# Stamford Mercury – Monthly Report from Ketton

The monthly Full Council Meeting of Ketton Parish Council was held remotely on Wednesday,

21st April, due to the current Corvid-19 situation.

The virtual meeting was attended by twelve councillors, County Councillors Brown & Payne & the Clerk.

There were no members of the public present.

The meeting opened with a minute’s silence for His late Royal Highness Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

Dr Sarah Furness PhD, Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Rutland

will speak about Dying Matters

Cllrs welcomed to the meeting Dr Sarah Furness PhD, Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Rutland, who was invited to speak about the Dying Matters initiative. Dr Sarah Furness paid a final tribute to His late Royal Highness

Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. The Duke of Edinburgh’s role as consort to our Monarch has been immensely successful, he was unfailingly loyal and at all times put the interests of Her Majesty, the public and the State first. He has had the distinction of leaving us all with a wide legacy. His interests and concern for young people are well shown by the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, as well as his interest in wildlife, conservation, the environment & estate management.

Donations are welcome to help support the planting of a memorial apple orchard in Prince Philip’s name, The Duke of Edinburgh Memorial Orchard will be planted at the Rutland Showground. This will be an historic heritage orchard underplanted with spring bulbs, & planted with local apple & pear varieties that have been grown historically in our region. Further information about the orchard and how to donate can be found at: rutlandlordlieutenant.org.

Dr Sarah Furness PhD introduced the Dying Matters in Rutland initiative, aims to give Rutlanders a single source of information about the many forms of help available to them when they have to plan for their own deaths, or cope with the dying and deaths of loved ones. The pandemic had given more recognition to mortality. The dying matters initiative

aims to break the taboo of death. The initiative involves providing leaflets with advice to residents and signposting to organisations and information to help with planning, such as bereavement support and arranging funerals. Information is also available online at: Dying | Dying Matters in Rutland | England

Dr Sarah Furness thanked Cllrs S.Rogers & Southern and volunteers who have set up a Bereavement Point in Ketton.

The Bereavement Help Point is an online drop-in service that aims to provide bereaved people with a place where they can access information and support, where they can talk to others and share their emotions with others in a safe online environment with other local people. The Help Point has been set up by local residents, Ketton Parish Council, LOROS, Sue Ryder Thorpe Hall and Dove Cottage, with support from Dying Matters in Rutland, the Whitebread Trust and Community Foundation. It is run by volunteers who have undergone training and are supported by our local Hospices. Meetings are on the 1st & 3rd Monday (excluding bank holidays) at Kettton Sports & Community Centre, 2 – 4pm. Meetings resume at KSCC on Monday 24th May, when Sarah Furness will also attend.

**Police report**

PC Peter Icke sent an area crime report for the past month, dated 27 April. During the last month there has been reported in the Rutland South Beat:

2 wrought iron gates were reported stolen from a field; a secure compound was breached and 3 catalytic convertors were stolen from vehicles; a site was entered and 2 outboard motors were stolen;

gates to a rural park were damaged after vehicles were locked in after dusk; an incident where 3 walls on an unused airfield were defaced with graffiti; one trailer and 2 pony traps were stolen from an outside barn; a cement mixer was stolen from a trailer parked on the roadside & unknown suspects took all 4 doors off a vehicle & gained entry onto a field by cutting a lock off the gate, also allowing cattle to escape.

The joint Rutland North and Rutland South priority will remain as rural crime in relation to burglaries, car crime and theft 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. 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. The police current operations are Op Vitality for rural crime with extra officers on patrol and Op Vulpine for proactive Covid-19 breaches and crime. If anything suspicious is seen, please report it through either 999 or 101.

The police will be holding a property marking event at Ketton Sports & Community Centre on

Saturday 5th June, 10-12 noon.

Neighbourhood Link is a free email messaging service from Leicestershire Police, Neighbourhood Watch and other partner organisations, providing news and updates on policing matters that are relevant to residents.

Residents can sign up and receive email alerts about policing activity and initiatives in our local area as well as crime prevention advice and information. They will also have the opportunity to reply directly to our neighbourhood team and provide feedback via surveys.

<https://www.neighbourhoodlink.co.uk/#signup-section>

Cllr Karen Payne confirmed that RCC is liaising with the parish council regarding complaints received over visitors to Hall Close parking in Aldgate, and blocking residents’ access to their properties. Discussions are also continuing regarding proposals to prevent vehicles parking at the T junction in Aldgate and blocking the road for other vehicles requiring access. Concerns were also raised regarding the new yellow lines in Church Road, which are effective from a parking perspective, but the pinch point provided by the green bollards has been moved to a less visible position on Church Road, with the pinch now being created by the first parked car. Cllrs will discuss these issues and whether ‘slow’ marking are required on Church Road, at the next Highways & Open Spaces meeting.

Cllr Gordon Brown confirmed that the North Luffenham site is open & Rutland County Council has introduced a temporary booking system, with residents required to book a 20-minute time slot in order to visit the site from Tuesday 27 April onwards.

Cllr Gordon Brown clarified why the parish council had recently received from RCC a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Compensatory Parish Payment & gave an update on some planning applications. Issues regarding lorries parking in the turning circle on the A6121 between Ketton & Tinwell were discussed & also the litter problems in the layby

Double yellow parking restriction lines are now in place around the crossroads, the school and at the ‘pinch point’ in Church Road. This should help to alleviate some of the safety and annoyance issues caused by inconsiderate and dangerous parking in that area. Officials from Oakham will be visiting Ketton at ‘peak times’ on a weekly basis to monitor the scheme and pick up on any contraventions.

Ketton Parish Council is very concerned about the potential impact on the village of Ketton and its community of RCC’s rejection of HIF Funding for the proposed development of the St George’s Barracks site.

The new Local Plan, currently with the inspector, has been put ‘on hold’. This Local Plan relies on the development of the St George’s site as a ‘garden village’, with the help of the HIF fund to front load infrastructure, to provide much of the 5 year housing supply that needs to be demonstrated by a Local Planning Authority. Without this 5 year housing supply there will be a presumption in favour of development of any plot of land allocated for residential development in the previous Local Plan, as well as new sites that will inevitably be brought forward. This could result in 200 plus more houses in Ketton, adding to the 86 more houses already proposed for currently allocated sites. 300 or more houses in Ketton could increase our population by at least 25%, which is unsustainable in terms of our infrastructure – traffic, roads, school (currently full), sewerage, parking, medical facilities (lack of), sports and recreation. The same will be true for other Local Service Centres, and Smaller Service Centres.

Ketton would have benefited greatly from front-loaded infrastructure at the proposed

St George’s Garden Village in terms of access to health facilities, improved roads and public transport and a new primary school (which would have relieved some of the pressure on our own primary school).

Central Government still wants housing delivered and the Ministry of Defence still wants to divest itself of the site, therefore the St George’s site will still be developed for housing and employment and quarrying. Without an overall coordinated plan and design, and front-loaded infrastructure, funded by HIF there will be an unacceptable impact on Ketton, and no benefits.

The NHS offers an online service which includes ordering repeat prescriptions, contacting a GP or emergency dentist, managing long term conditions and monitoring physical and mental well being <https://www.nhs.uk/health-at-home/>

https://ket2tin.wixsite.com/kettinnpKetton Green Spaces Group <https://kettongreen.wixsite.com/kett/projects> has received permission from landowners Hanson, and from Trustees KSCC for tree planting, coppicing and other tree management activities at KSCC. So, if you want some outdoor activity, do contact the group via its website.

With Spring in the air, the wildlife of Ketton Quarry starts to emerge from winter slumber in bursts of colour and birdsong which makes it a wonderful time of the year to visit this special nature reserve. However, the Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust has been disappointed to receive increasing reports of disturbance to wildlife and damage to the nature reserve. As Ketton Quarry is such an important safe haven for our local wildlife, the Trust reminds visitors to enjoy the nature reserve responsibly by adhering to any reserve notices and ensuring that disturbance to wildlife is kept to a minimum by not straying from the paths and keeping dogs under close control.

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 Clerk kettonpc@btinternet.com

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/information:

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

Tuesdays, 12.30 to 5pm, Ketton Library is open for collection of Covid 19 self-test kits for parents of children in childcare, school or college, and those in a childcare bubble.

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

Resilient Rutland family/parent/carer support with webinars, practical resources, virtual coffee mornings, young people’s health and well being. www.resilientrutland.co.uk

**Dates for your diary:**

**Mon May 3rd** deadline for applications for funding from the Whitebread Trust. Please apply to the Parish Office.

**Sat June 5th** 10am to 12 midday police property marking event at Ketton Sports and Community Centre.

C.Cllrs Karen Payne & Gordon Brown would like to remind residents that they hold a monthly surgery. This is currently being held remotely. The next surgery will be on Saturday May 1st, 10am to 11am: by Zoom – please contact Gordon, Gbrown@rutland.gov.uk or Karen, Kpayne@rutland.gov.uk to book a slot. Councillor Michael Wright from Ketton Parish Council will also be available to answer questions and provide assistance.

Ketton Parish Office is in Stocks Hill (Tel 01780722451), email (kettonpc@btinternet.com) and is open

Wed and Thurs 9am to 4pm.