**Ketton**

The Annual Council Meeting of Ketton Parish Council was held remotely on Wednesday, 20th May, due to the current Corvid-19 situation. All parish council meeting will be held remotely for the foreseeable future, until we are advised by the government that physical meetings can resume. Provision has been made for members of the public to participate in virtual councils meetings and they will be able to view and hear the meetings, but will be only be able to speak during Public Questions time.

The virtual meeting was attended by nine councillors, County Councillors Brown & Payne & the Clerk. Apologies were received from Cllrs Pick, Forster & Wright & approved.

Cllr Sinclair Rogers was elected as Chairman for 2020/21 & Cllr Mary Cade was elected as Vice Chairman/Chairman of Planning, & councillor’s allocation to committees was reconfirmed. See the village noticeboards, or the village website www.kettonpc.org.uk for details of all the parish councillors and the committees that they serve on, and our County Councillors.

**Police report**

No police were present at the meeting, but PC Peter Icke sent an area crime report for the past two months, dated 15 May. During the two months there has been reported in the Rutland South Beat;

Two incidents of drug possession; two attempted break ins to business premises; 6 bullocks stolen from an open crew yard building; one incident of break ins to sheds, nothing stolen. The following incidents were reported in Ketton; one vehicle left on site was stripped of parts; one incident of damage to goal posts and a window was damaged.

In general the police have seen a reduction in crime and this will no-doubt be due to Covid-19 and the majority of people being at home and on lockdown. Any vehicles seen moving late to early hours will always be stopped, which criminals are aware of, which has led to some productive stop checks. The police have had a few business breaks ins, close to dusk, where they are now focusing their patrols. A number of stop checks have been made and tickets issued for breaching the government guidelines around movement for Covid-19, where necessary.

The joint Rutland North and Rutland South priority remains as Rural Crime in relation to burglaries, car crime and thefts from farms. There have been no burglary dwellings on the south beat this month, although the police want to remind residents that the usual Modus Operandi is trying door handles in the hope they have been left unlocked. Please make sure all doors are locked whether you’re in or not, windows are locked and secure and look at your security measures on any lockups, garages, sheds or outbuilding. If you can make it difficult for anyone to get into the rear garden, even better as this is the preferred point of entry for burglars. Preferred items for criminals to steal are jewellery and cash, so please keep these safe.. Please continue to remove all property from your vehicle – remember’ if you leave it on show it will go’. Try and park your vehicle in a well-lit area, & manoeuvre your van to make it difficult to open any side or rear doors.

No lead thefts have been reported this month although other areas have seen an increase in thefts of lead from church roofs. Please keep a look out especially in the evenings / overnight and report to the police or make a note of any suspicious vehicles and the registrations in the area.

The police are running a vehicle enforcement campaign throughout Rutland for speed and anti-social driving & will be out in villages and towns with the speed laser gun. They will update Twitter and

Facebook with the results.

The police will continue to work closely with the local residents and will alert residents as soon as a crime is reported. If anything suspicious is seen, please report it through either 999 or 101.

Cllr S.Rogers informed council that with fewer cars on the roads at present the police are receiving more and more complaints of speeding especially through the villages of Rutland. Therefore the police will be out with the speed laser gun conducting checks and taking positive action against those drivers found offending. Cllr Andrew highlighted problems at the Steadfold Lane junction on the A606, where drivers are overtaking on the wrong side of the road. C.Cllr Brown suggested that a Highways Feasibility Study would be required to look and the issues and possible solutions.

Cllr Cade gave an update on the Ketton & Tinwell Neighbourhood Plan steering group. Two sub groups have been created to undertake research, & to gather data by engaging with community groups, businesses, residents & other stakeholders. 900 questionnaires & children’s surveys were delivered in March, to every household in Ketton & Tinwell & residents were also able to complete the questionnaire online. This questionnaire, is informed by the comments received at the Open Events held in 2019, is a crucial part of public consultation and will form the hard evidence required by the legal process to shape policies for the neighbourhood. The closing date of the consultation was extended to 1st May. There has been an approx. response rate of 33% and the data is currently being collated.

Councillors thanked Graham Layne for co-ordinating the delivery of the questionnaires by volunteers. Further information can be found at www.ketton.org.uk/neighbourhood-plan

The steering group also have a Facebook page and can be found on Instagram and twitter.

Councillors thanked Cllr Lyons for an excellent report on Ketton Together, which was formed in mid-March shortly before the country entered ‘lockdown’. Several members of the Parish Council, Ketton Good Neighbours Scheme (KGNS) and members of the public identified that there was a need to support people who would be isolated through the period and came together to identify what could be done.

Ketton Together has been able to support residents by offering free delivery of groceries and newspapers from Ketton Village Stores; emotional and wellbeing support, and advice through the Ketton Good Neighbours Scheme; collection of prescriptions from all local surgeries (Stamford x 2, Empingham and Uppingham) & sourcing of items from outside the village, not available at the shop. Over 100 villagers volunteered to help out with the scheme. Ketton Together, as with many community help schemes was able to offer support up to a fortnight before the Local Authority, and national government schemes were established. Those who are shielded will have received direct contact and support from Rutland County Council, and a crisis line was established for anyone who needs additional support. RCC has been very supportive of local schemes, promoting local support, referring people, and offering advice.

Ketton Together is signposted from RCC’s Coronavirus webpage.

Cllrs thanked all the people who have worked to support their fellow residents during these difficult times, including Graham Layne, who coordinated delivery of the leaflets advertising the scheme and has been exceptionally supportive throughout. He organised delivery of Chatterbox, breaking down into smaller rounds than usual to reduce the risk of infection spread, and has updated the village noticeboards.

John Collier delayed publication and made significant edits to Chatterbox to promote the scheme.

Andy Bullimore has supported promotion, printing leaflets, and making changes to Ketton.org.uk to add a Ketton Together page.

Lynn Thacker has taken responsibility for advertising the scheme through Ketton News Facebook page in a really engaging manner, and team members take it in turns to advertise on Nextdoor.

Local businesses have been very supportive of the scheme. Kiernan Darnell from the Northwick Arms is a volunteer at the shop taking orders and has been very supportive of Mary Cade in coordinating the scheme. He has also made the Northwick Hall available for sorting the delivery of the treat packages and storing PPE. Jamie and Louby at the Railway Inn have organised collections for Rutland Foodbank, and will be doing this on a weekly basis, collaborating with the Rutland County Council community collection scheme. We are one of five villages supporting this initiative. Emma Smith and Jonathan Potter who own Delicious Ideas provided sweets for 80 treat boxes to be delivered to local residents.

Ketton Together has joined the Community Medicines Collection Scheme in Rutland to help minimise the number of people visiting dispensaries. Ketton Together has joined the Community Medicines Collection Scheme in Rutland to help minimise the number of people visiting dispensaries. For the Ketton project Rachael Leverton of KGNS organised and coordinated, with the help of Shirley Hart, the collection and delivery of over 200 separate collections of prescriptions. They were supported by a team of volunteers, including Jean Layne, who cycles to Stamford 3 times a week collecting prescriptions. Shirley has also been incredibly supportive of other requests to KGNS. . Jenny and Sinclair Rogers coordinate the sourcing of items from outside the village, not available at the village shop. They have successfully sourced PPE for the volunteers (gloves, hand sanitiser and agricultural facemasks), organised delivery of treat baskets to over 70 villagers who are isolated, buddied people up with those who shop outside the village, and signposted people to local delivery services, supporting local businesses wherever possible.

Many people have supported Ketton Together and gone above and beyond, including Stephanie Walker, who was one of the main driving forces behind Ketton Together from the outset.

The Whitebread Trust has supported Ketton Together by covering the printing costs of leaflets for village wide delivery, paying for public liability insurance for the scheme & for PPE for volunteers, providing a float for people who do not have cash, or access to online banking but need items delivered.

This support has meant that Ketton Together did not need to apply for funds outside the village, saving the volunteers time to focus on providing direct support to local people.

North Luffenham Civic Amenity Site has reopened for essential waste from Tuesday 19 May 2020. Due to the risk of a large number of cars trying to turn right and effectively blocking the main road from Oakham via Greetham to the A1, it has been decided not to open the Cottesmore CA. The site will be open six days a week (Tuesday to Sunday), from 10am to 4pm. Waste should only be brought to the site if it cannot be stored safely at home or disposed of in other legitimate ways. Wherever possible, RCC is asking people to continue using weekly kerbside waste and recycling collections, their Bulky Waste Collection Service or hold on to bulk waste for a few more weeks. A number of special measures will be in place to maintain social distancing and run the site safely. These include: A temporary road closure and one-way system between Pilton Crossroads and the village of Morcott. No access to North Luffenham HWRC from the direction of Morcott. Access will be maintained for residents. A maximum of four vehicles unloading on-site at a time, with no more than two persons per vehicle. Visitors must observe social distancing and stay two metres away from each other and site staff at all times. The site will close for 15 minutes at 12.00pm, 2.00pm and 4.00pm each day so that it can be cleaned. No trailers will be accepted on-site because of the need to move vehicles in and out as quickly as possible.

Two small areas in the Empingham Road Cemetery will be left unmown until August, so that Ketton Green Spaces Group can identify the wild flowers present & then prepare a management plan for the cemetery with Ketton Parish Council. A small area of the grassed bank in front of St Mary’s Church has also been left uncut to protect two species of mining bees (Ashy Mining Bees & Cuckoo Bees). They are not aggressive & are generally docile, they are considered safe around children and pets, and are unlikely to sting.

The large conifer hedge surrounding the ex-recycling centre on the corner of Northwick Road & Empingham Road has been removed. This has been done to improve visibility and to encourage residents to use the area as a car park, & alleviate parking on Empingham Road.

You can sign up for a monthly 'Your Rutland' e newsletter by registering on Rutland County Council's website [**www.rutland.gov.uk**](http://www.rutland.gov.uk)

The Whitebread Trust is a charity for the support of individuals and organisations within the parish of Ketton. Applications for support should be addressed to the Chairman of the trust, Glenis Southern, via the Parish Office.

**Impact of Coronavirus** Ketton Together is a scheme, run by volunteers through which we can pull together to look after each other in coming weeks. The scheme has the support of Ketton Parish Council and the Whitebread Trust, and they are working closely with Tim and his team at the Village Shop and the Ketton Good Neighbour Scheme (KGNS). For all those self-isolating and in need, they are here to help. They can deliver groceries and newspapers - call the Village Shop on 01780 720 245 to order by 1.00pm and they will deliver to your doorstep. They can help in other ways too - call 07517 798397 (KGNS) between 9.00am - 8.00pm if you are in need - they can: Pick up and deliver prescriptions to your doorstep: Help with any urgent need for supplies, such as scarce items: Give you a wave or call on the phone if you need a chat: Share information and ideas of how to keep entertained: Help with other needs that may arise. All our lives are changing as the Government introduces measures to protect us from the impact of Coronavirus.

**Here to help**

Village shop deliveries - 01780 720 245

General help and contact - 07517 798397 (KGNS)

[www.facebook.com/groups/kettontogethercoronavirus](http://www.facebook.com/groups/kettontogethercoronavirus)

**Remember to follow Government and NHS advice**

**at all times to keep Ketton safe. Thank you.**