**Ketton**

The Parish Council Meeting of Ketton Parish Council was held on Wednesday, 18th September, in the Parish Office, Stocks Hill Lane. The meeting was attended by ten councillors, County Councillors Karen Payne & Gordon Brown & the Clerk. Apologies were received from two councillors & approved.

There was one member of the public present.

**Police report**

No police were present at the meeting, but PC Peter Icke sent an area crime report for the past month, dated 13 September. During the last 31 days there has been reported in the Rutland South Beat; one break in to business premises, with stock stolen; one attempted burglary to a dwelling; one theft of a motorbike from a garden shed; one business break in – van stolen; one theft of tools from a vehicle, and one attempt; one burglary dwelling – entry via a down stairs window.

The joint Rutland North and Rutland South priority remains as Rural Crime in relation to burglaries, car crime and theft. In the last 30 days there have been 2 residential and 2 business breaks, 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 them to steal are jewellery and cash, so please keep these safe.

The police have had 2 reports of thefts from work vans. It is believed that these crimes are being committed by cross boarder criminals, so the police are continuing to work with boarding forces to tackle this issue. Please continue to remove all property – remember’ if you leave it on show it will go’.

No lead thefts have been reported this month although other areas have seen an increase of theft 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: PCSO 6613 Andy Wylie will be at Empingham Methodist Church on

Monday 7th October between 2-3 pm for you to pop down and discuss any issues you may have.

C.Cllr Payne notified council that a speed survey had recently been undertaken in Pit Lane and no vehicles were found to be breaking the speed limit. Councillors were informed that Uppingham Surgery patients can now order their prescriptions from the surgery online.

RCC are looking to find a contractor to undertake the removal of the semi-retaining boundary wall to the west of the library, to re-grade the soft landscaping and make good the tarmac path.

C.Cllr Payne confirmed that RCC has agreed to look at the viability of options to improve accessibility to the footpath from Edmonds Drive to Geeston (via Sooty Bridge).

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

Rutland County Council is working with Leicestershire Police and Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service (LFRS) as part of the Safer Rutland Partnership to implement a new initiative that will help prevent crime in rural communities. The Safer Villages scheme has been developed by the Council’s Community Safety Team, together with the local fire and rescue service and policing units that patrol Rutland.

By providing villages with their own stock of community safety resources, materials and specialist training, the scheme aims to reduce crimes that can affect rural areas, such as shed break-ins, burglaries and vehicle thefts. This is in addition to other community safety priorities, including ongoing efforts to tackle speeding in towns and villages. The Safer Villages scheme will equip villages with a box of crime prevention equipment, including shed alarms, window alarms, signs, stickers and special markers that can be used to security tag garden tools and household items. Each box will also contain information and advice about vehicle crime, home security, fire safety and spotting fraudsters.

Ketton Parish Council has volunteered to take part in the 12 month trial of the scheme and a box will be kept in the Parish Office, for residents to call in and see the information available and crime prevention equipment, which can also be obtained from the police desk at Rutland County Council’s office on Oakham.

The box will also be available for residents to view the crime prevention equipment & information leaflets at the County Councillor’s monthly Surgery in Ketton Library.

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 all the regional Highway Authority Leaders to discuss two projects around the A1. The first piece of work relates to study which Highways England have been carrying out on the safety of the A1, and what they might be able to do in the short term.

The second piece of work is to confirm the commissioning of consultants to consider the economic implications of the current A1 and the impact it has on the economy of the East of England, and the future growth prospects for the A1 corridor. 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. Ketton Parish Council expressed their support for such an upgrade, and agreed to make representations to Highways England, the Secretary of State for Transport and our MP Sir Alan Duncan to seek the upgrade of the A1 as a national priority. Cllr S.Rogers will draft a representation, which will be approved at the next Full Council meeting.

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: Tues Oct 1st lunch at Carver Court; Wed Oct 2nd Open mic at the Railway; Sat Oct 5th County Councillors' Surgery, 10.15 to 11.15am in the library; Apple Day, 10am to 4pm at Stamford Arts Centre; Friday Oct 11th Ketton Showtime 8pm at the Northwick Arms Hall; Sun Oct 13th Messy Church at the Methodist Hall; Community Apple Pressing Day, 10am to 4pm at Brewery House; Wed Oct 16th Soup lunch, midday at the Methodist Hall; Thurs Oct 17th Ketton Horticultural Society talk, 7.30pm in the Congregational Hall; Fri Oct 18th Traditional French Dance, 8pm at the Northwick Arms Hall; Sun Nov 10th Remembrance Service 10.30am at St Mary's Church; Sat Jan 25th 2020 ! Ketton Wassail.

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 Alison Couzens from Ketton Parish Council will also be available to answer questions and provide assistance.

The next surgery will be on Saturday October 5th.