**Ketton**

The monthly Full Council Meeting of Ketton Parish Council was held remotely on Wednesday, 17th June, 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 Lyons & Wright & approved.

Before the meeting commenced Cllr Monty Andrew paid tribute to Geoffrey Turner, who died on 31st May 2020.

Geoffrey was born in Scunthorpe, educated at Brigg Grammar School and then served a pupillage and employment with a firm of structural engineers engaged in the design of power stations after the war. He later joined a firm of consulting engineers specialising in the design, building and operation of cement works. He gained Chartered Membership of The Institution of Civil Engineers in 1955, & in 1957 Geoffrey & his wife Katharine moved to Ketton, when Geoffrey took up a position as Deputy Works Manager at Ketton Cement. He became MD of the company in the 1970s and was later appointed to the Board of the parent Company, Thos. Ward of Sheffield. During his time at Ketton the works grew from producing 300,000 tonnes per year by a wet process to an output of 1.3 million tonnes. When Ketton Cement became part of RTZ in the 1980s (trading as Castle Cement) he joined the Board of the enlarged group, which had a 20% share of the UK cement market.

After moving to Ketton Geoffrey quickly became involved in the local community, serving as a Churchwarden, on the PCC and as a Parish Councillor, being a chairman during the village expansion in the 1960`s and 70`s. He also took part in campaigns in Rutland and was proud of the part he played in saving Normanton church from demolition when Rutland Water was built. As a founder member of Stamford Round Table, he was involved with many local and international initiatives and when he left Round Table was invited to join the Stamford Rotary Club.

In the last few years Geoffrey cared for his wife Katharine as she succumbed to Alzheimer’s disease, but sadly as he grew more frail and ill she had to go into Chater Lodge for her care. Katherine died recently & Geoffrey died two days before her funeral. Both Geoffrey & Katherine played an active part in community life and were well respected and remembered by many with affection.

Councillors held a minutes silence to honour the memory of Geoffrey Turner, a valued colleague, friend and long-time resident of Ketton.

**Police report**

No police were present at the meeting, but PC Peter Icke sent an area crime report for the past month, dated 17 June. During the last month there has been reported in the Rutland South Beat;

two thefts from parked vehicles; reported disturbance to the nest of a schedule one bird (dealt with); one theft of the electric fence power supply to a field; an incident where fencing to a field was cut - nothing stolen; a dog attack on a hen (that survived) - dog owner known; a lorry parked up for the night on the A1 had some of its load stolen; one reported occurrence of fly tipping & 41 metal sheep hurdles were stolen from a field. The following incidents were reported in Ketton; a small amount of cannabis was found – no witnesses as to who left it/dropped it; damage to a motor vehicle - vehicle scratched & anti-social behaviour & damage to play equipment in Hall Close recreation area was reported. The Clerk has asked the police to visit Hall Close when they are in Ketton, especially during the light summer evenings to help deter further incidents of anti-social behaviour and vandalism.

With the easing up of lockdown and an increase in the movement of people and vehicles, the police have seen an increase in crime and anti-social behaviour. There has been a theft form a motor vehicle parked up around Rutland water. The joint Rutland North and Rutland South priority remains as rural crime in relation to burglaries, car crime and thefts from farms. The police want to remind residents that the usual Modus Operandi is entry by forcing rear garden doors or windows, as these areas are isolated and out of sight. 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.

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.

There was one member of the public present.

C.Cllr Karen Payne informed councillors that RCC’s ongoing review of parking in Ketton is temporarily on hold due to the current Covid-19 situation. RCC has received a request to reinstate a bridleway along a section of the Hereward Way, in Ketton, which they are currently processing. C.Cllr Gordon Brown said that there is additional government funding available to improve the provision of cycle paths and ask cllrs to forward suggestions for improvements & potential new paths to RCC. Council was informed that the Empingham Road diversion should soon be completed and will be kept updated on progress.

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 was 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. The response to the recent survey was approximately 33%. The steering group has started on the analysis of the survey results and hopes to produce a table of the main findings for the summer issue of Chatterbox. Some initial points that have emerged from the survey:

* when asked how respondents would like their village described in the future, 'friendly and safe' came out ahead, followed by 'attractive and tranquil'.
* when asked what they most liked about their village, the highest scores were for 'attractive village' and 'local countryside'.
* when asked what they would most like to see in their village, the highest scores were for 'off road parking' and 'traffic controls', followed by 'trees and wild spaces' and 'health services'.
* the highest scoring elements of community life were in order Ketton shop/PO, Hall Close, the pubs and Ketton Centre (highest first).

Due to delays caused by the pandemic and with the new Local Plan, the steering group have revised their completion timetable, and now aim to present the public referendum in 2022.

Cllr Lyons circulated a report on Ketton Together before the meeting, which was summarised by

Cllr S.Rogers. The volunteer group 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, 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. As we enter the next phase of lockdown restrictions being relaxed, Ketton Together has taken the time to consider how they can best support the village going forward. A number of villagers will need to continue to self-isolate to protect themselves and their families & there will be people who need to self-isolate because they have symptoms, or have been contacted through the track and trace process.

Ketton Together will continue to offer the same level of support in the delivery of essentials including prescriptions for anyone who needs it.

However, as demand has naturally decreased, and many of their volunteers return to work they have made some changes to how to access support. They will continue to review demand for all services and how they can best meet need.

From the end of June their volunteers will no longer be in the village shop taking orders. This has been an invaluable service to many and the parish council & residents thank Tim and his team, and the committed volunteers for making this possible. The final day for orders directly from the shop will be Friday 26th June. Newspaper deliveries will end on Saturday 27th June. From Monday 29th June if residents need a delivery of shopping from the village shop, they should call Rachael at Ketton Good Neighbours Scheme on 07517 798 397. She will work with staff at the shop, and volunteers, to help residents.

Prescription delivery and collection: This support has been very well used and volunteers will continue to collect prescriptions from the four local surgeries (Stamford Surgeries, Empingham and Uppingham).

If residents are feeling lonely, isolated or overwhelmed or would just welcome a friendly chat, KGNS can link them with someone for a one off, or regular call.

This project has been so well received that Ketton Together hope it will continue in some shape in the future. The response from volunteers has been magnificent from the very first day. Over 100 individuals

volunteered and have given so much of their time and energy to make the KettonTogether Project so helpful and focused on the many needs of our neighbours, and all of us in Ketton owe them all a great debt of gratitude. Councillors thanked all the volunteers & the Whitebread Trust who 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.

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