

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Held second Monday of every month except for January and August. 7.30pm in the Reading Room. Everyone is very welcome.

ANNUAL REPORT

Council have considered their key aims and objectives for the coming financial year. The considerations take into account resident feedback from the annual resident's survey, feedback given from individual residents, and ideas taken from the Residents Meeting held in 2022.

Areas of responsibility have been grouped and teams are working together looking at each area which works better than one Councillor trying to work alone. Teams working on projects also lead to more resident communication and more projects being carried out. The following priorities have been identified for this year:

- 1. Flooding
- 2. Climate Change / Environment
- 3. Highways
- 4. Communication

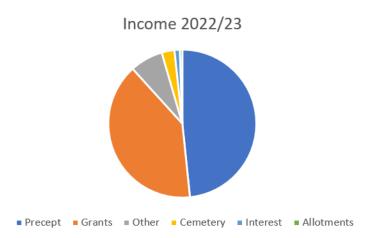
Due to the cost of living crisis and the money in the bank Council agreed no increase in the precept figure for 2023/24. As flood prevention is priority and a top concern of both Council and residents it would be favourably to raise the precept and build ear-marked reserves for flood works. However, there are two issues with this. One is that it is not Parish Council responsibility and we are not the landowners of the areas that need work, and two, due to the estimated cost at £7m it is far out of reach of the Parish Council. If the precept was increased by £1m p.a. this would result in residents all paying an extra £2,841 p.a. in Council tax which is not acceptable.

Lots of work has been happening to address climate change locally which in turn has also helped with flood prevention methods. This includes flood works, planting, and other works to the KGV Field and the spare allotment field.

We have a Highways representative from West Northamptonshire Council that we can liaise with so there are regular communications informing them of Highways issues, however, pot holes etc still have to be reported via Fix My Street.

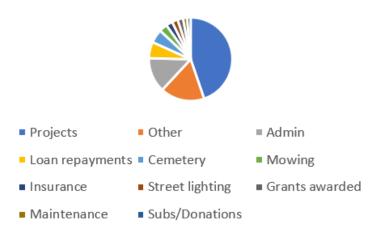
Council have worked really hard to improve communications with residents. Our new bi-monthly newsletter which is delivered to every household has been very well received. We continue to also communicate regularly via our website, noticeboard, facebook, f2f, and the annual residents meeting.

The newsletter gives detailed information on the work of the Council so please do take a read of them. The newsletters are also available on our website.



Income for 2022/23 was £64,943. £29,503 was from the precept which comes from residents Council tax, £22,878.22 came from grants, and the rest from cemetery, allotments, interest etc. Council are concentrating hard on increasing grant funding and you can see from these figures that we are having great success. The KGV field and allotment field has been 100% grant funded. Bringing the defibrillator at the Knightley Arms back into use was also 100% grant funded.

Expenditure 2022/23



Expenditure totalled £67,236. The main expenditure was on projects via grant funding which amounted to £28,358.

Council have healthy reserves for projects that are either underway or planned. These include further flood and climate projects, further improvements to the cemetery, a new vehicle activated sign for Elkington Road, and further renovation works to the War Memorial.

HILLMORTON LANE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT - UPDATE and ROAD NAME

The works have started and are progressing well. A monthly update is given to the Council on completed and upcoming works. We have been advised that the usual procedure is for local people with a connection to the parish to be on the councils housing register and then the Housing Associations register also. The properties will then be advertised on the councils/HAs website and people will be able to apply for these properties. The council/HA will then go through the criteria checklist with the individual. Further details will be announced once we have them.

Our sincere thanks to everyone who suggested a name for the development.

The Parish Council have proposed to West Northamptonshire Council to name the development 'Nuttall Close', after the late Peggy Nuttall who lived in the village for 75 years.

Peggy was born in Croydon in 1920. Her family moved to Rugby in 1922. Peggy worked at the former BTH factory in Rugby and in 1935 was involved in forming and running the former Firs Girls Club in the town. Peggy came to live in Yelvertoft in 1940. In 1952 the government offered the former Land Army Buildings to the village. It was decided that people would raise or donate money to pay approximately £1,100 for the site. Later the committee was changed to the Village Hall Committee.

In the 1950s the school used one of the Nissen huts on the site and turned it into a classroom. Peggy was on the PTA as secretary at the time and wrote to the Parish Council about improving the access from the school to the Village Hall site by putting in a path so the children need not walk in the middle of the road to get to the hut. This was agreed and a path was put in place in 1954.

In 1960 Peggy started Yelvertoft Youth Club by reclaiming and converting an almost derelict Nissen Hut. She started with 4 girl members and within a month had a mixed club of 30 members.

The fees started at sixpence and then went up to a shilling. By the late 60s the Nissan Hut was deteriorating and up until 1966 the members met at regular intervals in the village hall. Peggy was looking for more permanent premises for the youth club. She applied for help from Northampton Association of Youth Clubs - Peggy was one of the first group of 10 youth club leaders who affiliated their clubs to the association in 1961. With help from Daventry District Council, they put the foundations down for a new Hut.

The reclaimed and converted Nissan Hut was opened by Billy Fury on 29th September 1967. Billy was a friend of Peggy's and became interested in the youth club activities. One of Peggy's fondest memories was when Billy Fury visited Yelvertoft Youth Club for an evening, "the youngsters had a wonderful evening," she said. The Hut was moved to the site in 1977 where it remained.

Peggy retired in 1981 after 20 years as leader of the village Youth Club. Peggy has been responsible for attracting many young people into the youth movement which she has been associated with for over 40 years.

During Peggy's time in Yelvertoft she lived in Hillmorton Lane where she raised 3 children and worked for Home Help and her name was on every committee over the years – Village Hall, Mothers Union, Parish Council and PTA. In 1981, Peggy retired from the youth club and was recognised for her commitment and leadership with a 'National Association of Youth Clubs Award' from Angus Ogilvy at St. James Palace in London, where she also met the Queen Mother.



In 1991, Northamptonshire Association of Youth Clubs presented her with a Long Service Award in recognition of her many years' service to the youth of Yelvertoft and in grateful appreciation of her longstanding support of the work of the NAYC.

In 1993 Peggy was presented with the Pope's Benemerenti Medal and Citation for her untiring work and devotion to the former Daventry priest Father Dermot and parish priest Father Gerry White.

Peggy spent the following years looking after her husband Maurice who died in 1998. Peggy remained on most of the village committees. She moved to the bungalows on the corner of Crick Road and spent many years continuing to look after the Catholic Church.

Peggy moved out of Yelvertoft after 75 years in 2015 to a Nursing Home and died 20th April 2017.

CYCLE PATH TO CRICK

We have been advised that the Crick Bridleway would be the cheapest option for a cycle path to Crick rather than along the main Crick road. A feasibility study needs to be carried out on both options. We also need to survey residents for their views on both options so we would really appreciate everyone completing the survey that is enclosed with this newsletter.

We also need to hear from local landowners so if you own land on the bridleway please do let us know your thoughts as we have to consider access, surface etc.

FLOODING

A quarterly meeting is being arranged with stakeholders including the Environmental Agency, Seven Trent, West Northamptonshire Council, Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, and Yelvertoft Environmental Group. If you would like to attend the meetings please do let us know.

SOLAR FARM

The farm is due for completion in the autumn. We are currently liaising with Bluefield on an Agreement for the £10k p.a. community fund, and the policies and procedures for the expenditure of the fund. Further details will be released once we have them.

If you have a comment concerning the solar farm or its delivery vehicles, please contact them on freephone 0808 169 8082 or email consultation@yfactory.co.uk Please see the minutes of the Parish Council meetings on our website for monthly update reports that are provided by Bluefield, the developer.

LITTER PICK

Our sincere thanks to everyone who helped with the annual litter pick last month. We collected 20 bags of litter plus other rubbish such as car parts and a children's ride on toy.

If any local group/organisation would like to carry out a litter pick please do let us know. £50 per pick is available.



POT HOLES

Please do continue to report pot holes to Northamptonshire Street Doctor https://fixmystreet.northamptonshire.gov.uk/ If your vehicle suffers damage from a pot hole you can submit a claim form to West Northamptonshire Council which is available on their website, or our website.

SUMMER FETE

A date for your diaries. 16th September 2023 at the Village Hall. Lots of fun activities including a dog show.

RESIDENTS MEETING

We would love a representative from all the village groups and organisations to attend so all our great village activities can be promoted. A great opportunity to recruit new members. We would ideally like groups to have a table and promote their activities, and be available for residents to talk to.



ANNUAL PARISH MEETING (APM)

Many thanks to everyone who attended the APM. If you want to know what all our wonderful groups/organisations have done over the previous year, and what they have planned, please check out the minutes on our website, or request a copy from the Clerk.

One common outcome from all groups, organisations, and the Council is that we need a lot more volunteers. If you can spare some time please do let us know.

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN / VICE-CHAIRMAN

May was the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council where all positions and committees are re-elected. We are pleased to report that Alan Chantler was re-elected as Chairman and Chris Bolton re-elected as Vice-Chairman.

COUNCILLOR VACANCIES

We currently have two councillor vacancies. Please do consider becoming a councillor. It can be extremely rewarding and the more councillors we have the more we can achieve. Contact us for a co-option pack if you are interested.



MONTHLY GUIDED WELLBEING WALKS

Our monthly walks continue to be a great success. Please do come and join us. Everyone is welcome.



BEWARE OF FRAUD

There has recently been a great increase in the number of fraudulent attempts to obtain peoples personal details and steal their money. Please be aware and remember that your bank will never contact you to ask you to confirm your account details. Please also remember that any apparent deal which seems unbelievably generous probably is unbelievable. If you give your details to another person you are in breach of your agreement with your bank and they may not compensate you.

GET INVOLVED

If you wish to get involved please do let us know. We have vacancy for councillors or you can be part of a working group, task & finish group, or volunteer to help with a specific project or task.

COMMUNITY SPACE

The space started on 19th April and is proving to be a great success. If you wish to volunteer to help out with serving refreshments then please do let us know.



FEEDBACK

All councillors are volunteers and they are working very hard on your behalf. We always welcome constructive and positive feedback. If you have an idea or opinion please come along to Council meetings where we would be happy to discuss further with you. If you are willing to volunteer your help and get involved even better.



www.yelvertoft-pc.gov.uk