September 21st

Kettlestone & Pensthorpe Parish News

*If you would like to include an article for publication in the Parish News, please send your entry by 25th of the month to the Editor,* *kettlestonepc@googlemail.com**.*

***To receive future copies of the Parish News electronically,***

***just email your name and address to the Editor.***

**Kettlestone Parish website:** [**https://kettlestoneparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/**](https://kettlestoneparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/)

February 2021

 

**REGISTER FOR A POSTAL VOTE**

On Thursday 6 May 2021 elections will be taking place in North Norfolk with electors voting in the Norfolk County Council elections, the Norfolk Police and Crime Commissioner Election and several Parish Council by-elections. Given the ongoing situation with the Covid-19 pandemic we want to give electors as much time as possible to change voting arrangements if voting in a Polling Station during the pandemic is not desired. If you wish to **vote by post** contact North Norfolk District Council by email at postalvotes@north-norfolk.gov.uk or by phone on 01263 516046 and a form will be sent to you.

If you need **to register** the easiest way to do so is online at [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote) but again alternatively you can contact us by phone on 01263 516046 to do so.

Kettlestone

Parish Council

Contact details

**Clerk**

Joanna Otte

Little Manor,

Thursford Rd

Lt Snoring, NR21 0JN 01328 822366

**Councillors**

Gill Ashby

Chair

878639

David Burgis

878474

Vacancy

Christine Hipkin

878241

Marlene Hoad

822101

Trevor Hoad

822101

Robert Kilbourn

Vice-Chair

851633

**Emergency roadworks**

As many of you will have realised, during the week commencing 18 January the A148 was closed for a while in Little Snoring to allow Anglian Water to make emergency repairs to a burst water main. Unfortunately, many drivers ignored the road closure signs and the proposed diversion (via Guist), and the volume of traffic through the village increased. This caused considerable problems and a lot of damage to Green Lane, in fact it is quite distressing to see the amount of mud and verge damage on this road. The Parish Council made various representations to NCC Highways and have requested that the mud on the road be cleared. If at the time of reading this has not been done there is a mechanism for individuals to report this on the Norfolk County Council website, and a raft of complaints may result in speedier action! Anglian Water are expected to make good the verges when conditions allow.

**Vacancy on the Parish Council**

If you wish to be considered for co-option to Kettlestone Parish Council, please write to the Clerk (address above) or email kettlestonepc@googlemail.com , providing a brief description of yourself and what you can bring to the role of Parish Councillor.

We look forward to hearing from you.

**Census 2021**

The Office for National Statistics is organising the ten-yearly Census which is due to take place on 21 March 2021. This year, for the first time, it is online (help is available if you are unable to go online telephone 01329 444972). Please do make sure you take part (it is against the law not to) and it also helps inform decisions about the things that matter to you and your community.

**Visit** [**www.census.gov.uk**](http://www.census.gov.uk) **to find out more**.

**COVID-19**

Although lockdown continues, the COVID-19 vaccination roll-out is progressing well, and Fakenham medical practice started offering vaccinations to over 70s from 18 January. Please be aware that these are pre-booked appointments only; you will be contacted when it is your turn. The practice ask that you do not arrive early for appointments. If the practice car park is full, please use the Running Horse car park which is being used as an overflow.

Below is the latest message from Norfolk County Council, and applies to everyone even if they have had the vaccine:

Covid spreads easily. Every time someone leaves their home, this creates new opportunities for spread of the virus. We are therefore encouraging people to keep these opportunities to a minimum by:

* Staying in as a priority
* Avoiding unnecessary journeys
* Avoiding mixing with other households
* Shopping in a way that results in fewer people in the shops and on fewer occasions.
* Doing more to ventilate and clean homes.
* Staying local for exercise – this means in your own village, town, or part of the city.

**Work in the Churchyard**

The Friends of the Church have done an amazing job of looking after the Churchyard and the Church Field during the Autumn and Winter: keeping the ivy and weeds down, and restoring some order to the area by keeping it free of branches brought down by the various storms we have had. The maintenance, as ever, is ongoing and has been a job well done.

One of the problems we face is looking after the trees and shrubs in the Churchyard and to prevent those near the Church causing damage. Our Architect advised that the tree nearest the tower should be monitored as it is perilously close to touching the tower. We have therefore appointed a tree surgeon to “reduce” it, before the leaves start to come. This tree is not only beginning to touch the tower, but produces quantities of leaves that have, over time, blown into the sumps on the roof of the tower causing major problems with damp on the roof and affecting the timbers underneath. There is a pressing need for repair work to the roof, but there is no point in thinking about this whilst the tree is exacerbating the problem!

**Dulcie Linnell**

It is with sadness that we write of the passing of Dulcie on Sunday 17 January. She died peacefully at her daughter’s house having moved there from hospital the previous Friday and celebrating her 92nd birthday on the intervening Saturday. She and husband Les moved to Kettlestone in the early 1980s and her outgoing personality made her a natural for getting involved in village life. Dulcie was a loyal supporter of All Saints church and the Village Hall, never failing to offer help and express appreciation of what was done and thank those involved. She was a dedicated member of Gt. and Lt. Snoring WI and on the committee for many years, serving a term as president and remembered as a smart and elegant dresser. In earlier years she was an enthusiastic member of the country dancing group and many jolly times were had by all. She joined the Parish Council in later years and served as chairman towards the end of her time in the village. For those left to remember her, Dulcie was a kind and engaged member of Kettlestone when it was confirming its reputation as a friendly and welcoming community. Mary & Roger Townsin

**100 Club**

Thankyou everybody for paying your 100 Club subscriptions so promptly.  We have gained a few new members which is excellent.  I wish you all the very best of luck in the future monthly draws.

Angie Waterston

Covid-19 Hardship Grants

Hardship Grants are available if you are experiencing difficulties as a result of the pandemic. If you are in need or hardship, please do consider applying for a Covid-19 Hardship Grant from the Parish Council (it will remain **confidential**). For an application form contact the Parish Clerk by email:

kettlestonepc@googlemail.com or telephone 01328 822366.

**Bus shelter and book swap**

The book swap continues to be well used. Thank you for the donation of a CD/DVD stand and many CDs and DVDs, this is much appreciated and a useful addition to the swap. However, please don’t leave any other items except books, magazines, CDs and DVDs, and fresh surplus produce in the bus shelter.

If you have any items you wish to swap, sell or give away they can be put onto the Kettlestone and Pensthorpe Community Information and Support Facebook page, which is a private group open to all villagers. If you do not have access to Facebook please contact kettlestonepc@googlemail.com or any Councillor.

**William is home!** William the cat went missing in Kettlestone on 19 December, but was found in the village on 11 January, a little thinner but pleased to be reunited with his owner. Thanks to everyone who helped in the search. It is lovely to have something to celebrate in these challenging times!

*Views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Editor or of Kettlestone Parish Council.*