

Deeping St. James

Parish Council Newsletter

Spring 2018

www.dsjpc.co.uk



MP John Hayes borrowing words from Sir Winston Churchill declared that the turning of the first turf in the campaign to rebuild Jimmy Deeping Signal Box was the 'end of the beginning'. The Signal Box is an emblem of a sense of place for the people of Deeping St James and the MP praised all those concerned but especially Stuart & Lynda Hall and the Signal Box Action Group aided by DSJ Parish Council, DSJ United Charities and the Dept. of Culture in their tenacity in their endeavour to have the Box rebuilt.

Walking green in Deeping!

As the weather begins to improve and the days lengthen it's an appropriate time to update you on the two walks that you have been hearing about over the last few weeks, the Deepings Green Walk and the Character Assessment walks. Both of these concepts came from Deepings First, the joint Deeping St James/Market Deeping neighbourhood planning group.

The Deepings Green Walk introduces the concept of an approximate 15km continuous circuit around the perimeter of the joint area of Market Deeping and Deeping St James. This is to be enhanced with a logical network of internal pathways to key locations, including Schools, the Health Centre, Industrial areas and retail shops. It is intended that these pathways will be safe, attractive, and accessible for

pedestrians and will include designated routes for cyclist wherever possible. The walks will encourage and enable people to benefit from taking more exercise and to also increase the opportunity for reducing car movements to and from schools, shops, employment and other key locations.



Several elements of the intended routes already exist, and work continues to obtain support from local land owners and authorities to complete the circuit.

It is intended to push hard to ensure that new housing developments also respect, buy into and contribute to the routes. More information on the routes and how the walks will be developed can be found at www.deepingsgreenwalk.co.uk

The Character Assessment walks took place at the end of last year. These 12 walks were undertaken throughout the Deepings and collated to identify the local characteristics that represented the specific local area and included;

The data obtained is being analysed to allow descriptions of the specific key characteristics that give the Deepings its distinctiveness to be prepared.

When complete these descriptions will be used to ensure that any future developments take these key characteristics into account at a planning stage.

Mike Ward



NEWS FROM THE TOP



At the end of 2017 the Parish Council had to set it's Precept for the next year, taking into account the effects of funding cuts to both District and County Council. We were between "a rock and a hard place," wanting to keep our share of Council Tax as low as possible, whilst ensuring that services abandoned by District and Council were maintained where possible.

Difficult decisions had to be made, and unfortunately this has resulted in a rise in Parish Council precept, something that will probably continue into future years. As a small Parish Council many of our obligations are outsourced, and we work closely with our colleagues in Market Deeping to ensure we can benefit from any synergies, especially as the SKDC District Plan will see substantial house building in Deeping St James, and local infrastructure will need to keep up with this development. To help with this the Parish Council is pleased to support and work with Deepings First to write a Neighbourhood Plan for the entire Deepings.

To ensure we make the correct decisions, we need the views of residents, businesses, schools etc., and we welcome both criticism and suggestions. These can be made via the internet, telephone, post or calling in at the Council Offices. You can also talk to a Councillor at our monthly surgeries on the first Saturday of each month in the Deepings Library.

So please let us have your views on what is good, and how we can improve life in Deeping St James.

To quote Harold Wilson: "He who rejects change is the architect of decay."

Cllr. Andrew Bowell

New councillor - Graham Hardy

I have lived in Deeping St. James since moving here from Leicester in 1987 with my wife and two children.

My children have gone through the education system here and I have been involved with the Scouts in the area. I now volunteer at the Lakes nature reserve and am a member of one of the Deepings U3A walking groups. Having benefited from the many diverse opportunities in the village and surrounding areas for all this time I have decided to give something back by joining the parish council. My employment over the years has brought me in to contact with many companies, local councils and individuals and I hope to use this experience in my official duties.



Graham Hardy

2018 CEMETERY REPORT

March 2019 already, Wow, doesn't time fly.

Looking out of my window I see the snow coming down, with sub zero temperatures awaiting me, when I venture out. Earlier this



week we had the Community Payback team in the village, and they got stuck into clearing all the pathways of snow within the cemetery boundaries plus the access pathways. Hopefully, putting rock salt and sand down has kept them free from fresh falls of snow and icing up. This team comes to our village most weeks, spending half their time working within the Cemetery boundaries, and without them we would be forced to pay contractors a lot more, or watch it slowly disappear beneath weeds, ivy etc. Anyway, for a large part of the winter months they have been clearing all of our pathways in DSJ, of weeds, overhanging trees, bushes and even litter. If you have used the Low Locks pathway lately, you can now see the pathway for the first time in years. A Job WELL Done.

Last year we reduced three trees on the north side by 50%, this allowed us to keep some sort of control over our trees, also allowing our neighbours more light into their gardens and homes. However, during the high winds in December two of our largest trees got blown over on the western side, fortunately for everybody, falling into the graves area, and thanks to him above, none of the stones/monuments were damaged. Thank You ! These fallen trees have now been removed and we will be reducing the rest of the trees by 60%, removing dead and or dying trees, soon. Later in the year we will be looking to replant the area if needed.

Let's hope the snow soon goes, the bulbs pop out and turn our village yellow, heralding the real start of spring.

ps - Keep and eye on the river bank, 800 daffodils and 200 snowdrops were planted in Oct 2017 and with over 1000 planted 2015/6 , it should prove quite a sight.

Cllr Brian Barber, Chair of Cemetery

Parish Council supports SKDC policy of Fines for Littering

A proposal was put before the Council to change the focus from litter picking to prevention by assisting SKDC in their new campaign to prosecute people littering. A majority of DSJ Councillors agreed with the motion put forwards by Cllr. Andy Pelling that they are fed up with Parish Council staff spending a large proportion of their time clearing up after litter louts. It was agreed that the Parish Council would support and encourage the new SKDC initiative to use wardens that can impose fines on those dropping litter.



The hunt is on



to find the Deeping St James's favourite tree!

Submit a picture of the tree you love to see the most with a few words as to why it is your favourite by Monday 20th April and the best of the best will be selected from an exhibition of them all at the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30pm on Tuesday May 8th at The Deepings School.



Just drop your picture and words into the Parish Clerk making sure to include your name and contact details at The Institute, 38 Church St DSJ (next to Riceland) or email clerk.dsjpc@btconnect.com

Deeping St James Parish Council proudly presents it's new website

From the 1st January 2018, all new information concerning the Parish council will only be displayed on our new web site <http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/deepingstjames/>

All PRE 2018 information will still be available for reference on our old site (see below) until January 2020. <http://www.dsjpc.co.uk/pc/>

Minutes, legal documents, etc are already in place, and are backdated to 1st January 2017, to allow you to browse within the same site.

Please be patient with us over the next few months as our Clerks will be carrying out the updates themselves, as opposed to going through the web master. They will also be building more of the web site as the year progresses, with all the latest information.



Cllr Brian Barber

Youngsters celebrate the opening of a new skatepark in Deeping St James

Deeping St James Parish Council Chairman Councillor Andrew Bowell officially opened the concrete skate park facility at 'Woody Heights' recreation ground in Deeping St James on Saturday 20th December 2017



The £135,000 facility which was funded by Deeping St James Parish Council with support from Deeping St James United Charities, South Kesteven District Council, Lincolnshire County Council and WREN's FCC Community Action Fund as well as individual donations from a non-uniform day at The Deepings School is the culmination of a four year project to replace the metal skate ramps that were put in place in 2004.

Skateboarders BMX and Scooter riders travelled from local Parishes and Counties to ride the park designed by Gravity Engineering Ltd and to take part in organised competitions sponsored by Terminal 1 Skateparks and Castillo Skateboards. All those attending acknowledged that the completion of this project was a fantastic achievement offering all wheeled sports enthusiasts an amazing, much needed, facility

Julie Fortnum



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PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council meetings take place on the last Thursday of the month 7.30pm at the Institute, 38 Church St., members of the public are very welcome to attend and an open forum takes place in the first 30 mins of the meeting.



Find us on Facebook - search: **Deeping St James Parish Council**

MAKING A DIFFERENCE



Everyday in Deeping St James someone goes above and beyond the call of duty with a kind word, a gesture that suddenly makes the world a better place to be in.

Some people devote their lives to making a difference to others and Deeping St James Parish Council celebrate those individuals and groups with their Annual Making a Difference Awards ceremony to be held during the...



DSJ ANNUAL PARISH MEETING & MAKING A DIFFERENCE AWARDS TUESDAY 8TH MAY - 7.30PM

Conference Centre, The Deepings School, Park Rd DSJ



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

Citizen 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!

CALL 343266

Nominations by 20th April - clerk.dsipc@btconnect.com



If in doubt go to the library!

JK Rowling

Browse the shelves - use the PC (Ancestry online is free!) - relax with a glossy magazine - bring your kids - let them discover the frog pod or disappear into the reading tee pee - our lego club is legendary! There are evening talks and events - Wednesday afternoon Storytime when we press all the best storytellers we know into action - immerse yourself in local history - bring your baby for a Ducklings session on Monday mornings - there is something for everyone in this well loved Library run with care by volunteers who are waiting to welcome you!

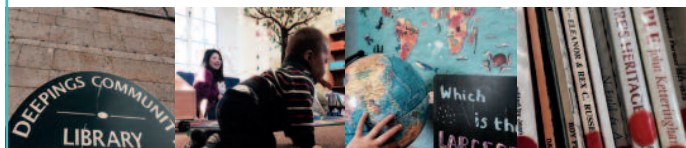


High Street Opp The Boundary Market Deeping

M-W-F 10-5 Sat 10-1.00 pm



Deepings Community Library



Deeping St James Parish Council

Invite you to walk the footpaths in 2018



- **Thursday 7 June, 7.00pm** – meet in **The Nature Reserve Car Park, Station Road/Crowland Road**. This walk will take approximately 1.5 hours. Please note dogs are not allowed in the nature reserve.
- **Thursday 5 July, 7.00pm** - meet on the green outside the former **Rose Inn, Froggnall**. This walk will take approximately 1.5 hours
- **Tuesday 24 July, 7.00 pm** - meet at the **Woody Heights skate park, Linchfield Road**. This walk will take approximately 1 hour.

Please wear sturdy footwear as these are field path walks.

Light refreshments will be available afterwards at The Walnut Tree, Horsegate, Deeping St James.

For further information please contact:

The Parish Clerk at The Institute, 38 Church Street, Deeping St James, PE6 8HD 01778 343266 or clerk.dsipc@btconnect.com