

Deeping St James

Parish Council Newsletter



Spring 2024

deeping-st-james.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk



‘We can change the world and make it a better place. It is in our hands to make a difference’ Nelson Mandela.

And everyday in Deeping St James there are people who are doing just that! It’s easy to take the kindness of others for granted and so as Chair of the Parish Council, Cllr Kate Shinkins-Hoppe says, *‘We are already speeding through 2024 but the Council are making plans for the Making a Difference Awards, thinking about those people in and around our community who make such a difference to our everyday lives,’*

On the back of this newsletter there is a nomination form and we hope that you will complete it remembering someone or group that has made your life better in the last year. Then join us for the Awards ceremony in the Priory Church Hall on April 29th at 7.00pm.

The Young Person to most make a difference is of course a very important category; herein lies our future. Last

year it was Ethan Jones, Evie-Mai Latronico-Ferris and Penelope Baxter who were nominated with Penelope taking the award. We are so lucky to have so many volunteer groups who help us all in many ways and so this category is always well supported and 2023 was no



Louise and Julie at the Coronation Party

different; Deepings Library Volunteers, Deepings School Student Librarians, Deeping Ladies Coffee Club, Friends of DSJ, Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal Volunteers, The Cub Scouts; but it was

the Deeping Police Volunteers who took the award. The individual to most make a difference in the course of doing their job went to well respected bird watcher, Will Bowell of Grasmere Farm a strong field including Phyl Williams, Kathryn Wallis, Cub leader, Heidi Latronico-Ferris, Darren and Lynn Grant then of The Walnut Tree and The Garage Door Artist. There were almost too many to choose from for the Citizen category; Lee Sutton, Liz Waterland, Stewart Lilley, Alan McKie, Ray Torrington, Lyn and Stuart Hodson, Racheal Culff, Matt Holland and Chris Knight. Graham Thompson and Carol Precey from DSJ United Charities ultimately took the accolade.

So who will it be this year? The answer is in your hands - now is your opportunity to make a difference to someone or a group of people who make a difference!

Deepings Neighbourhood Plan Group

The Parish Council works with the Deepings Neighbourhood Plan Group. This is a team of local volunteers comprising local Councillors, business, and residents' interests - representing the combined area of Deepings St. James and Market Deeping.

A Neighbourhood Plan is a way of allowing our community to influence development in the area and achieve a well-designed place to live, work and socialise.

You will hear more of improvements to the Neighbourhood Plan over the next year, starting with work we are doing with engineering consultancy Aecom. This is to produce a best practice Design Code for the town that will present clear and graphic guidance for new development.

In March, South Kesteven District Council will be consulting on their new Local Plan, and we will be keeping an eye on its contents.

There is a lot of work to do. If you would like to help with future work in the planning and growth of our community, please contact us.

info@deepingsplan.org www.deepingsplan.org

Cllr Gordon Smith



Thoughts from the Chair

A challenging start to 2024

Whilst many of us were still thinking about our Christmas and New Year celebrations, Mother Nature had a completely different idea. The first few days of January brought new challenges for many, not just in our immediate community but also for others, particularly in Tallington and Greatford.



For those residents along the River Wellend here, there was a need for sandbags as the river levels rose, flooding gardens and patios in some cases. A huge thank you goes out to those members of our community who joined with members of the Parish Council on Wednesday 3rd January to not only fill sandbags but also to those who actually provided the sand to go in them. A total of 6 tonnes of sand was bagged and distributed throughout that day and evening. Our community was so much luckier than others, but not to be complacent, the Parish Council has ordered two more sand bins which will be located between the Church Hall and the Cross School. Both will be filled with sand and bags, in readiness for when this happens again. In the meantime, the Lincolnshire Resilience Forum has recommended that residents should keep their filled sandbags in a dry location. The only time they should be disposed of is if they have come into contact with floodwater which may have been contaminated by sewage.

Kate Shinkins-Hoppe, Chair of the Parish Council

New Councillors

I relocated to The Deepings in 1996, nearly three decades ago and our children thrived in Deeping's schools. I work as a Planning Consultant across the East Midlands, so I have a pretty good understanding of the intricacies of local authority decision-making (often challenging!) and navigating complex environmental controls.



Gordon Smith

Having grown up in Council housing in Central London, I am personally dismayed by the collective mismanagement of affordable housing supply by successive governments. Parish Council's do not deliver housing, but we can directly influence developers and the District Council.

I have actively supported both Parish Councils from the inception of the Deepings Neighbourhood Plan. I am proud to represent The Deepings as we advocate for improved design and press developers to align with evolving local needs, including facilitating better walking and cycling.

I have lived in Deeping St James since 1979, enjoying the amenities.

Both my children attended the Schools in Deeping St James then moved on to higher education achieving academic qualifications. I have worked for many construction industries within the vicinity, achieving management positions. For the last 30 years, I have worked in Cambridge on University construction projects. My aim is to continue working as a Parish Councillor, which I have enjoyed during the last 2 years.



Graham Fowler

My name is Kay Townsin and I have lived in Deeping St James for over 26 years bringing up both of my children here.

My hobbies include craft work (sewing, stained glass and mosaic) which I pursue at home. I had a career in publishing on local newspapers and national hobby magazines. I enjoy travel and gardening and helping within the community. I live with my cat Geoff and partner Graham. I hope that being a Councillor will give me the opportunity to give something back to the local community.



Kay Townsin

PARISH COUNCIL FINANCES

The District and County Council are both funded by Central Government, and both raise taxes to enable them to provide statutory services. Local Parish Councils however receive no government funding and have to raise all their funds via their portion of the Council Tax, to support the services they provide.

In September the process of setting a Precept (the amount needed to maintain services) for the following year begins. The process also includes continuing existing services, and anticipating the cost of any services that District and County Councils withdraw funds from that the Parish Council does not want to lose. The Precept request is sent to the District Council by the end of January and it is then paid to the Parish Council in two tranches.



Duties of Deeping St James Parish Council that need finance include:

- Provision and maintenance of allotments.
- Acting as a Burial authority.
- Provision and maintenance of bus shelters.
- Provision and maintenance of children's play equipment, as well as Woody Heights Play Park.
- Planning – the Parish Council is consulted on Planning Applications submitted to SKDC.
- Provision and maintenance of Litter bins, benches and other street furnishings.
- Grass cutting throughout the Parish.
- Employment of staff.
- Provision and maintenance of speed indicators in the Parish.
- Planting and maintenance of trees, hedges and bulbs.
- Grants for the Youth Group and Library as well as other causes in Deeping St James.

During the Council budgeting meeting, other considerations are introduced: cost of living, inflation, increases in precept proposed by District and County Council, as well as the amount of increases proposed by other neighbouring Councils. This can result in budgets being adjusted, and projects being deferred, to make the Parish share of the precept acceptable and not inflationary. This year the Parish Council will raise their portion of the Council tax by 5% equating to a £3.87pa increase on a Band D property

Cllr. Andrew Bowell



The Good Life

The Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908 imposed a duty on councils to provide allotments if six or more people say that they want them. As a result, Deeping St James Parish Council provides 116 (some half some full size) allotments on Hall Meadow Road.

Initially allotments were needed to allow families to feed themselves. Now allotment gardening provides much needed exercise outdoors and allows people to grow their own vegetables all year round. The site is a great place to observe nature, garden birds nest in the hedges that border the site and Red Kites and Buzzards swoop overhead.

Water is provided, and roads are maintained for access. There is ample car parking. The Allotment Association works towards improving the site and have a club shop where items can be purchased at a discount. There is an annual show and camaraderie flourishes among the runner beans!

The Parish Clerk has a waiting list but if the good life is for you it is well worth putting your name down!

asst.clerk@deepingstjames-pc.gov.uk

Could YOU Champion Your Local Community?



-  Are you passionate about your local area?
-  Do you want to make a difference in your local community?
-  Do you enjoy being part of a team?
-  Would you like to offer your skills and experience?

BECOME A COUNCILLOR

Following an uncontested Election, Deeping St James Parish Council is currently inviting applications for the co-option of three councillors.

Deadline Date:

TO FIND OUR MORE CONTACT:

Julie Fortnum
Clerk to Deeping St James Parish Council

clerk@deepingstjames-pc.gov.uk


DEEPING ST JAMES PARISH COUNCILLORS

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| <p>ANDREW BOWELL 43 Burchnall Close, Deeping St James PE6 8QJ 01778 345486 / 07720 784973 andrew.bowell@deepingstjames-pc.gov.uk</p> <p>DAVID DENMAN 99 Swift Close, Deeping St James PE68QH 07984 429573 david.denman@deepingstjames-pc.gov.uk</p> <p>PHIL DILKS (also District and County Councillor) 24 Church Street, Deeping St James PE6 8HD 07368 256898 phil.dilks@deepingstjames-pc.gov.uk p.dilks@southkesteven.gov.uk Cllrp.dilks@lincolnshire.gov.uk</p> <p>GRAHAM FOWLER 40 Foxgloves, Deeping St James PE6 8SH 07817 407637 graham.fowler@deepingstjames-pc.gov.uk</p> <p>STEVEN GILBERT VICE CHAIRPERSON 39 Horsegate, Deeping St James PE6 8EW 01778 380508 steven.gilbert@deepingstjames-pc.gov.uk</p> <p>CHRISTINE HALLS 25 Bramley Road, Market Deeping PE6 8JG 07951 474863 christine.halls@deepingstjames-pc.gov.uk</p> | <p>HILARY HOSKING 36 Eastgate, Deeping St James PE6 8HJ 01778 343937 / 07714 846945 hilary.hosking@deepingstjames-pc.gov.uk</p> <p>DIANE ROSE 22 Knight Close, Deeping St James PE6 8QN 01778 342774 / 07703 475435 diane.rose@deepingstjames-pc.gov.uk</p> <p>KATE SHINKINS-HOPPE CHAIRPERSON 58A Horsegate, Deeping St James PE6 8EW 07889 070980 kate.shinkins@deepingstjames-pc.gov.uk</p> <p>GORDON SMITH 38 Wade Park Avenue, Deeping St James PE6 8JL 07789 483134 gordon.smith@deepingstjames-pc.gov.uk</p> <p>JUDY STEVENS 41 Froggnall, Deeping St James PE6 8RR 01778 348859 / 07852 649464 judy.stevens@deepingstjames-pc.gov.uk</p> <p>KAY TOWNSIN 23 Broadgate Lane, Deeping St James PE6 8NW 01778 343441 / 07913 425428 kay.townsin@deepingstjames-pc.gov.uk</p> |
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 Find us on Facebook - search: **Deeping St James Parish Council**

Council Meetings are Tues 19th March Tues 23rd April & Tues 21st May 7:30pm - 10.00pm
The Institute, 38 Church Street, DSJ, PE6 8HD.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE



It's that time of year again when you get the chance to nominate the young person, individual and/or community group that you feel has made a difference in the Parish. Please send the attached form or email to the Parish Clerk with your nomination explaining in no more than 150 words why and providing your contact details no later than 31 March 2024.

The making a difference certificates and awards will be presented at the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday Monday 29th April from 7.00pm at Priory Church Hall, Church St., Deeping St James PE6 8NP.


Please accept this as your invitation to attend the Annual Parish Meeting to congratulate the making a difference awards nominees and to meet your Parish Councillors. This is also your opportunity to see and hear what the Parish Council and other community groups have been doing over the past year.

We look forward to receiving your nominations no later than 31st March 2024, and meeting you on Monday 29th April at 7.00pm

DSJ ANNUAL PARISH MEETING & MAKING A DIFFERENCE AWARDS

MONDAY 29TH APRIL AT 7.00PM

Priory
Church Hall,
Church St
PE6 8NP



Citizen to most make a difference

Young Person (aged 11-19) to most make a difference

DSJ organisation to most make a difference

Difference in the course of doing their job

Whether working for the community at large or making a difference in a more personal way, provided that the nominees live or lived in Deeping St James in the last year and the organisation is based or operates here, then we want to hear from you!

Nominations by 31 March 2024 - clerk@deepingstjames-pc.gov.uk.

CALL 343266

MAKING A DIFFERENCE AWARDS 2024

FOUR CATEGORIES:

- Citizen to most make a difference
- Young Person (aged 11-19) to most make a difference
- DSJ organisation to most make a difference
- Difference in the course of doing their job

All nominees must have lived, worked or attended school in the village for the last 12 months.

Nominee name

address

telephone

email

Category

Please tell us in 150 words, why your nominee should be presented with this award

Your name

address

telephone email