so he is delighted they were able to include one as part of Edenham's new playscape. As well as being fun to use, these popular natural climbing structures help youngsters improve their physical abilities, balance and coordination.

Michael Pasqualino comments: "Access to outdoor play opportunities is essential to young children's wellbeing and development, so we believe this is a really worthwhile investment in their future."

Edenham CofE Primary School is an academy within the Lincoln Anglican Academy Trust, which is a Multi Academy Trust set up by the Diocese of Lincoln in 2013 to build a mutually supportive family of academies in Greater Lincolnshire. Children attending this happy village school find themselves in a successful, energetic and enthusiastic environment, learning to the best of their ability and living a rich and interesting school life.

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THOUGHTS FOR OCTOBER

First, I must refer you to John Keats wonderful poem To Autumn - "Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness..." this really sums up thoughts and scents at this time of year. A walk in the woods reveals glistening blackberries just waiting for the addition of sugar to transform them into succulent bramble jelly. Sloes will not escape me this year as I prepare to make magic with a bottle of gin for the delectable Christmas treat. I'm sure you've all gathered, wrapped and stored a supply of apples and pears for the coming months. It would appear we are now all set for the winter.

St Faith will be remembered by many on the 6th. Persecuted as a Christian by the Roman Empire and put to death. The church at Wilsthorpe is dedicated to her and part of the Roman road runs nearby.

You will remember Devil's Nutting Day back in September, well here he is again! Devil's Blackberry Day on the 10th. Having been thrown out of heaven by St Michael, the devil, being somewhat miffed, is said to have spat on this wonderful fruit - so please, no more harvesting of these little beauties.

Have you heard of Punkie Night? I hadn't. Perhaps we should as this very English custom amused many village children. Celebrated on the last Thursday of October a mangel-wurzel was carved out as a lantern and candles sought from the townsfolk whilst singing, "Give us a candle, give us a light. if you don't, you'll get a fright"!

31st October, Hallowe'en is popular today when younger members of families like to dress up and seek sweets from their neighbours.

Traditionally it was a night for telling fortunes and lighting fires to ward off evil spirits! So, however you choose to remember this time, bear in mind the old Cornish prayer - "From ghoulies and Ghosties and long legged beasties Good Lord, deliver us"!

M.

EDENHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 14 SEPTEMBER

CLERK'S NOTES

Attendees - Parish Councillors Mrs Cranfield (Chairman), Mrs Treacy, Mr Wilson, Mrs Marshall, Mr Hawes, Mr T Clarke (Vice Chairman), Parish Clerk Mrs Sands.

Public Open Forum - As there were no members of the public, the Chairman closed the open forum and opened the Parish Council Meeting at 19:35 hours.

Councillor Casual Vacancy Vote - Mrs Margaret Avis was co-opted to the Parish Council.

Apologies - LCC Councillor Mr M Hill & SKDC Councillor Mr N Robins

Approval of Minutes - The minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting held 13th July 2021. Proposer - Councillor Wilson, Seconded - Councillor Treacy. Printed minutes were formally signed by Chairman.

Request for dispensation - None requested

Declaration of interest - None requested.

Parish Clerk and Councillors update from previous meeting:

Community Street cleaning - Fly tipping continues to be an issue near the Forestry Commission gateway on Edenham Rd, Hanthorpe. A latest incident has been reported to SKDC.

Speed Indicator Monitor & Parking Main Street Edenham - It was noted on the last download of data from the monitor that there was a lower volume of traffic this was due to the road closure for culvert work near Bourne Wood, however, vehicle speeds continue to be an issue with 9,526 vehicles recording speeds between 40 to 100 mph.

A near miss has been reported on Main Street, Edenham, vehicles were parked on the double yellow lines near the Church where the road narrows. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk contact the local Police to monitor this. The incident was also reported to Edenham Primary School as it coincided with school drop off time.

Residents have again raised concerns about the speeds of vehicles travelling on Scotlethorpe Road.

Gigabyte Voucher Scheme - Councillor Clarke reported that he has now

made some progress and has a quote for works which is in the region of £47.5k, this covers approx 10 properties at the top of Scottlethorpe Road. It is understood that a grant may be available to cover approx. £21k. Councillor Clarke agreed to invite the representative from Openreach to attend the next meeting.

Openreach/BT Exchange Grimsthorpe - Tree cutting. No further update available for this meeting, Parish Clerk to continue to chase.

Waste Water issues Pillarwood Farmhouse/A151 - A meeting was held at Pillar Wood Farm, 19th July with Anglian Water, Grimsthorpe Estate and the Parish Council. The representative from Anglian Water confirmed that some work has already taken place at the sewage works and further work is planned adjacent to Pillarwood Farmhouse.

Adopt a telephone box for £1 scheme - The Payphone owners have completed minor works on both kiosks, they have also confirmed that both kiosks will be repainted in 2022. The Parish Council agreed unanimously that until all works are complete they do not wish to purchase the kiosks under the scheme.

Street lighting on Church Lane - The Chairman confirmed that trees obscuring the street lights on Church Lane have been trimmed.

Mobile Library - The four-weekly service commenced 6th September at 14:30 in the Village Hall Car Park.

Mobile Post Office - The Parish Clerk confirmed that the data box is now in place at the Village Hall, once the required data has been downloaded, the service can resume. This is expected to be in October 2021.

Christmas Carols Around The Christmas Tree - The Parish Council agreed unanimously that the event resume this year, the date agreed is 14th December 2021 and will start at 18:30 hours. We look forward to seeing everyone on the night.

Community Speed Watch - The Parish Councils Councillors raised a number of questions relating to this scheme, it was agreed that the Parish Clerk contact the service provider to gain more information. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Play Area Information Annual Inspection - The annual inspection has been completed by ROSPA Play Safe, the report raised a number of minor points.

The report is currently being worked through.

Planning Matters - There have been no new planning applications since the last meeting and there is one application where a decision is awaiting for the application (see below)

S21/0633 - Extended programme of various (ongoing) masonry repairs to walled garden. Decision Awaited

Financial Matters -

Receipts - Nothing to report

Expenditure -

ROSPA Play Safe	£ 82.20 (inc VAT)
Street Cleaning Salary 2nd Qtr	£181.52
Parish Clerk Salary 2nd Qtr	£162.36
HMRC PAYE 2nd Qtr	£ 45.20

Bank Reconciliation Report -

Treasurers Account (as of 1st September 2021) £2247.63

Business Account (as of 1st September 2021) £3440.33

Correspondence - SKDC Village Survey - Parish Council reply required by end September 2021

Next Meeting - 9th November at 19:30 hours

The entire minutes (draft) can be found on the Parish Council Website Homepage shown below.

[Homepage – Edenham, Grimsthorpe, Elsthorpe and Scottlethorpe Parish Council \(lincolnshire.gov.uk\)](http://lincolnshire.gov.uk)

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October 1915

The Harvest Thanksgiving was held on Sunday, 19th of September. The church was beautifully adorned with corn and flowers and we heartily thank those who so kindly helped to make it so, as well as those who sent gifts of decorations. The congregations were perhaps less in point of numbers than in former years, but this is a very general experience due to the war. The restlessness and suspense of this terrible time has had two opposite effects as regards religion, those who before were practising Christians have become more definitely religious, while on the other hand the careless and neglectful have become more neglectful still. This latter is a strange and sad result of our trouble, but one which has been very generally noticed everywhere.

The offerings at the Harvest Thanksgiving were in aid of the British Red Cross Society, and amounted to £2/6/9 a goodly sum in these days of increased expenses. Indeed, all the collections for many months have shown a very marked increase, and particularly is this the case with the morning collections.

2nd Lieut. A. L. Fenwick has been invalided home from the Dardanelles, and is at the time of writing in hospital in London. He has been through a very "hot" time at the Front with the 6th Lincolns, and was recently transferred to the Borderers who were short of officers. We all most earnestly wish him a speedy recovery.



Jane's seasonal recipe

We had a glut of tomatoes so I made a batch of this – very tasty!

Cherry tomato chutney

370g cherry tomatoes, halved

85g sweet red peppers

175g finely chopped onions

1 small chilli, finely chopped or ½ teaspoon dried chilli flakes

40g sultanas

150ml distilled vinegar

110g light brown sugar

Put all the ingredients, except tomatoes, into preserving pan. Bring to boil over medium heat. Reduce heat and simmer for 15 mins, stirring occasionally. Add tomatoes and simmer for 15 mins until chutney has thickened. Put in 2 small warmed jars and seal with screw top lids.



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PARISH SERVICES FOR OCTOBER 2021

	Swinstead	Witham	Edenham
1 st October Friday	6pm Harvest Festival <i>followed by Supper in the Hall</i>		
3 rd October Trinity 18	8.45am Parish Eucharist	10am Parish Eucharist	11.15am Parish Eucharist 4pm Evensong
10 th October Trinity 19	8.45am Parish Eucharist	10am Parish Eucharist 6pm Harvest Festival <i>followed by Supper in the Hall</i>	11.15am Parish Eucharist
17 th October Trinity 20	8.45am Parish Eucharist	10am Parish Eucharist	11.15am Harvest Eucharist <i>followed by Lunch at the Vicarage</i> 4pm Evensong (Stable Chapel)
24 th October Dedication Festival	8.45am Parish Eucharist	10am Parish Eucharist	11.15am Parish Eucharist 4pm Evensong (Stable Chapel)
31 st October All Saints Sunday	10.30am Parish Eucharist 6pm All Souls Service of Remembrance		