**News from Ketton Parish Council Feb/March 2021**

Very sadly we have to report that Phil Greaves, our village handyman for 5 years, died recently, after a long illness. He gave invaluable service to the village in keeping our green spaces in good shape. We send our condolences to his wife Mary and all the family.

There are, however, definite signs of spring! Snowdrops and hazel catkins in full bloom and daffodil buds about to burst. Can you spot the famous Ketton Snowdrop? It has large flowers with a green ‘chinese bridge’ marking on its inner petals.

And more good news - Ketton Parish Council is working with Openreach to get ultrafast broadband, (giving speeds from 100 Mbps up to 910 Mbps), via Fibre To The Premises, to every home and business in Ketton. The fibre will follow the existing cable routings underground and overhead via telegraph poles. We expect that, with a good take-up by individuals and businesses in the village, each installation should be at no cost to householders, other than the standard ISP charges. More details to follow.

At our February Full Council meeting, it was agreed in principle

to allocate £1000 from council reserves towards the funding bid

for the installation of outdoor fitness (‘adult gym’) equipment in Hall Close. An application for a grant will also be made to The Whitebread Trust once the project has been fully costed.

A big thank you to Ronnie Burt, our village Flood Warden, who acted swiftly to alleviate the recent flooding in Steadfold Lane and Stamford Road, by cutting grips into the Steadfold Road grass verges to help drain the water. Ronnie is now liaising with C.Cllr Gordon Brown to ensure that RCC Highways carry out further work on the grips, and clean the gulleys on Steadfold Lane and Stamford Road. The adjoining landowner has also agreed to clear their ditches.

Flooding of a different type occurred recently when sewage was found overflowing from a manhole cover on the Crescent site. On investigation by the landowner, the system was found to be blocked by a quantity of ‘wipes’ that had been flushed down toilets in nearby properties. Please remember that, unlike toilet paper, wipes do not break down and so clog the sewage system; wipes need to be binned.

It is time to renew the subscription for your Green Waste bin. Current subscriptions end on March 31st. You can renew by phoning 01572 758488 or visiting [www.rutland.gov.uk/greenwaste](http://www.rutland.gov.uk/greenwaste) and the cost is £40/Year bin.

Finally, if you would like to advertise any village/local online events or initiatives, then Ketton Parish Council has 5 noticeboards (refreshed weekly), a Facebook page and a website on which we may be able to display promotion. Any posters should be A5 and portrait and can be dropped into or emailed to the Parish Office (details below).

**Useful contacts:**

Ketton Good Neighbours Scheme: for help or support, call Rachel on 07517793397, between 9am and 6pm.

RCC’s Covid 19 Crisis helpline: 01572 722577, and information at [www.rutland.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.rutland.gov.uk/coronavirus)

Winter Grant Applications for those on benefits and affected by Covid 19 [www.rutland.gov.uk/wintergrants](http://www.rutland.gov.uk/witergrants)

Carer’s Passport Information: 01572 722577

and for free PPE for informal carers email [adixon@rutland.gov.uk](mailto:adixon@rutland.gov.uk)

**Dates for your diary:**

**Sat March 6th**  10 to 11am County Councillors’ Surgery to be held remotely. Please contact Gordon Gbrown@rutland.gov.uk

or Karen [Kpayne@rutland.gov.uk](mailto:Kpayne@rutland.gov.uk) by Fri March 5th to arrange a slot.

**March 1st to 7th** Rutland Youth Council Food Waste Action Week, as part of their ‘Taste It, Don’t Waste It’ campaign, raising awareness of the need to reduce household food waste which is both damaging to the environment and to the pocket. Complete their Household Food Waste Survey [www.rutland.gov.uk](http://www.rutland.gov.uk/)

**March 12th** deadline for consultation comments on Draft Design Guidelines for Rutland and South Kesteven www.rutland.gov.uk/designguide

**March 15th** copy deadline for Chatterbox (John Collier is the editor and can be contacted on [7blackdog7@gmail.com](mailto:7blackdog7@gmail.com) )

**March 21s**t  Census Day

**March 24th** Annual Parish Meeting. 7.30pm by Zoom (details to follow – see website [www.ketton.org.uk](http://www.ketton.org.uk/) , Ketton News Facebook, or noticeboards).

*The Parish Office in Stocks Hill (Tel 01780722451, email* [*kettonpc@btinternet.com*](mailto:kettonpc@btinternet.com)*) is open Wed and Thurs 9am to 4pm.*