

Round and About

www.blisworthvillage.org

Blisworth Parish Council Newsletter

June/July 2023 No 151



Coronation of King Charles III

A huge thank you to all the residents and parish councillors that helped organise activities over the Coronation weekend. All proceeds from the tea/coffee and amazing food, will go towards projects in the village to support the local residents.

Thank you also to the Primary school children and teachers for the loan of their amazing art work. There was a great turn out from residents eager to help maintain the cemetery (opposite St John's Church). A special thank you to the children, from Pond Bank and their parents who worked so hard to clear many of the weeds! We do need some extra muscle power – yep, I am told we need more blokes!!

At present the Parish Council pay nearly £2000.00 per year to empty dog waste bins around the village. The Canal and River Trust (C&RT) currently provide six dog waste bins along the towpath. They state that they are going to have to reduce this service from the end of June. The Parish has a strong local volunteer group which supports the C&RT with its work and with ongoing clearance and maintenance, as well as providing financial funding for projects.

The PC have great pressures on its limited funds. We have requested that West Northants Council (WNC) supports us with litter and dog waste clearance, but WNC said that they are unable to support us and say they do not have the funds for any further collections. We have, in the past, sought financial support from various grants, groups and companies. Unfortunately, as a PC, we are often barred from many grant opportunities and companies do not sponsor us, as they erroneously believe we have access to unlimited funds from WNC. Because of this, as a charity, the C&RT actually (happily) have a far better chance of success if they contact local companies for sponsorship to help cover the costs of emptying the dog waste bins.

The Council made the decision not to increase the budget for 2023-2024 so as not to bring extra hardship to the residents, in light of the current 'cost of living' crisis and therefore we would find it difficult to take on the C&RT's costs. There is an increasing number of boat owners, with dogs, mooring on the canal near the village. We have asked how the C&RT will maintain public safety by withdrawing this existing provision from their towpaths? Could we ask residents to support us by contacting the C&RT at <https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/contact-us/ways-to-contact-us> or writing to their head office at: Canal & River Trust, National Waterways Museum Ellesmere Port, South Pier Road, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, CH65 4FW or telephone 0303 040 4040.

The PC have received a number of complaints about the rubbish that some irresponsible boat-owners leave on the towpath and increasing incidence of pollution produced by

some older boats. The PC are trying to coordinate feedback, in order to support residents. If this concerns you, please try to record the number of the boat and send it to the clerk.

Thanks to Cllr Read we have obtained a grant to install a fence and two gates at the PC's allotments. The Council will notify the nearby residents when work is due to begin.

Finally, and importantly, developers seeking planning permission for land west of Northampton Road have submitted further documents to support their application:

Proposed Redevelopment of Site to Provide Commercial Units (up to 182,000 sq. Ft of floorspace) for Use Class E (g), B2 and B8 (HGVS) Purposes and associated works. Ref: **WNS/2022/1134/MAO**

The height of proposed buildings will be 18m maximum to ridge from FFL. New documents submitted show trees that are proposed to obscure the development, but this does nothing to allay the concerns regarding the massive, traffic implications for the village. See below:

The developers have submitted extra documents to their proposal. They state that they will limit access to their site so that HGVs and traffic cannot come through the village **but we all know that as soon as there are issues with the M1, A508, A43 – they will all come through the village, as they are at the moment.** The proposed plans show loading bays for approx 25 HGVs with 'waiting bays' for another 25 HGVs approx plus over 110 car parking spaces!

The other important update is that the Heritage Statement has been prepared by Turley Heritage on behalf of **Kalvec Limited ('the applicant')** to provide information to the local planning authority (WNC) on the potential heritage impacts of the proposed redevelopment. This report states that there will be **NO IMPACT ON BLISWORTH VILLAGE CONSERVATION AREA BECAUSE THE HGVS AND CARS WILL NOT COME THROUGH THE VILLAGE.** Please can I ask you to contact your friends, neighbours, members of the groups you attend and tell them to send photos or video-cam recordings of the HGVs and traffic that we are experiencing, particularly any photos that show the traffic queuing as far back as Milton Malsor or through the length of Stoke Road, High Street/Towcester Road and Courteenhall Road.

Please send photos to Blisworthparishcouncil@gmail.com. Our intention is to compile a report detailing all incidences, with photo evidence, to show that when any of the main roads are closed, all the traffic comes through the village and there is no way for the police to stop it, they always state that there are no viable options when any of the main roads are closed.

(Continued overleaf)

We need you to communicate the impact of this vast development on all the residents of Blisworth village. Please remind your friends and family to put it on their Facebook pages and to submit photos/objections. We cannot affect change if we do not work together.

You can view the documents and submit objections via WNC website <https://wnc.planning-register.co.uk/Planning/Display/WNS/2022/1134/MAO#undefined> Or search for the planning application using the ref: WNS/2022/1134/MAO Land west of Northampton Road, Blisworth.

BPC are trying to gain more insight regarding what the residents of the village need, so we urge you to check out our website and Facebook page to keep up-to-date with issues and information.

Ways we try to keep in touch:

Email the clerk: blisworthparishcouncil@gmail.com
07983233501 or 01604 857602

Website: <https://parish.blisworthvillage.org/>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/BlisworthParishCouncil/

The Public can attend Council meetings: First Monday of the month, 7:30 pm at the Village Hall, Stoke Rd.

The Public can attend Council Surgeries: Second Tuesday of the month, 10:30 – 12:00 at The Coffee House, Blisworth Baptist Church, Chapel Lane.

We do need your help to run the parish council. If anyone has an hour of their time to donate, please contact the clerk. You can join and take on just one role – that would help enormously, as we are currently very short-staffed and we need more councillors to take some of the pressure off the current councillors and the clerk.

Steve Billing Chair Blisworth Parish Council

Volunteers Visit the Old Cemetery

As part of the village Coronation Celebrations on Monday 8th May, a visit to the cemetery was attended by about 20 volunteers, many stayed to tidy up chosen grave areas.

The visit was arranged by Tony Hillier who is interested in stimulating interest and involvement within the village. To complement the excellent hard work of existing volunteers, we will hold a meeting to encourage new volunteers. The aim would be to share ideas and discuss the future direction of restoration. The date and time will be circulated later. The greater the number involved, the better the outcome.

The cemetery is a very peaceful haven and deserves to be cherished by all. If you are interested in giving a little of your time now and then to help, please contact:

Tony Hillier on 07545196427 or tony.hillier@aol.co.uk

Mikron Theatre

11th June Village Hall at 2pm
A Force to be Reckoned With
Pioneering Women in the Police

No tickets 'pay what you feel' collection after the show.

OPEN GARDEN

Navigation Cottage, Blisworth Arm (just over the bridge)

June 10th and 11th we are opening the garden 10:30am until 5:00pm. Tea, coffee and home made cakes, also a plant sale. This year we are supporting our local Air Ambulance. Do come, we'd love to see you. **Gilly**

Blisworth Parish Church

"Surely I am with you always to the very end of the age"
Matthew 28v 20

Services for June and July

4th, 11th and 25th June 11 am Communion Service
18th June 11 am Family Worship

2nd, 9th and 23rd July 11 am Communion Service
16th July 11 am Family Worship

30th July 10am Benefice Service at Alderton

All are welcome to join in worship in our church, which is open every day for anyone who wants a quiet place to pray, reflect or just enjoy this historic building.

Pentecost marks the end of the Easter season and the start of a new phase in the Church year. It also marks the end of spring and the start of summer. After a relatively cool and wet spring we all look forward to some sunshine and warmth. At Pentecost we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit, an inner warmth and strength. At this time Christians are reminded "to go out and make disciples of all nations". In a troubled world I am sure we all hope for a fairer and more peaceful world with nations working together to improve life for all mankind.

| | | |
|---------|-----------------------------|--------|
| Rector | Revd. Canon Richard Stainer | 857619 |
| Wardens | Angela Cheesbrough | 858059 |
| | Fiona Mckenzie | 859541 |

Blisworth Women's Institute

Another momentous event in our lifetime – The King's Coronations was enjoyed by so many people in our village, on Saturday a big screen showed the Coronation and themed refreshments were served, followed by street parties on the Sunday. At our May meeting we marked the occasion by singing both Jerusalem and God Save The King.

Our speaker on 8th June is David Askew his topic - 'Northamptonshire Walks', David often speaks on Radio Northampton and has a popular Facebook page. This is an **Open Meeting** with non-members both male and female welcome, so why not come along at 7.30pm to the village hall and join us - £4.00 on the door.

This is followed on 13th July by a talk on 'Women in the R.N.L.I, sure to be another interesting topic.

Tina Alexandrou Secretary



FOBS

Friends of Blisworth School



Thank you to everyone for your continued support of FOBS (Friends of Blisworth School). Our next big event is:

Friday Fun Fest – Friday 7th July, 5pm - 8pm
(all welcome)

Please watch out for more details of the events coming up by following us on www.facebook.com/BlisworthPTA or by contacting us via email - blisworthpta@gmail.com. You can also continue to support us in other ways:

- if you are having a clear out of clothes, the bins are still in the top car park
- if you shop online, we are registered with Easyfundraising—many retailers are on there

Stitchery Do

Creating with fabric and thread

Thursday 1st June

Another opportunity to make French Bread Baskets, crochet workshop, own choice projects, also a chance to experiment with the stitches on your sewing machine.

Thursday July 6th

Hopefully, making a doorstep, with a workshop lead by Angela. More details later.

Meeting in the Village Hall, 10.00 - 2.00pm. £4 includes refreshments and use of our resources and equipment. More details contact Margaret on 858590

Celebrating the Coronation in The Village Hall

Quite a few people came and watched the coronation with us. Loads more families came after watching it at home to see the winners of the children's art competition. There were soooo many delicious cakes and savouries on offer, they were spoiled for choice.

It was a lovely day in there, and at 4pm when we started to clear up, as if by magic it was all done. A massive THANK YOU to all the many hands who made light work of it.

I hope whatever you did to celebrate Our Kings Coronation, you had a lovely weekend and one for your children to remember and cherish. xx Estelle



Blisworth Heritage Society



Friday Jun 9 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall
Slavery and Anti Slavery in Northamptonshire
by John Buckell

Please note this is a change from the original programme

Friday July 12 at 2:00pm Summer Visit
Chester House Estate & Archaeological Resource Centre

Included is a tour of the site and ARC,

There is also a Book Store and Cafe on site.

(there may possibly be a small charge for the visit)

We need to know numbers in advance, so please tell Hilary you are going, if you need a lift or can offer a lift to others.

A reminder, we are producing a new Scrapbook to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and the King's Coronation.

The aim is to provide a snapshot of Village life (domestic and business) over the past 10 years; reflecting all that has happened to the village. We would like entries in as soon as possible please, in A3 Landscape format to Hilary Spurrier or any committee member.

See our website www.blisworthheritage.org.uk



School has been busy as normal and the children entered several sports tournaments and are looking forward to playing in the basketball county finals on 24th March. Our PTA - FOBS - have organised some great events for us. They ran the 'Big Sleepover' where children enjoy fun, games and films in the evening and then camp out in the hall overnight, leaving for home after breakfast. They also ran film night, a Mother's Day shop and 'Ice Lolly Friday.'

We are now an Enigma Maths Hub (and support other schools), Mrs Price has been recognised for her Maths teaching and leadership and is now enjoys helping other professionals. **Miss Leah Jenkins Headteacher**

Hunsbury and Blisworth Community Choir

Musical Director Helen Thorman

The choir will be performing 2 concerts this summer with a full and very varied programme featuring songs from the charts, old and new, musicals and films, songs in Spanish, songs in French. Truly something for everyone.

The first is at St. John's, our parish church on **Friday, 16th June at 7.00pm** and the second is at the Abbey Centre, East Hunsbury on Saturday, 24th June at 7.00pm.

Entry is free and there will be a raffle and collection in aid of local charities. So come along and enjoy an evening full of joy and happiness.



Blisworth Football Club

The season is coming to a close and we have had another successful year across our 21 teams.

The U12 Yellows and U12 Girls won their respective leagues, while the 1st and Development teams both finished runners up and both narrowly lost out in county cup finals. Our U9 Blades, U13 Greens and U10 Spartans all won cup finals, the U7 Greens, U8 Greens and U12 Girls just missed out on winning their cup finals.

We have had the pitches reseeded last week and we are waiting on news in early June to see if our application for funding to replace the clubhouse has been successful. Many thanks to Steve and Angela Billing for their assistance in helping us finalise some details for the application.

We would like to start another U6 team but need a coach to take charge of the team. If there is anyone in the village who would be interested, the club pays for all relevant coaching courses and DBS checks.

If any youngsters in the village are interested in taking charge of our media output or anyone would like to get involved with the club, please get in touch. We are always on the look out for volunteers to help with the running of the club and organisation.

Please contact us via our Socials or email
Blisworthfc1898@aol.com. Thanks **Sam King**

Blisworth Arts Society

Blisworth Arts Society continues to welcome artists of all ability and interested in a range of media. We are a friendly inclusive group who are keen to encourage and share artistic endeavours.

If you would like to join us on Thursday afternoons from 2pm to 4pm in the Village Hall please either just turn up or contact Hilary Spurrier on 859181.

BookSwap

Over the past few months, we have seen a good turnover of books. It is clearly still being enjoyed by all villagers and we welcome any suggestions on how to develop further. Throughout the week we spend time down at the shelter tidying up/sorting out the books and would appreciate it if people could help by putting any donations they have either in the donations box or metal cupboard.

Jo and Caroline

BMC—Blisworth Mothers Club

Tuesday June 20th

The Annual Treasure Hunt, this year a walking tour of central Towcester and visit to The Brave Old Oak for refreshments.

Tuesday July 18th

A date for your diary, another Supper Garden Party at Victoria House.

Full details of times and costs will be announced and are published on Facebook. Members are contacted directly, but new members and friends are always welcome.

Contact Margaret on 858590 or any committee member.

BVHPFA 250 Club Results

| | April | May |
|-----|-------|-----|
| £30 | 213 | 134 |
| £20 | 230 | 45 |
| £20 | 115 | 66 |
| £10 | 177 | 157 |
| £10 | 226 | 219 |

Thank you to all our members, we raised £1,200 to help keep our Village Hall the lovely venue it is.

Estelle 858482

Blisworth Friendship Group

Blisworth Friendship Group still meet at Blisworth Football Clubhouse alternate Wednesdays. We celebrated King Charles' Coronation with a delicious meal of home cooked ham, pork pie, egg, salad, coleslaw and potatoes, followed by strawberries and cream. All made by the wonderful Yvonne and her excellent team of Liz, Brenda and Carolyn.

We have over 40 members now and it's getting a bit of a tight squeeze. We are really looking forward to the new Clubhouse which is imminent. I love our Wednesdays, it's a lovely happy place to be. For further details please ring Estelle on 858482, Anne on 858001 or Janet on 879629.

Blisworth Film Club

The Film Club, and our projectionist Simon, are taking a break over the Summer (June, July and August) so we will return with more blockbusters in September. Thank you so much for all your support. Have a great Summer.

Best wishes, Hugh and Tracey."

MontyDavenport@outlook.com Mobile - 07968 889971)

Constance (Connie) Lane

Julie, Louise and families would like to thank all friends and neighbours for their kind words and thoughts on the sad loss of their mother Constance (Connie) Lane. A wonderful Mum, Gran and Aunt.

Next Round & About copy deadline is:

Friday 21st July for the August/September Issue.

Please email items you wish to include to:

blisworthranda@gmail.com

or send to the Editor: Alan North
89 Buttmead, Blisworth, Northants

THE PARISH COUNCIL ACCEPTS NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS NEWSLETTER.



Blisworth
BAPTIST CHURCH
TO KNOW HIM AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

Sunday Service at 10.30am

Communion First Sunday of the month
Children's breakout group 2nd Sunday of the month
Coffee and tea are served before the service from 10.00am
And afterwards in the Coffee House.

Community Cafe Open

Tuesdays 10.00am until 12.00pm
Every 2nd Tuesday is "Parish Council Surgery"
Every 3rd Tuesday is "Carers Support Day"

Toddlers & Tea

Fridays 10.00am until 12.00pm
If you would like to volunteer to support the running of these sessions please contact us via
Minister@BlisworthBaptistChurch.org

Men's Breakfast

Last Saturday of the Month at 8.30am in the Coffee House
Next Breakfasts: 24th June & 29th July
All men are very welcome

Easter Services

Sunday 2nd April - Palm Sunday service 10.30pm
Thursday 6th April - Maundy Thursday service 6pm
Sunday 9th April - Easter Sunday service 10.30am

Room Hire:

Leisure Hall, Coffee House, Fellowship room, The Lounge, Kitchen facilities are all available for parties and meetings. Disabled toilets, AV equipment & Free Wifi. Call for more details on 01604 857654 (answer phone)

www.blisworthbaptistchurch.org
Social media Facebook @BlisworthBC

Ukrainian Garden Party



Many thanks to all who came to support Ihor and Alina's fund raising for their home town, Trostyanets, and their region called Sumy. This area was one of the first to be invaded by Russia at the start of the war. The area is back under Ukrainian control but there is a lot of damage to be repaired.

So far some of the £1,700 raised has been used to help repair a school and provide fire safety equipment. The headteacher of the school has written "Careful, kind residents of the village of Blisworth and surrounding villages in the county of Northamptonshire learned about our small town from Ihor Veremienko a graduate of the school and Alina Golovchenko. A deep bow to everyone who cares!"

Some of the funds have been used to buy food and hand wipes for soldiers fighting on the front line .

There will be an Open Garden event at 2 Towcester Road on Saturday 15th July 11am—4pm. All are welcome. There will be a plant stall and refreshments. Donations will be used to continue to support those affected by the war in Ukraine.

Hilary Spurrier