

# FARNSFIELD FLYER

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE PARISH OF FARNSFIELD



Welcome to **November 2020's** Farnsfield Flyer, produced 3 times/year by Farnsfield Parish Council. <http://www.farnsfieldparishcouncil.co.uk/>

Our next full parish council meeting is on **15 December**, and then monthly, at 7pm on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month, using Microsoft Teams. You can join the meeting by following the link on the agenda, which is on our website. There is a 10-minute opportunity for you to comment on any of the agenda items near the beginning of the meeting. Details of our committee meetings are also on the website and you are welcome to join those.

Your parish councillors are:



Derek Jackie Ian Barry Lesley Stuart Chris Helen Stu

+ Lynda and Karen

**During the Covid Crisis, if you know of someone who is vulnerable or 'at risk' and they don't have any local or family support, please email [chris@farnsfield-pc.uk](mailto:chris@farnsfield-pc.uk), or phone Chris on 07971 863661, and we will try match them up with one of our volunteers. *Don't let anyone slip through the net.***

**Also see APPENDIX 1 at the end of the flyer for useful information.**

**There are some paper copies of this Farnsfield Flyer in the porch of the Village Centre, St Michael's church, the library, and some of the local shops.**

## **FARNSFIELD NEWS:**

We are very pleased to announce that we have a new councillor, **Stu Hazard**, on board. Interestingly, although the surname Hazard is common in the village, Stu isn't related to any of the other people. Stu has lived in Farnsfield for over twenty years. He is a retired police officer who has served for nearly 35 years with Nottinghamshire Police, mainly in specialist departments. He wants to work for the common good of the village and the community it serves, and to help provide the highest level of amenities and services for all the villagers.

We are also very pleased to tell you that we have **Vikki Arkell**, our new Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer (RFO), in post from August 2020. Vikki says:



*'Having grown up in a village in Warwickshire, very similar to that of Farnsfield, I am very excited to be working within a village community. I chose to become a Clerk & RFO as I have a background in Operation Management and enjoy the variety and flexibility which this role offers. I enjoy the mixture of routine and new matters, and there is always something new to get to grips with. I enjoy working with councillors who, as volunteers, are committed to trying to improve their communities and are passionate about trying to have a positive influence. Over the next 12 months I hope to get to know more of the village, the people who live here and what is important to the community as a whole.'*

Vikki has very quickly familiarised herself with how the Council works, and is proving a knowledgeable and very able person to have on the team. She is already a great asset to us all. You can contact Vikki at [clerk@farnsfield-pc.uk](mailto:clerk@farnsfield-pc.uk), or by phone on 01773 688848 or 07483 160909. Please note she only works 20 hours/week so she may not be able to get back to you straightaway.

**Farnsfield Parish Council – working for the future in difficult times:** There's no doubt that 2020 has been a very difficult year for everyone, and clubs and groups have been particularly challenged by venues being closed for extensive periods due to the COVID restrictions.

The closure of Farnsfield Village Centre has been a significant loss to many groups that depend on using its three halls and anterooms for their activities. However the Council has made good use of the closed period to complete the first full scale renovation of the Village Centre for many years. It has cost around £100,000, which has become available because of the new housing developments in the village, and it has had extensive safety improvements, repairs, and redecoration throughout. The fire safety system is now fully compliant with the relevant legislation. The Village Centre is normally used constantly by the various groups in the village and it's important to invest in its upkeep.

The first priority was the leaking roof. This was a major task that needed new roof valleys, gullies, guttering, replacement tiles and new flat roofs for the old committee room and upper hall landing. The noise impact to neighbours of the Village Centre has been reduced by the installation of acoustic double glazing. There are now opening lights in the upper and lower halls. In addition, new roller blinds have been installed throughout to enable users to have better control of unwanted sunlight. The building will be warmer in winter as new insulation has been added as part of the reroofing.

The interior and exterior of the centre has been redecorated in contemporary colours. The stage in the upper hall has been repaired, the lower hall bench seats have been reupholstered with new fire-retardant fabric, and carpet has been replaced in the heavily used areas. In addition the guest Wi-Fi system has been improved and upgraded. Security has not been neglected; improvements have been made to the internal emergency lighting system, secure exterior door locks have been installed, the CCTV system has been repaired and, new security lights have been installed at the rear of the building.

Carrying out this exhaustive list of works, whilst making sure the working environment has been COVID compliant and safe for contractors, has been challenging. Managing all of this has been further complicated as for the majority of the period the role of Council Clerk was vacant. This meant the work normally carried out by the Clerk, including responding to the

COVID emergency, has had to be carried out by councillors. This work has included; circulating information about COVID restrictions, managing public spaces within the village in line with COVID regulations, organising a group of volunteers to collect prescriptions for residents who were shielding, awarding £10,000 of COVID support grants to local groups, and, organising an outdoor, COVID friendly, performance of the Taming of the Shrew, which was enjoyed by around 200 socially distanced people on a beautiful evening in August.

At the same time as the Village Centre renovation, new play surfaces have been installed in the Lady Goodwin Park play area, and the undergrowth has been cut back on the footpath linking the village to the Acres. New Christmas lights have been bought for installation in the trees at either end of village.

There is now a new year in sight and with the promise of effective vaccines on the horizon, hopefully 2021 will be better than 2020. The work in and on the Village Centre means the village now has a wonderful facility when groups resume their activities.

There is always more to do. The Council has started discussions with Newark and Sherwood District Council (NSDC), and partnered with an independent design company to work towards establishing a substantial new leisure area to the east side of the village, provisionally named The East Side Project. The design company's vision '*To create a sustainable built environment that has an enduring positive impact on people's lives*', is very much in line with the Council's aim to create a leisure area that will make the best use of the remaining funds from our new housing developments, and any further funds that we might access.

The current position is that the design company is carrying out a topological survey of Hadleigh Park, Reynold's Field and the Acres to see what drainage issues will need to be resolved before the Council can make some proposals for development. The proposed East Side Project will look at opportunities for updating the existing playground, improving facilities for football and other outdoor sports on the Acres and, including a wheeled sports facility within the area. It will also look at improving vehicle and pedestrian access and parking facilities, The Council are also considering including a small community hall with updated changing facilities, subject to finances. This isn't an exhaustive list of the possibilities and nothing has been decided at this point in time.

We are looking forward to welcoming old and new users to our refurbished Village Centre and will keep residents up to date on the East Side Project once the design company has completed its work to understand the environmental constraints of the area.

**Farnsfield Surgery:** The Council is aware that many people have raised concerns about the difficulties of trying to make an appointment by phone at Farnsfield Surgery. Councillors have been meeting with Nottinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group, who commission the surgery's services, to discuss the problems with the phone system, availability of appointments, and getting a reliable repeat prescription system, to see how these matters can be improved in a timely way. The Council will keep residents informed about this important matter.

**Volunteers needed for Speed Patrols and Neighbourhood Watch scheme:** One of the issues that upsets our residents most is the speed of traffic through our village. We understand how angry you are about this and, as a first step to coming up with a solution, we have been working with our local community police to setup a Speed Awareness Team. We have bought equipment to measure the speed of vehicles, so that we can gather evidence of the scale of the problem in order to take it forward. We carried out one training course just before the lockdown in March, and would like to invite additional volunteers to join the team

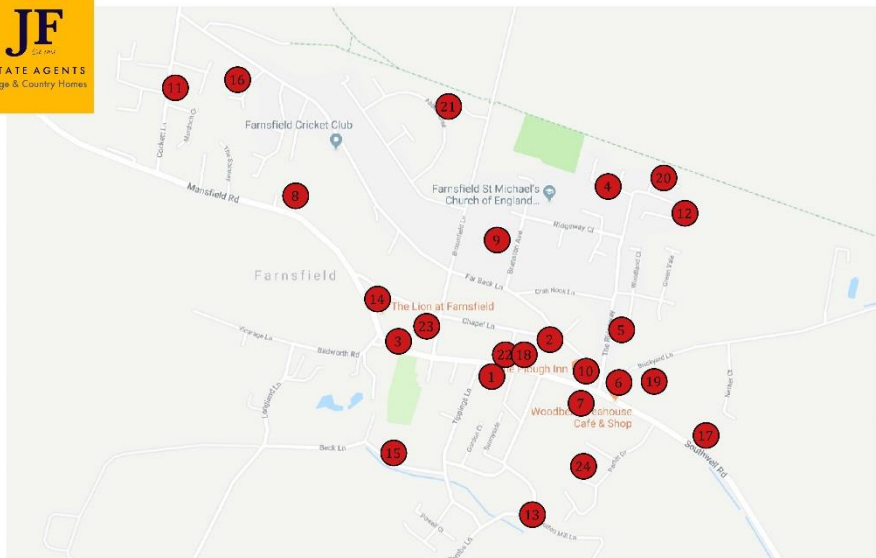
to do the training and carry out regular speed watch patrols. This is your chance to make a real difference about this frustrating and dangerous problem.

We also want to introduce a Neighbourhood Watch scheme to cover the whole of the village. We need people to volunteer to be 'designated coordinators', and a team of volunteers to assist in the collection and sharing of information etc

If you are interested in volunteering for either or both of the above initiatives, please contact our clerk Vikki at [clerk@farnsfield-pc.uk](mailto:clerk@farnsfield-pc.uk).

**Farnsfield Living Advent Calendar:** Take a walk round the village to see our Farnsfield Living Advent Calendar.

Sponsored by:



**Farnsfield Living Advent Calendar**

Windows throughout the village will be lit up from 1st December. Each evening between 1st and 24th December at 6.45pm another window will be 'opened'.

Once opened the windows will remain lit until 1st January. Use this map to locate each of the windows. The numbers in red are the date in December that the window will be revealed.

Each window will also be pictured on the Farnsfield Living Advent Calendar Facebook page which will be updated every evening. We hope you enjoy viewing our advent calendar and wish you a very happy Christmas.

- |                                  |                                   |                                  |                              |                                  |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 Atherley's Bakery, Main Street | 6 The Cottage, Brickyard Lane     | 11 24 Cockett Lane               | 16 9 Fletcher Court          | 21 28 Abbott Crescent            |
| 2 Poacher's Cottage, Chapel Lane | 7 The Grange, Main Street         | 12 20 Long Meadow                | 17 Jaina, Southwell Road     | 22 Lollipop Cottage, Main Street |
| 3 Church Farm, Main Street       | 8 Southview Cottage, Main Street  | 13 Render Park Farm, Quaker Lane | 18 Charity Shop, Main Street | 23 The Library, New Hill         |
| 4 18 D'Ayncourt Walk             | 9 11 Branston Avenue              | 14 Bramley & White, Main Street  | 19 6 Brickyard Lane          | 24 2 Carding Close               |
| 5 16 The Ridgeway                | 10 Ridgeway Cottage, The Ridgeway | 15 The Vicarage, Beck Lane       | 20 6 Meadow Close            |                                  |

Please adhere to any social distancing requirements which may be in place



**Farnsfield Bowling Club:** 2020 has been a quiet year at the club with no league matches, friendly games, club matches or social events. They did manage some limited social play in August and September, making sure that all the Covid guidelines were followed.

The green has been kept in excellent condition in the hope of running the usual full schedule in 2021. Coaching sessions for beginners will begin with an eight-week course through May and June 2021. All equipment will be supplied and it is all absolutely FREE, with the emphasis



on learning to play in a relaxed and friendly group. If you would like more information please contact Lynn Williams on [01623 883074](tel:01623883074).

**Farnsfield Tennis Club:** It has been a very busy summer at the club - both on and off the courts. With a strict booking system, and adhering to Government restrictions and Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) guidance, the courts have been busy all summer with members of all ages wanting to get back playing.

The good weather obviously helped! The revised Notts LTA Winter League started in October, with the club entering teams into the ladies', men's and mixed leagues. After managing to play a few matches, everything then finished due to the second lockdown. Hopefully matches will re-start soon.

Work has been going on towards the long awaited and much needed clubhouse extension. The building part of the extension is now complete, the new toilet has been plumbed in, the inside has been painted throughout and a new kitchen, new carpets and heating are being installed – exciting times! The courts' annual clean is happening later this month and the members and visitors look forward to playing on the clean courts, and using the new improved clubhouse when lockdown finishes.

**Hogs of Winterfell Autumn Update:** Hogs of Winterfell is a 6-bed hedgehog rescue centre run by Dawn and Darren Haynes from a purpose built shed in their garden on D'ayncourt Walk.



After a busy summer it's turned into a busy autumn too. Dawn gained her Hedgehog Basic First Aid and Rehabilitation certificate, where she learned lots of new techniques. In October one of the hedgehogs, Belle, starred in a Canadian television documentary about the European hedgehogs.

Juvenile hedgehogs are a second litter born in late summer/early autumn, caused by the milder weather we are now experiencing each year. These little guys don't really stand much of a chance because they rarely make the 600g hibernation weight they need to survive before they go into hibernation. We can all help by putting out non fish cat biscuits and water because the

insects they normally eat become in very short supply. Several juveniles have been taken in to the centre with illnesses such as lungworm, roundworm and respiratory infections, and Dawn and Darren are pleased to have got them better and to a suitable weight for release.

Dawn and Darren also appeared on Notts TV's evening show, "Ey Up Notts!" to talk about helping hedgehogs. Viewers got to see the mischievous Kenny, and Harry (who Darren hand reared), being very cute. Harry was released back to his finder's garden a few days ago and Kenny is currently being treated for a respiratory issue, but hopefully he can be released soon.



Sadly, Darren and Dawn experienced their first poisoning case; a little female brought in suffering from bleeding and convulsions. The vet said she had eaten slug or rat poison and she had to be euthanised to end her suffering. It was heart breaking because they felt powerless against the effects of such an aggressive

poison. Hedgehogs are in great decline so please think carefully before using these chemicals in your gardens. As we move into the winter months, please can we all watch out for our hedgehogs by offering them water and food so they can hibernate safely, to be roaming the village once again in spring.

**The Minibus survey:** The Council received a request to consider whether we could start a minibus service. Cllr Barry Westbury carried out a survey, with paper copies in the library and the church porch as well as online. Only 92 people responded, which is around 3% of the village. Of the 92:

- 64 had no mobility issues
- 71 had their own transport
- 40 thought there would be a benefit to the village of having a minibus (1.2 %)
- Over 50% of those wanting a minibus said they would only use it occasionally

The conclusion is that there isn't enough demand for the scheme. When the pandemic is over, if you would like the Council to look at whether we could have a small number of volunteer drivers, suitably DBS checked etc, who would give people a lift for a small fee to cover fuel, please contact our Clerk, Vikki, at [clerk@farnsfield-pc.uk](mailto:clerk@farnsfield-pc.uk), or by phone on 01773 688848 or 07483 160909.

**The Foodbank:** There has been huge support for the foodbank in the last few months. Many thanks to everyone who has donated and especially to Atherley's and the Veg Stop who are donating on a weekly basis, and to the Co-op for coordinating customers' donations.



According to the Trussell Trust over 50% of people using their foodbanks at the start of the pandemic had never needed one before. 2,600 food parcels were provided for children every day in the first six months of the pandemic. The need is massive with families being hardest hit. Please continue to donate - tinned meals are in great demand but also treats for Christmas. Donations can be left in St Michael's church porch or at the till in the Co-op. If

you would like to give money, you can do so at Atherley's and the Veg Stop, or by phoning Paul Mortimer on 07970 059618.

**Farnsfield Community Spaces:** The group hasn't been able to organise any large group volunteer tasks this year but that hasn't stopped individuals and small groups working in the community. The Plant Table continues to raise funds, and donations from September have gone to Nottingham Hospitals Charity Run, printing costs of the Farnsfield Recycling booklet in the library, and the purchase of a long-handled bulb planter. The most recent donation has gone to the Food Bank, where many of the volunteers help out on the rota. They have 16 'litter grabbers' out on loan, and with lockdown many people have been picking up litter as part of their exercise routine. The group continues to tend to open spaces, planters and street corners around the village and has recently planted more native bulbs in the Millennium Wood. The group has also tried to connect with elderly and socially isolated households by delivering leaflets, information and support.

If you would like to get involved with any of the group's activities please contact any of the following people: [healylesley@gmail.com](mailto:healylesley@gmail.com), [gill\\_sarre@hotmail.com](mailto:gill_sarre@hotmail.com), or [sewalker1525@outlook.com](mailto:sewalker1525@outlook.com). You can also follow the group on Farnsfield Community

Facebook page or Instagram farnsfieldcs. Farnsfield Community Spaces wishes us all a happy Christmas.

**Christmas lights:** Sadly we can't have a formal switching-on of the Christmas lights this year during the first few days of December we will still be lighting up the trees on the Green and the bottom of the Ridgeway, and putting up the tree outside the Co-op. The decorations have been put up by the Pre-school and St Michaels, and our gratitude goes to the Co-op staff, White Post Farm and Eagle Building Specialists Ltd.

**Planning Committee:** The Council has a designated Planning Committee to consider and comment on planning applications that are made to Newark and Sherwood District Council. Residents are always welcome to comment directly to NSDC at [planning@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk](mailto:planning@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk), and can also email the chairman of the Planning Committee at [stuart@farnsfield-pc.uk](mailto:stuart@farnsfield-pc.uk).

**Date for your diaries:** We have provisionally booked a performance of Shakespeare's The Tempest for the evening of Thursday 26th August 2021.

Details of the many clubs and groups in Farnsfield are on our website. If your group isn't there, email Cllr Westbury at [barry@farnsfield-pc.uk](mailto:barry@farnsfield-pc.uk) and he'll be happy to add you. If you would like to receive an email alert when each new edition of the Farnsfield Flyer comes out, go to the website and click on the blue icon as shown below.



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**If you know someone who would like to receive a paper copy of the Farnsfield Flyer in future, please email their name and address to [chris@farnsfield-pc.uk](mailto:chris@farnsfield-pc.uk).**

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **Home Delivery Services**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Telephone</b>
Farnsfield Pharmacy	Chemist	01623 882310
Newark News	Newspaper delivery	01636 703408
The Veg Stop	Fruit & Veg	01623 882354 01158 881328
W Coleman & Sons	Dairy Farm	07599 293374
Atherley's	Bakery & Eggs	01623 882283
The Butchers Block	Butcher	01623 871035
Maxeys	Farm Shop	01636 814566
Old Reindeer	Pub Food	01623 882253
The Handicentre	Hardware DIY	01636 813628
Maloneys	Butcher	01623 491114

Please note: The Veg Stop will also deliver bread. They are working with Atherley's so if you phone through a bread order at the same time both can be delivered together. They stock eggs, milk, cheese and other dry ingredients and will deliver smaller quantities of fruit and veg to order. Please try to order enough to last you for a few days as they are busy helping lots of families at the moment. The Veg Stop normally delivers the next day.

### **Tradesmen: (Only to be used for emergencies please)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Harris Sutton	Joinery	07702 042855	harrissuttonjoinery@gmail.com
Mark (Newtec)	Plumber	07866 431321	
George Roffe	Electrician	07949 883297	
Andy Rogers	Gas Engineer	07970 888148	
John Cracknell	Electrician	07967 636780	
Metro Rod	Blocked toilets, drains etc	0800 66 88 00	

### **Useful Links and Websites**

**HART:** Extra assistance is being provided by the Humanitarian Assistance Response team for any isolated Nottinghamshire resident [enquiries@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@nottscc.gov.uk) 0300 5008080. The county has a team of 120 people who can help with the supply of food, necessities and other vital assistance.

**Mental Health Support website** ([www.mentalhealth.org.uk/coronavirus](http://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/coronavirus))

**National Health Service** ([www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk))

**Farnsfield Parish Council** ([www.farnsfieldparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.farnsfieldparishcouncil.co.uk))

### **Facebook Sites**

[www.facebook.com/farnsfieldstmichaelschurch](https://www.facebook.com/farnsfieldstmichaelschurch)

[www.facebook.com/farnsfieldparishcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/farnsfieldparishcouncil)

[www.facebook.com/farnsfieldvillage](https://www.facebook.com/farnsfieldvillage)