

## Ashwell and Bassingbourn Patients' Group

### NOTES FROM OUR OCTOBER MEETING

-Two new members joined the group – Tracey Potter (Bassingbourn Parish Council) and Bob Davis (Guilden Morden).

-We are fully staffed and are due to welcome a prescribing nurse whose additional skills will be very beneficial to patients. Also on Thursdays we enjoy the services of a physiotherapist at Ashwell.

- As everyone knows our outdated phone system is just not fit for purpose. We have been waiting a long time for the NHS to finance a new setup. At last it seems the funding is in the pipeline. Our practice Manager Katie thinks it will be in place in the new year.

- Our report on the Patient Survey has been available on the practice website since the beginning of September and we hope to make paper copies available in the waiting rooms and local pharmacies in due course. Many if not most of the problems identified arise from issues with the phone and the new system should resolve many of these (fingers crossed!). Appointments are now for 15 minutes and patients can request either a telephone or in-person consultation. Some chairs with arms have been placed in both waiting rooms to assist patients with mobility problems. All being well you won't need to wrap up so warmly while you wait for your winter appointment as the heating system is due for a welcome overhaul in mid-November.

- One patient queried why the surgery is relatively empty on occasions. Dr Jarvis gave 3 reasons for this 1) appointments are for specific times so there shouldn't be long waits; also they are staggered to keep. 2) numbers down to avoid germs being spread; and 3) our doctors and nurses spend part of their time dealing with phone and e-consult contacts which do not require a patient to be present.

A second query was whether there are too many means of contacting the surgery, making work for the staff and increasing the risk of things getting lost or overlooked. Our Practice Manager agreed with these observations and said that there is a national move to streamline patient contacts. In our report we asked patients not to use email. This is work in progress.

- For some time now patients have been able to contact the surgery electronically originally by eConsult and now via Accurx. You access this through the website and this enables you for instance to describe your symptoms after which a doctor will make contact. This service is only available at certain times however because doctors need to fit these communications in with in-person consultations and other duties.

- Our Practice Manager has established a link with Ashwell Primary School and will seek to do likewise with other schools in our patch. A welcome move!

We next meet in January.

**Peter Chapman, Chairman**

### Sad News from Ukraine

It is with sadness that we share the news that Elena (mother to Danylo and Hordii) has passed away. Elena (who was in her early 30's) was hosted by Simon and Frances Marlow who wanted to pass their condolences and share this news with anyone in the Village who knew them.

## A Christmas Poem

### 'Twas the Night Before Christmas' by Clement C. Moore

...And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the roof  
The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.  
As I drew in my head, and was turning around,  
Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound.  
He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot,  
And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot.  
A bundle of Toys he had flung on his back,  
And he looked like a peddler, just opening his pack.  
His eyes-how they twinkled! his dimples how merry!  
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry!  
His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,  
And the beard of his chin was as white as the snow...

### Three Horseshoes Christmas Opening Hours

	Bar	Kitchen
Sun 24th Dec	12.00 - 23.00	12.00 - 15.00 17.00 - 21.00
Mon 25th Dec	12.00 - 15.00	Closed
Tue 26th Dec	14.00 - 19.00	Closed
27th - 30th Dec	Normal Hours	Normal Hours
Sun 31st Dec	12.00 - 16.00	12.00 - 16.00 Pre-Order Only
Sun 31st Dec	19.00 - New Years Party. Ticket Only	Buffet
Mon 1st Jan	12.00 - 16.00	Closed
Wed 2nd - Thu 4th Jan	Closed	Closed
Fri 5th Jan	Normal Hours	Normal Hours

### On The Beat - Local Crime Reported

#### G4E - Ashwell, Hinxworth, Bygrave, Newnham & Caldecote

- Criminal Damage, Hinxworth – At 03.30 on Sunday 1st October the informant had a fence damaged. The offender had a vehicle stuck in a field and broke the fence to create an exit point from the field.

- Outbuilding Burglary, Radwell - At 12.15 on 3rd October two males walked onto the drive of a property in Radwell. The house is undergoing home repairs and various metals were on site. The offenders stole the metal and placed them into a white van and made off direction unknown.

- Theft in Ashwell – Between 15.53 to 16.50 on 17th October a parcel was left on a doorstep at a property. Between material times the offender removed the parcel worth over £100 and made off direction unknown.



# • Village Voice •

December 2023

for Caldecote, Edworth, Hinxworth and Newnham

No.267

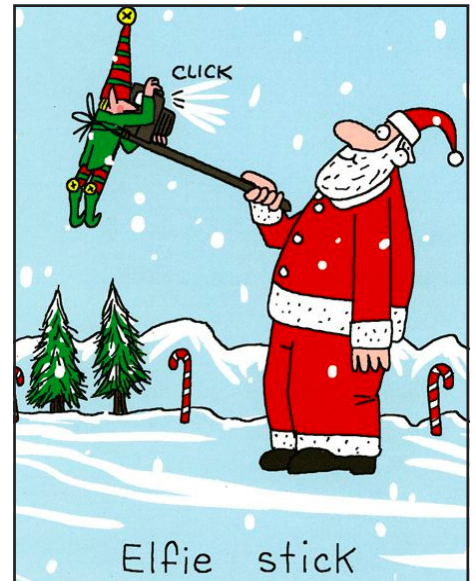
## Hinxworth Christmas Tree Comes to the Three Horseshoes

**Christmas Eve** - We have kindly been donated a Christmas tree by Tony Bony which will be outside the front of the pub throughout December.

On Christmas Eve at 5pm we invite all families to come and join us in decorating the tree with your Christmas bauble. Run wild with your imaginations for decorating your bauble and join us for some festive fun.

**New Years Eve** - We are holding our New Years Eve party this year as usual. Tickets available from the pub. Book early to avoid disappointment.

**Christmas Opening** - See Page 4 for details  
**Julie & Gerry Methven**



## New Arrivals on Francis Road

As we bid a fond farewell to Annette & Patrick, we welcome Lizzie, Peter & Ted who have moved all the way from Edworth.



**Copy Date:** Please send all copy/pictures for the January edition by December 20th. E: [villagevoice3@gmail.com](mailto:villagevoice3@gmail.com).

## Carols by Candlelight

Caldecote Church Friends invite you along to 'Carols by Candlelight'. This will take place on Saturday 9th December at 3.30pm.

Come along and immerse yourself in more than 700 years of history as we celebrate Christmas with a traditional glass of mulled wine, a mince pie and a sausage roll.

Join us in singing traditional and well loved Christmas carols.

Tickets are £10 and available from [www.wegotickets.com/event/598368](http://www.wegotickets.com/event/598368). Space is limited so book early to avoid

## Hinxworth Parish Council Needs You!

Calling all Hinxworth residents. How would you like to take a leading role in village life? An opportunity exists for one extra person to join the Parish Council as a co-opted member.

The Parish Council meets on the first Thursday of every month in the village hall to represent the interests of villagers, and is responsible for maintaining the recreation ground and tennis court as well as liaising with the Village Hall Committee.

Regular subjects for discussion include highways, the allotments and local planning applications.

The Parish is allowed a maximum of five councillors but currently we are only four – Nick Tiffin, Richard Cobb, Tony Dawson and Tony Lloyd, as well as Parish Council Clerk Wendy Kitchener.

If you would like to be considered for the vacant role please contact any of the above councillors or email me, Tony Lloyd, at [tonylloyd2016@gmail.com](mailto:tonylloyd2016@gmail.com).

You would be made very welcome and would get the opportunity to take a real interest in village affairs.

**Tony Lloyd**



## Parish Council Minutes

DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HINXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 2nd NOVEMBER 2023 AT 7.00 PM.

Present: Mr N.Tiffin (Chairman), Mr R. Cobb (Vice- Chairman), Mr T Lloyd, Mr A. Dawson & Mrs W. Kitchener (Clerk)

Other person present: Tom Tyson District Councillor.

Apologies: Steve Jarvis Hertfordshire County Councillor;

1. The Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the meeting of 5 th October were agreed by the Parish Councillors. Proposed by Tony Lloyd and seconded by Tony Dawson.

2. Matters arising not elsewhere on the Agenda. Nothing to report.

3. Correspondence: Uncontested Elections: Notification has been received from North Herts District Council of a charge likely to be made for uncontested elections and asking for views of the Councillors on this. For Hinxworth the charge would be £250.00 at a cost to the Parish. The Councillors do not agree with this and have notified NHDC accordingly.

4. Finance: Current Parish Council Funds: The Councillors agreed to the expenditure for the current month. Proposed by Nick Tiffin and seconded by Tony Lloyd.

5. Planning: Planning Consultations:

Application 23/02232/FP Farrowby Farm, New Inn Road, Hinxworth. The Councillors agreed to “no objection” to this application.

The War Memorial: The Parish Council, having discussed some proposed refurbishment work to the War Memorial with NHDC Planning Department, Mark Simmons has responded that the work planned will not require a planning application so can start to prepare quotes for the work, it is hoped to commence these repairs within six to nine months when the weather improves.

6. Highways: Grass Cutting: The grass edges in New Inn Road have been cut.

Traffic Calming Feasibility Study: Plans from Hertfordshire Highways for phase two of the traffic calming project have been received by the Parish Council. The Councillors have some concerns regarding these as they, in their opinion, do not meet the requirements of the Village. Hertfordshire Highways have been notified and a response is, we hope, forthcoming.

7. Village Hall: Manhole Cover: The manhole cover alongside of the Village Hall will be replaced as soon as the weather improves.

Safety Measures: The Councillors have been notified that there could be a danger for young children when leaving the Village Hall after their activities. The youngsters tend to run along the side of the Hall and into the road going down the side of the hall, this is a blind spot where vehicles leaving the car park are unable to see them. So the Councillors agreed to install a post and rail fence from the hall corner to the path to improve visibility This should provide a safety measure for the youngsters and give traffic leaving the car park more time to react if someone is entering the road.

8. Recreation Ground: Ashwell Accies: The Councillors have received a request for the use of the recreation ground on a Saturday morning by the young footballers. Further discussions need to be had regarding this request.

The Gate/Pedestrian Entrance: Connor Methven hopes to commence the work as soon as the weather improves.

9. The Tennis Court: Nothing to report.

10. Allotments: The Allotment Group: The committee are starting to pull together their proposed plans and associated costs for the allotment.

11. Any Other Urgent Business: The War Memorial Clock: A date from A.J. James of Saffron Walden is awaited.

Street Sign Replacement Initiative: Tom Tyson reported any street signs that are in poor condition can be replaced. These will be supplied by NHDC. The Councillors will provide Tom with the photographs of those signs that require replacing.

John Mills: The Parish Councillors wish to send their condolences to the Mills family on the recent passing of John Mills the renowned sculptor.

12: Date of the Next Meeting: Thursday 7th December in the Village Hall at 7.00pm. The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

**Wendy Kitchener (Clerk)**

## Church Services For December

Sun 3rd Dec	16.00	Patronal, with thanksgiving for works	St Nicholas, Hinxworth
Sun 10th Dec	09.45	Holy Communion	St Nicholas, Hinxworth
Sun 10th Dec	16.00	Carol Service	St Vincent's, Newnham
Sun 17th Dec	09.15	Holy Communion	St Nicholas, Hinxworth
Sun 17th Dec	18.00	Lessons & Carols	St Mary's, Ashwell
Sat 23rd Dec	17.00	Lessons & Carols	St Nicholas, Hinxworth
Sun 24th Dec	09.15	Holy Communion	St Nicholas, Hinxworth
Sun 24th Dec	15.30	Crib Service	St Mary's, Ashwell
Sun 24th Dec	23.30	Midnight Mass	St Mary's, Ashwell
Mon 25th Dec	09.30	BCP Communion	St Vincent's, Newnham
Mon 25th Dec	10.00	Christmas Communion	St Nicholas, Newnham
Sun 31st Dec	10.45	Benefice Communion	St Mary's, Ashwell

On Sunday 3rd December at 4pm there will be a special service at St Nicholas, where we will give thanks for the completion of the recent works, for the craftsmanship involved, and for all who have funded it. The service will be led by Bishop Jane (the Bishop of Hertford) and will include a celebration of our Patronal Festival. As the village were so supportive in raising the funds to do the work, it would be lovely to see some of you there! There'll be refreshments afterwards too



## Hinxworth & Edworth WI Update

The November WI meeting was chaired by Chrisi and she opened the meeting by welcoming everyone, reading out apologies from those members unable to attend and going through a few notices issued from the Federation. With Remembrance Sunday on the 12th November the WI is being represented by Viv when she will lay a wreath on our behalf. The meeting then progressed to the fun part of the evening. With Christmas starting to creep into our minds we thought we would get a head start by making some Christmas decorations for our Christmas trees. Hilary and Jan Y had pre-prepared some Christmassy shapes all ready for us to decorate with decoupage, glitter, "gems" and ribbon. Our method of decoration seemed to be the more glitter and ribbon the better. However the finished results were all very decorative and very festive. A good fun evening enjoyed by all. Next month is more Christmas craft - the meeting is on Thursday 14th December at the usual time of 7.30pm. Look forward to seeing everyone then.

**Chrisi Hook**

## Community Lunch

Another lovely community lunch and wonderful to see both familiar and new faces. Three really tasty soups on offer - all three flavours proved very popular - the soup pans were soon emptied. Thanks you so much to the soup chefs. As you know the profits from this lunch always go to a charity of our choice so if you have a favourite charity that you would like to donate to please let me know. The next Community Lunch will be on the 15th December 12.30 to 2pm. Be lovely to see you all then.

**Chrisi Hook**

### COMMUNITY LUNCH

#### Hinxworth & Edworth Village Hall

#### FRIDAY 15th DECEMBER



**£4**

Price includes selection of homemade soups, breads & desserts plus tea / coffee

## Alternative Card - Still Time to Join-In

A reminder that if you would like to take part in the Hinxworth and Edworth Alternative Christmas Card Scheme the closing date is Monday 4th December. I have set up a Just Giving page for the Garden House Hospice ([www.justgiving.com/page/rachel-giles-1697399203396](http://www.justgiving.com/page/rachel-giles-1697399203396)) and for Barnardo's ([www.justgiving.com/page/rachel-giles-1697399540967](http://www.justgiving.com/page/rachel-giles-1697399540967)). If you prefer not to use Just Giving please put your contribution in an envelope with your name and address. Cheques can be made payable to "Garden House Hospice Care" or "Barnardo's". I will also put these details on 'Our Hinxworth' Facebook page.

I have had a number of anonymous donations on Just Giving. Please message or email me your name if you think this may be you and your name will be added to the card.

Also, when making a donation, Just Giving automatically add 15% to your donation. Please don't feel that you need to pay this additional amount - just press "enter custom amount" and put £0.00.

Many thanks to everyone who has already donated.

**Rachel Giles**

## The Village Hall Race Night

Firstly - A big thank you to the sponsors of all 10 races who kindly donated some of the winning owner's prizes.

The Evening was a great success raising just over £2000.00 towards keeping the Hall in super condition. To all of you who came, thank you for your support and we hope you had fun and enjoyed the evening as much as we did!

Lastly - The committee would like to say a special thank you to Simon Cheshire. Not only for helping to arrange the event but also for donning his jockey silks and hosting the evening in only the way Simon can!! Well done, Simon!

**Debbie Hawthorne**



**Pictured above are winning owners collecting their prizes from Simon Cheshire**

