**Ketton**

The Parish Council Meeting of Ketton Parish Council was held on Wednesday, 15 January, in the Parish Office, Stocks Hill Lane. The meeting was attended by seven councillors, County Councillors Karen Payne & Gordon Brown & the Clerk. Apologies were received from, four councillors & approved.

There were two members of the public present.

The Chairman informed the meeting that David Naylor died suddenly just before Christmas. David, with his wife Pat, had, for a number of years, given voluntary support to Ketton Parish Council; they undertook the huge task of digitising the Empingham Road Cemetery records, and David had been instrumental in researching and developing a Village Plan. He was heavily involved in Ketton School PTA when his children were pupils there and latterly in Ketton Community Choir, Ketton History Group (maintaining the website) and the Ketton and Tinwell Joint Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. He will be greatly missed and the council send their condolences to Pat & family.

**Police report**

No police were present at the meeting, but PC Peter Icke sent an area crime report for the past month, dated 14 January. During the last 31 days there has been reported in the Rutland South Beat;

One vehicle on driveway had the windscreen removed and tools stolen; one incident of vehicle number plates stolen; burglary dwelling – entry via first floor window, in Ketton; one burglary dwelling- entry via rear first floor window, alarm activated; one burglary dwelling – entry via first floor window - jewellery stolen; one burglary dwelling - entry via jemmied rear down stairs window; one theft of underground BT cable reported; attempt burglary in Ketton – opportunist opened unlocked front door and called in, on getting a reply from the occupant he left apologising, stating he had the wrong address.

The joint Rutland North and Rutland South priority remains as Rural Crime in relation to burglaries, car crime and theft. There have been 5 burglary dwellings on the south beat this month. The Modus Operandi is entry via a first floor window as most homes don’t have alarms on the upper floors, and another has been an opportunist who has been trying doors, so please 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.

There have also been two reports relating to vehicle crime this month. The police are running a force wide operation at present, as last year they saw an increase in theft from vans during the darker nights. 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. The police are also seeing an increase of thefts of/or parts from older type Land Rovers. If you know anyone who owns one, please make them aware.

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.

The next beat surgery will be at Barrowden village shop on Wednesday 19th February, between 2-3pm.

There were two members of the public present.

C.Cllr Payne confirmed that RCC has agreed to pay for the large conifer hedge surrounding the

ex-recycling area on Empingham Road to be cleared, once the ownership of the area has been transferred from RCC to the parish council. This will encourage residents to use the area for parking, by improving visibility.

C.Cllr Brown, on behalf of Rutland CC is liasing with both Lincs CC and Notts CC about the potential upgrades to the A1 from Peterborough to Blyth in North Notts, which would both improve road safety and reduce delays. He has recently met with Lincs County Council to discuss two projects around the A1, & updated councillors on progress to date. This is a forerunner to making an economic and well as safety case for the upgrade of the A1 to 3 lane motorway standard, which RCC has set as one of their key corporate objectives.

Rutland's Draft Local Plan 2018-2036 was published last month & will be considered by RCC Full Council on 27 January. Rutland’s Local Plan sets out where any additional new housing, employment or other development may be needed in future years, and is currently being reviewed. C.Cllr Brown informed the meeting that the draft Local Plan has been published on RCC’s website & that the Bartles Hollow Development (proposed by Linden Homes) is not included in the sites allocated for development on the Local Plan. Although the site is suitable for allocation as a residential site, there were sufficient allocations elsewhere in the county, so there was no requirement to allocate this site in this Local Plan. The only sites allocated for residential development in Ketton remains; The Crescent, Chater Field and orchard, and Home Farm. There will be a public consultation on the Pre-Submission Local Plan, 10th February to 20th March - search on [www.rutlandcounty.moderngov.co.uk](http://www.rutlandcounty.moderngov.co.uk) or drop in to the library to find out more.

The parish council has asked RCC if a flood warning sign can be installed at Geeston, similar to the ‘flap’ sign at Collyweston. Councillors agreed that the sign will read ‘Road flooded at River Welland Bridge’. The sign will be placed on the corner of Geeston, to enable vehicles to turn around before reaching the flood. Cllrs thanked Ronnie for issuing flood warnings to residents via Nextdoor (a free private social network, used by many residents), as Collyweston Road, Ketton has flooded frequently during the recent wet weather.

A member of the public raised an issue about the No12 bus service. During the diversion caused by the roadworks on Empingham Road, buses haven’t been stopping at the designated stops and have been taking the ‘initiative’ to travel solely through the High Street instead of routing through Northwick Road and then onto the bottom of Empingham Road in the village. Apparently this is because they can’t negotiate the ‘Road Closed’ signs at the bottom of Empingham Road. C.Cllr Payne will ask RCC to clarify the bus route whilst Empingham Road is closed & confirm if the road will re-open on 6th February as planned.

The chairman thanked C.Cllrs Brown & Payne for their ongoing work in resolving issues on behalf of Ketton residents.

Ketton Planning Committee Planning Committee met on 7.1.2020 and discussed the planning approval for The Crescent 2017/0564/FUL that was issued on 12.12.2019, & raised a number of points with RCC. The parish council felt that there has been insufficient consultation with Ketton Parish Council before planning permission was granted, for what is a large development In Ketton. C.Cllr Brown answered the questions raised by councillors, during a constructive discussion. Councillors agreed that they will arrange an extraordinary meeting with the developers of the site, to discuss the development.

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)

Dates for your diary: Sat Feb 1st County Councillors' surgery 10.15 to 11.15am in the library; Tues Feb 4th 12.30pm lunch at Carver Court; Fri Feb 7th Ketton Showtime at the Northwick Hall; Sun Feb 9th Messy Church at the Methodist Church; Wed Feb 19th 12 to 1.15pm soup lunch at the Methodist Hall; Thurs Feb 20th Ketton Films 7.30pm at the Northwick Hall; Fri Feb 21st Traditional French Music and Dance 8pm at the Northwick Hall; Mon 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd March Lent Lunch 12 to 1.15pm in the Congregational Hall; Thurs March 12th Annual Parish Meeting; Tues March 17th copy deadline for Chatterbox; Wed March 18th 12 to 1.15pm soup lunch at the Methodist Hall; Sat May 16th Ketton Village Fete at KSCC (tombola contributions to shop or Parish Office please).

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.

If you are struggling with your smartphone, tablet, or laptop then why not sign up with Sarah at the Parish Office for free one-to-one IT training sessions on a Monday between 1.30pm and 4,30pm, with Berni, our very patient and dedicated volunteer trainer?

Don't forget that the Community hub, at Ketton Library, offers coffee, biscuits and a chance to meet up with old and new friends, every Tuesday and Thursday, 9.30am to 11.45am.

C.Cllrs Karen Payne & Gordon Brown would like to remind residents that they hold a monthly surgery in Ketton. The public can come and talk to Karen & Gordon on the first Saturday of every month from 10.15 -11.15 am.in the Community Hub/Library. Councillor Glenis Southern from Ketton Parish Council will also be available to answer questions and provide assistance.

The next surgery will be on Saturday February1st.