

# Deeping St James

Parish Council Newsletter

Spring 2022

[parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/DeepingStJames/](http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/DeepingStJames/)



Image: Louise Brown

Mr Nigel Smith, Dean Tarrant, David Hedley

## Making a difference to Deeping St James

The Parish Council now have a team of three maintenance men employed to look after the cemetery, to litter pick, maintain play equipment and to cut hedges and shrubs and weed the flower beds that come under the care of the council. In truth, making a difference to our daily lives here in Deeping St James. Over the last two years during the Pandemic the village has also been fortunate to have a number of groups and Individuals who have also come forward to made a difference to the lives of others in our community and in many cases continue to do so.

After the lapse of one year due to the Covid restrictions the Parish Council are once again running the Making a Difference Awards - the details of the ceremony will be announced once the way forward is

clearer but in the meantime we would like to receive your nominations by March 1st 2022.

The categories are:

**Young person (up to age 19) to most make a difference**

**Community group to most make a difference**

**Citizen to most make a difference**

**Individual to most make a difference in the course of doing their job**

**Group to most make a difference specifically during the pandemic**

**Person to most make a difference specifically during the pandemic**

The person or group must at least in part directly benefit the people of Deeping St James or live or work in the village.

Let us know in no more than 150 words the reasons for your nomination - the name of the group or person and your name and contact details.

We will have to contact the nominee to let them know that they have been nominated and so will need their contact details. Please send this in writing to Julie Fortnum, Parish Clerk, The Institute, 38 Church St. Deeping St James or email [clerk@dsjpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@dsjpc.co.uk)

Thank you! This is a Deeping St James tradition that we are delighted to reinstate.

Councillor Judy Stevens



# New to the council are...

As a retired IT Project Manager and local resident of almost 10 years, I was pleased to have the opportunity to join the Parish Council last year. Born in Glasgow, I moved to the Newark area with work 32 years ago and stayed, there and Peterborough till we moved to the Deepings. I am married to Penny, have a Cockapoo and between us 5 children and 9 grandchildren. My life has been filled with sports and sports teams - participation, coaching, on sports club committees and of course spectating. I have been particularly concerned about the closure of the Leisure centre and the previous closure of the all-weather sports area. I am pleased that there is a growing hope that both these facilities will receive much-needed investment to be able re-open again.



*Jack Little*

I have been a resident of Deeping St James all my life.

In my younger days I represented the Deeping's School in the swimming team and lifesaving competitions and went on to work as a lifeguard at the leisure centre for several years, teaching lifesaving skills through the Deepings Lifesaving Club.



I have been part of the Friends of Jubilee Park committee for the last 7 years and am the current chair of the group, who have organised and put on the dog shows and carols in the park for our community, and have been involved in community bulb planting and litter picking.

Now part of the Deeping St James Parish Council I am keen to ensure our village has the best green spaces and facilities we can for all of our community to enjoy.

*Diane Rose*

I have lived in Deeping St. James for just two years with my partner Marika. We had previously lived in Lincoln where I was a City Councillor. I am an ecologist and have worked in the sector since the 1980's specialising in protected species, badgers and insects.



Outside work we are members of the Langdyke Conservation Trust and helped run their glow worm surveys during the summer months. As a new Parish Councillor I have really enjoyed my first three months and have learnt so much about the wonderful village where we live.

*David Denman*

To those who don't recognise me I am Peter Robinson and have lived in Deeping St James for 37 years with Ann my wife. We have two sons both of whom have flown the nest. I have been offering a local handyman service for the last seventeen years and have met newcomers to the area as well as the young and more mature in old and new property. The growth of the Deeping St James in the last thirty years has changed the character of the village and the Council service is even more important now to encourage community activity. I have served as a Scout Leader, I help out at the Library and am an active Friend of Jubilee Park and I am a committee member of my local church.



*Peter Robinson*

I have lived in Deeping St James for the past 4 years by the river and have worked at a Peterborough school for the last 14 years as Sixth Form Student Support Officer. I hope the skills and qualities that I bring to my role will enable me to carry out my duties as a Parish Councillor. I am delighted to be part of a group that helps Deeping St James to maintain its charm, character and sense of community for all that live and work in the area.



*Sarah Olson*

# Words from the chair

In May 2022 I will come to the end of my third year as chairman and we will be electing a new chair to DSJ Parish Council. I cannot say it's been an easy three years; I've helped navigate our way through meetings held on zoom, and the changing guidelines and restrictions put upon us by Covid, also the challenges and changes taking place in local government.



Image: Stuart Render

A big team effort by DSJ Parish Council and the clerk Julie Fortnum with the Friends of Jubilee Park. A massive thanks to the Salvation Army and Mark Williams, vicar of The Priory Church DSJ. Also, to the Lions and Rotary for bringing Santa who came to kick off the event.

I want to personally thank current & previous councillors for their ongoing help and support. (Parish Councillors are not employees they are elected representatives who volunteer their time for free).

We will continue to liaise with the various groups locally, who work together for the wellbeing of our community. *Clr Steve Gilbert*

Each year I have been privileged to lay a wreath, along with others, at the five war graves in DSJ cemetery. I applaud the ongoing work of the Royal British Legion. I have also been invited to read some words at the opening and closing of the garden of remembrance. I hope the events and services we share with Market Deeping Town Council will continue to be well supported and beneficial for the Deepings.

Carols on Jubilee Park on 16th December was well supported. It was so lovely to be back at the park after a two-year break.



Image: Jim Thody

## On the buses

At the start of the pandemic, bus services in the village were cut back because very few people were using them. Gradually they were restored as people started travelling again, but the morning peak-time bus into Peterborough was not reinstated.

I'm pleased to report that, from 2nd January, Delaine Buses will run an extra service 102 bus from Towngate East at 07.33 (Mondays to Fridays). This will follow the usual route via Burchnall Close,



Thackers Way and Horsegate as far as Market Deeping, where passengers can change onto the 101 service from Church Street (Red Cross shop) at 07.50, arriving in Peterborough 08.17.

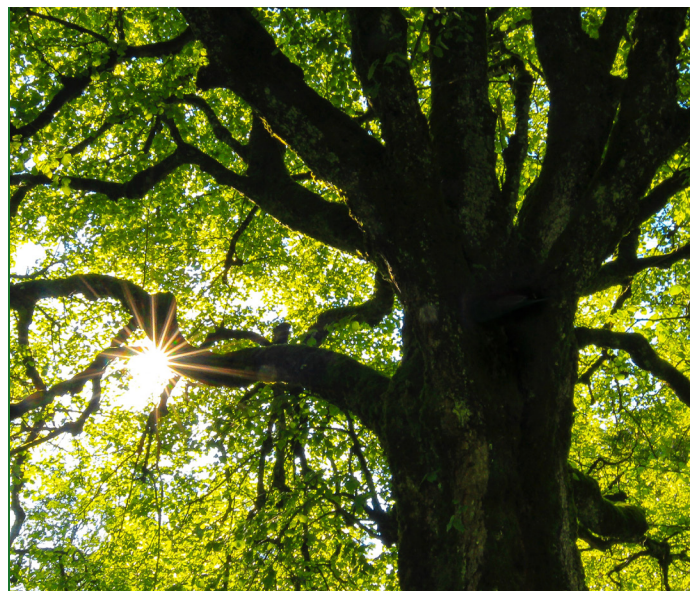
Even though this new service requires a change of bus in Market Deeping, it will help our residents to get to work in Peterborough once again. We would like to thank Delaines for putting on this new bus, and we urge people to use it.

Just a reminder that the 301 service between Spalding and Stamford now runs every hour during daytimes, Mondays to Fridays. This is particularly useful for residents in the Broadgate Lane, Spalding Road and Frognall areas, who now have a viable alternative to the car.

*Tim Stevens, Transport Advisor*

## Flood!!

Sand and sandbags are in hoppers situated in the Methodist Church car park on Church Street and in the lay by on Stowgate Road near the junction to Eastgate.



## Tree planting

South Kesteven District Council are keen to plant some native trees on the open space in Fraser Close (avoiding proximity to back gardens) and would like your views! If you are a Fraser Close resident please let us know if you would welcome this initiative on [asst.clerk@dsjpc.co.uk](mailto:asst.clerk@dsjpc.co.uk) by the end of January 2022

## Welland Footbridge

The Parish Council originally became involved with this project via the Northern Footpaths Forum, whose aim is to build a link between Peakirk and Eastgate, by providing a bridge, adjacent to the Rail bridge at Sandy Bank.



This is a complex project, and has been running for a number of years. However, two Parish Councillors have recently picked up the challenge again, and are now working with Peakirk and Northborough Parish Councils and the Northern Footpaths Forum. This Parish Council is currently working with a Civil Engineering firm to agree work that will satisfy the planning permission.

The budget for the project is large and a great deal of work relating to fund raising will be needed. This in itself provides a challenge as these are difficult times as funding streams are much more limited – both in size and criteria. Once we have the project back on track we will keep parishioners advised of the next steps and any help which might be needed. *Councillors David Denman and Kate Shinkins-Hoppe*

## Jubilee Park

Friends of Jubilee Park has been active for several years. We use the park for the Dog Show in the summer and Carols in the Park in the winter. The funds raised from these events have part paid for the seating and the trim trail with 8 training machines around the park. If you do not feel like flexing the muscle, you can always have a nice walk.



We would like to add to the events put on in the park and we do need YOUR help with ideas and organisation.

Please call - Diane Rose 07703 475 435  
Facebook - Friends of Jubilee Park

## Playschemes Summer 2021



In spite of the difficulties posed by the pandemic - restricted numbers and children being in age based bubbles, the Parish council were delighted to put on the Summer Playscheme successfully organised by Sue Bell and her team at Madcaps Out of School Club.

For the first time the Parish Council also worked with Alison and Liz from Our Forest Garden and for one week in the summer,

new opportunities were provided to learn about the great outdoors whilst having fun in the process.

The feedback from both playschemes was extremely positive, so thank you not only to the organisers but also to those families who were able to participate.

*Councillor Kate Shinkins-Hoppe, Chair of youth and community committee*

# Signal Box update

Having secured an initial Heritage Lottery Fund grant the Group is now able to put itself on a more professional footing, which will lead to applying for a larger grant to secure the build.

To this end Susanna Antoun has been employed as a Project Facilitator. Susanna comes with a wealth of experience in projects such as this and having recently moved in to the area is keen to become involved in the community. The committee has gained new members and the Group now has three elements; 1) Rebuild Evaluation 2) Community Engagement 3) Charity Development. Each has a distinctive role in moving the project forward.



The group are now in a position to employ a Heritage Construction specialist who will advise on all aspects of rebuilding the Box.

This remains a community project and we wish to involve as many local businesses as we can and to work with residents. We are looking for old photos and stories about the station and if you or any members of your family have memories, please be in touch!

*Clbr Stuart Hall*

# Looking after our trees

Last year the Council procured a specialist arboriculturalist contractor to carry out a survey of all the trees owned by the parish council.

The survey provided useful information on the trees the council are responsible for so informed decisions can be made to decide which trees are in need of maintenance work to keep the tree healthy or to prevent a tree becoming a health and safety hazard and which trees need to be removed. This survey has helped us to budget for any work needed.

The survey contains information such as:

- Species of the tree based on scientific name.
- Physical measurements of the tree such as height and diameter.
- Age of the tree.
- Overall health of the tree.
- Life expectancy.
- Management recommendations.

As a result works are planned on some of the trees in the early part of this year.

*Clbr Diane Rose*

Deeping St James Cemetery is probably not foremost in your thoughts at this time of the year. It is a place of reflection and of remembrance but that should not mean it should be a forgotten and sad and depressing place.

So watch out for the snowdrops which have been planted throughout the cemetery together with daffodils which should lift your spirits during the first few months of the New Year.



The cemetery has also been extended to leave wild to nature for as long as possible and hopefully not to be used for some considerable time. In addition, work has already begun to repair and replace all the pathways for easier access and plans are in progress to trim the hedges.

*Clbr Jill Thomas*

The Parish Council in line with other Councils across the country has to consider how much money will be needed to maintain existing services and also to finance any other planned projects. When agreed this amount is charged as part of the Council Tax to homes throughout the village and is known as the precept. This is the time of year when the exercise is completed up and down the country.



Some of the services that Deeping St James Parish Council are responsible for include:

- Providing and maintaining allotments
- Maintaining Woody Heights Skate Park and various other play equipment
- Grass Cutting, tree maintenance and litter picking
- Maintaining the Cemetery, and acting as a Burial Authority
- Providing a summer play scheme for young people.
- Providing funding for the Community Library and Youth Group along with other organisations
- Providing and maintaining bus shelters, benches, waste bins, noticeboards, signage and flower containers

Overall the aim is to provide value for money, for Council Tax payers, whilst maintaining services.

*Councillor Andrew Bowell, Chair of finance and general purposes committee*

Deeping Men in Sheds is the latest Men in Shed group to open in the UK, one of 900 available. This is in a building at Swines Meadow Garden nursery where activities such as woodwork, cold metal work, repairs, up cycling can take place. If you want to meet like minded people look us up on Facebook page - Deeping Men in Sheds Or telephone Peter Robinson on 07817 037 047. AND to answer your question, we do have 2 ladies who are members of the group

# WHAT EACH COUNCIL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR

Deeping St James Parish Council is at the bottom tier of local government, but it is no less important than the other tiers. The closer government is to the people, the more accessible and representative it is. Also services provided tend to be more focused and better value for money. Parish Councillors receive no remuneration, but give their time freely to make a difference to their communities.

However, the Parish Clerk has to deal with a number of queries from the public about services that the Parish Council is not responsible for, which has a domino effect on her work schedule.

So what is each tier of local government responsible for, and who should you contact?

	PARISH COUNCIL	DISTRICT COUNCIL	COUNTY COUNCIL
Adult Social Care & Children's Services	Supports Deeping Youth Group with Grant Funding		Responsible for assessing people's needs and, if individuals are eligible, funding their care.
Allotments	Provides and manages Allotments on Hall Meadow Road		
Blue Badges			Issue Blue Disability Parking Badges
Building Control & Planning	The Parish Council is consulted on Planning matters	District Council monitors building controls. Deals with all Planning Applications	Responsible for their own planning permission
Bus Shelters	Provision & maintenance of Bus Shelters		
Cemetery	Parish Council is a Burial Authority, and maintains the local Cemetery		
Closed Church Yards		Maintained by District Council. Grass cutting, tree maintenance etc	
Community Safety	Arranges regular inspections of play equipment, and repairs	Contributes to Community Safety in various ways	Contributes to Community Safety in various ways
Consumer Protection			Consumer Protection queries should be passed to the County Council
Council Tax & Non-Domestic Rates Collection		District Council collects local taxation	
Education			Responsible for ensuring every child receives an education.
Elections		Organises local and National Elections	
Emergency Planning			Maintains the County Emergency Plan
Environmental Health		Advice, information and enforcement	
Fire & Rescue Services			Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service
Flood Risk	Maintains sand and bags in case of need.		The County Council maintains the County Flood Risk Plan
Food Safety & Water Sampling		All matters relating to Food Safety	
Footpaths	Helps with maintenance of footpaths. Organises annual Footpath Walks to ensure paths are open		Maintains the Definitive Map of rights of Way. Responsible for ensuring all Rights of Way are kept open and useable
Grants	The Parish Council has a Grant Scheme available for Charities and Sports Groups	SK Community Fund	
Grass Cutting	Cuts the grass at the Cemetery, Woody Heights, River Bank & Grass verges	Cuts grass on Jubilee Park	Small grant given to Parish Council for cutting the grass verges
Health & Safety		Enforces Health & Safety regulations	
Housing Benefits & Council Tax support		All claims, enquiries & Payments	
Housing Policy & Homelessness prevention		Provides & Maintains Council Housing	Provides & Maintains Council Housing
Libraries	Supports Deeping Library with Grant Funding		Lincolnshire County Council manages libraries in 3 tiers. Although Deeping Library is run and financed largely independently of LCC
Licensing		Alcohol entertainment & Leisure. Taxi & Private Hire. Animal Welfare	Skips, scaffold & Cherry Picker operators Dropped kerb & vehicular access Highways licence & Permits Street café & Market Stalls
Litter	Provides and empties litter bins Litter picking local parks and open spaces, footpaths & pavements	Provides and empties litter bins	Offers communities in Lincolnshire a litter picking kit hire scheme to help tackle littering issues.
Parking enforcement		District councils manage and enforce restrictions in council-owned car parks.	Responsible for issuing Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs)
Recreation	Provision and maintenance of Woody Heights, Millennium Wood, Hereward Way play area; together with play equipment on Jubilee Park and other sites.	Provision and Maintenance of some playpark equipment in Deeping St James	
Registrar Services			Births, Deaths & Ceremonies
Seats	Maintains Seats at various locations		
Street Cleansing	Litter picks pavements Supports the Great British Spring Clean	Street cleansing and The Big Clean Team Pays Community Cleaning Grant to Parish Council.	
Street Lighting		SKDC provides Street Lighting in Deeping St James	County Council provides street lighting in Deeping St James
Trading Standards			Deals with advice, reports and enforcement
Transport and Highways	Has the right to enter into discussions about new road naming, tree planting and verge maintenance		Responsible for road maintenance Road Markings Road signs Public transport infrastructure Call Connect Bus Service
Waste Collection & Recycling		Empties Black, Silver & Green bins Fly Tipping clearing, investigations and prosecutions Collects large items for a fee Recycling collected waste	Operates 11 recycling centres around the County

# Your pothole stories wanted to help fix our roads



Your county council is fighting for more Government money to help fix our local roads – and they need your help!

If you've been affected by broken roads or a plague of potholes, your voice is needed in a new campaign for fairer funding.

The 'Fix Our Funds To Fix Our Roads' drive has been launched following last year's 25 per cent cut in the Government's road maintenance grant to Lincolnshire County Council - down from £51m to £38.7m.

As a result, the council allocated £12.3m from its reserves to cover the current financial year.

But now the council is warning that unless the missing £12.3 million is restored in the coming year's grant, 24,000 potholes could go unfilled and 37 miles of roads in need of rebuilding may be left un-repaired.

Council Leader Cllr Martin Hill has acknowledged that potholes were the top issue raised by residents in last year's local elections in Deeping and across the county.

Last month's council meeting saw cross-party support to lobby Government for a fairer grant in the coming year.

Cllr Richard Davies, LCC's executive member for highways said: *"Lincolnshire people who have to use crumbling roads on a daily basis are being punished by this underfunding from the Department for Transport, so we need every resident who's had enough to help us with our new 'Fix Our Funds To Fix Our Roads' funding campaign."*

*"When the Government brings in over £25 billion a year from fuel duty alone, it's hard to understand why we've had to use money from our reserves to fill the £12 million left by roads maintenance grant cuts."*

*"It's crucial that we get this money back because, without it, people will see our roads get worse."*

*Phil Dilks, County Councillor for Deepings East.*

## Make your voice heard...

Your county council is asking residents to write to their MP and share stories of the roads they use, which can be done at [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/highwaysfunding](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/highwaysfunding).

Visit the site to share your personal stories about our local roads. You'll also find videos, a template letter to MPs and more information relating to the campaign.

You can also get in touch with Sir John Hayes, MP for South Holland and The Deepings by visiting [www.writetothem.com](http://www.writetothem.com).

Please continue to report potholes at FixMyStreet ([lincolnshire.gov.uk](http://lincolnshire.gov.uk))

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**Next Parish Council Meeting**  
**7.30pm Thursday 27 January**  
The Open Door Baptist Church,  
Spalding Rd DSJ  
Parish Council meetings are always the  
last Thursday in the month venues vary  
currently so contact the clerk for details.  
Clerk: Julie Fortnum 01778 343266  
clerk@dsjpc.co.uk

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



**DEEPINGS LITERARY FESTIVAL**  
**SHORT STORY COMPETITION**

In about 500 words can you tell the story behind this photograph?

These are Deepings' very own Railway Children and we want you to bring their story to life!

Three categories 5-8 years, 8-15 years and adult - there is no residency restriction.

First prize in the 5-8 range is a signed book, 'Balancing Bernie' by Deepings own childrens author and illustrator, Ellie Sandall.



In the 8-15 age range there is a signed book 'The Primrose Railway Children' by best selling author Jacqueline Wilson. Books also as 2nd & 3rd prizes. The adult winner will receive a £50 book token!



**FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO SUBMIT YOUR ENTRIES EMAIL ENQUIRIES@DEEPINGSLITERARYFESTIVAL.CO.UK BY 31ST MARCH 2022**

**SOME OF THE STARS IN THE DEEPINGS LITERARY FESTIVAL FIRMAMENT**



**PAM RHODES**

**Friday April 29th 4.30pm**  
Priory Church, Church St.,  
Deeping St James PE6 8NP  
Tickets £10.50 include cordial and a shortbread biscuit.

For over thirty years Pam has been the familiar face of BBC TV's 'Songs of Praise' but she is also the author of nearly thirty factual books and popular novels including 'The Dunbridge Chronicles' and the new trilogy 'Hope Hall.' She will be speaking more about her life in a familiar setting of a Church but on this occasion it is the Priory Church at Deeping St James.



**WILLIAM SHAW**

**Saturday 30th April 2.00pm**  
*The Maquee at The Ironhorse,*  
High St. Market Deeping PE6 8EB  
Tickets £7.50 to include a latte

Brighton-based crime fiction writer William Shaw has been shortlisted for the CWA Historical Dagger and a Barry Award and long-listed for the CWA Gold Dagger and twice for the Theakston's Prize. Before, William Shaw was an award-winning music journalist and the author of several non-fiction books including Westsiders: Stories of the Boys in the Hood, about a year spent with the young men of South Central Los Angeles, and A Superhero For Hire, a compilation of columns in the Observer.



**FRANCIS PRYOR**

**Sunday 1st May 2.30pm**  
*West Deeping Village Hall*  
King Street, West Deeping PE6 9HU  
Tickets £8.50 including a cuppa and a cake

Studying the archeology of the Fens since 1971, Francis Pryor will be paying specific attention to his latest books, 'The Fens' (2019) and 'Scenes from Prehistoric Life' (2021) in this illustrated talk.



**DOROTHY KOOMSON**

**Saturday 30th April 11.00am & 2.00pm**

*The Granary at Molecey Mill,*  
West Deeping PE6 9JD  
Tickets £15 (for all tickets purchased before the end of Feb 2022 then £20

Global best seller, Dorothy's novels have all been Sunday Times Top 10 listed. 'The Ice Cream Girls' adapted for TV in 2013 was a 2019 World Book Night title and its eagerly anticipated follow-up, 'All my Lies Are True' went straight into the best seller lists. Since then 'I Know What You've Done' has smashed records. Dorothy has won the prestigious Romantic Novelists' Assoc. award for her work with Inclusion.

To book visit [www.stamfordartscentre.com](http://www.stamfordartscentre.com)