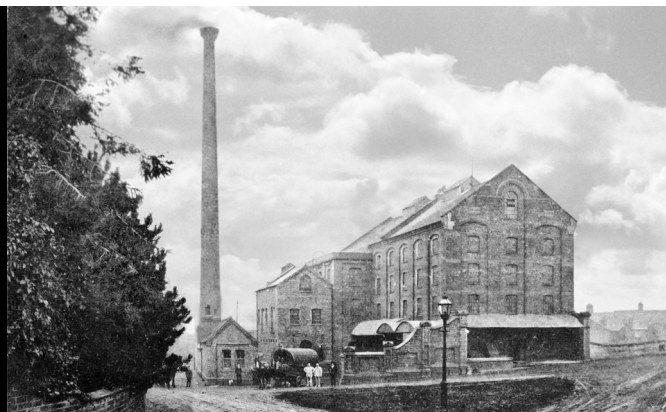


# Round and About

www.blisworthvillage.org.

Blisworth Parish Council Newsletter  
August/September 2023 No 152



## Notes from the Council....

Firstly I would like to welcome Bernard (Bunny) Ingram and Karen Cooper (who is also our hard-working District Councillor) as our new councillors, but we still have room and would welcome other councillors to join our team.

**Massive HGV warehouse development on land west of Northampton Road (Planning Application WNS\_2022\_1134\_MAO). We wanted to bring it to residents' attention again because there have been some amendments to the original planning application and if we do not respond, it may well be agreed.**

As stated in the last R&A, the plans include approx. 50 HGV loading/waiting bays, 110 plus car parking spaces and 16 HGVs per hour through the village! In an amendment, it was suggested that a 'routing system' will stop vehicles accessing the village. They will advise drivers that they will not be allowed to go through the village, but they have not stipulated who will monitor the HGVs or what fines, if any, will be applied. WNC and the Police do not have the power/labour to monitor the routes that the HGVs use, nor will the Police have any legal powers to enforce any recommendations the developer suggests. Therefore the reality is that all these HGVs will pass through the village. BPC has resubmitted another comprehensive objection but we need residents to individually submit objections.

Though this proposed development will devalue your property and reduce your ability to sell, the planning committee are not allowed to consider these points in its deliberations. However, as a resident you can submit an objection and highlight that:

- Already, each time there is an issue with either the A43, A508 or M1, there are significant increases in traffic flows through the village from c5,000 to 9,000 vehicles daily and queuing traffic is now being regularly witnessed up Towcester Road onto the A43 and on the A43 lay-by to turn right into Blisworth, in addition to tailbacks of traffic along Northampton Road beyond the railway bridge, at peak hours.
- Even if, as the developer now suggests, their HGVs will not be able to access the village, then the only route will be Northampton Road but there is not the capacity for this type or increased volume of traffic. It will cause chaos at the Tesco/Mereway roundabout and through Milton Malsor and Collingtree.
- Furthermore, the Secretary of State for Transport has recently agreed that the Gateway, rail-freight terminal can begin operations ahead of ensuring that the rail-freight terminal is operational, leading to further traffic on all routes around the village.

- The original application stated that the location was ideally suited due to the road links with the A43, A508 and M1 but there simply isn't the capacity on the Blisworth roads for a new development of this type and magnitude.
- The increase in traffic will significantly undermine the buildings in the Conservation area, many of which, by nature of their age, have issues with their foundations.
- Any further increase in traffic along Northampton Road and through the village will increase traffic fumes and noise pollution.
- Already children and the elderly in the village cannot safely navigate the roads due to the speed and quantity of traffic.
- This proposed development will significantly reduce the quality of life of residents in the village.
- If you have photographic evidence to show the amount of traffic on the Northampton Road or through the village, please include these in your letter/email.
- **BPC have suggested that to ensure that HGVs from this proposed development cannot pass through Blisworth, the physical design of the access should be amended to include a traffic island so that it is physically impossible for HGVs to turn right towards Blisworth when leaving the site or turn left from Blisworth to enter the site. Appropriate signage on the site and on the approaches should also be provided. We urged that these measures should be made a condition attached to any planning consent.**

Even if you do not live on the main routes, please consider writing to support your fellow residents. Remember also, the above are a few points that you can include, but it is important that you make the letter your own and do not simply copy and paste these points. To submit your objection type in the address: <https://wnc.planning-register.co.uk/Planning/Display/WNS/2022/1134/MAO> and select COMMENT ON THIS APPLICATION, or write to: Mr Daniel Callis, Principal Planning Officer – Major Projects Team, West Northants Council, The Forum, Moat Lane, Towcester, Northants NN12 6AD. **Quote Planning application no. WNS/2022/1134/MAO Land west of Northampton Road.**

In May at the Annual Parish Meeting we had a large number of residents voting for the option to persuade Highways to install a chicane on Stoke Road, which the Council may need to part-fund. During the Council's consultation process with Highways we were informed that speed humps or  
(Continued overleaf)

rumble strips would not be authorised as they cause noise issues for adjacent home owners. The only position for a chicane, which may be authorised by Highways, would be near the doctor's surgery. The benefits of the chicane are that it will slow down traffic on Stoke Road, effectively working as a 'large parked car' forcing drivers to slow down. It will also deter large heavy vehicles from using Stoke Road as a short-cut through the village to access major routes. The councillors would like to encourage residents to attend council meetings and share their views. The next Council meeting is on Monday, 7th August 2023.

The government has significantly reduced the funding for the Canal & River Trust despite a review confirming that the C&RT's funding is 'clear value for money'. Therefore the C&RT have decided that they cannot pay to empty dog waste bins along the canal. If you would like to support the C&RT to fight for continued funding you can join their campaign at [www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/keepcanalsalive](http://www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/keepcanalsalive).

West Northants Council is reviewing their bin collection/waste strategy and are asking that you respond to their consultation <https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/bins-recycling-and-waste/resources-and-waste-strategy-consultation> (5th July – 21st August).

BPC currently have a number of allotment plots that are vacant. If you would like a relaxing place to grow your own veg or flowers, please contact the clerk.

There is defibrillator training available, if you are interested in training, or any village groups would like to provide training to their members, please contact the clerk.

BPC granted a S137 grant to Blisworth Baptist Church to help with the cost of new equipment for the Leisure Hall.



Finally, work on the BPC allotment fencing is due to start 21/08/2023 and will take around one week to complete..

**All links are on the PC website and Facebook page:**

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

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/BlisworthParishCouncil/](http://www.facebook.com/BlisworthParishCouncil/)

The Council Meetings: First Monday of the month, 7:30 pm at the Village Hall, Stoke Rd.

Email the clerk: [blisworthparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:blisworthparishcouncil@gmail.com)  
07983233501 or 01604 857602

**Steve Billing Chair Blisworth Parish Council**

### **Hunsbury and Blisworth Community Choir Musical Director Helen Thorman**

Hunsbury and Blisworth Community Choir will be meeting after the summer break on Monday, September 4th, 7.30pm at the Abbey Centre chapel to practise for the Christmas concerts. We particularly need more basses and altos. No auditions, just come along if you love a good sing.

**Jon Murray** 07460 617817



## **Blisworth Heritage Society**



Blisworth Heritage Society does not meet in August, as we have a summer break. Our next meeting will be:

**Friday 8 Sept at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.**

The speaker will be **Susan Copperwheat**  
*with Strawbear to Squirt*

**Quirky Local Traditions then and now.**

*Advance warning for our October meeting:*

We aim to publish the **Coronation (2023) Scrapbook** at the October meeting. We know that several people are still working on their entries, so please finish them as quickly as possible. If you have not yet started and would like to create an entry, there is still time, you can get a blank A3 page from Hilary. If you need any advice or help, please speak to any committee member, but fundamentally we would like this to be **your** thoughts about the Village over the last 10 years.

See our website [www.blisworthheritage.org.uk](http://www.blisworthheritage.org.uk)

### **Blisworth Arts Society**

Blisworth Arts Society has a summer break in August but look forward to a new term in September. We meet every Thursday afternoon from 2pm to 4pm in the Village Hall. Our autumn meetings start on **September 7th**. Our members cover a wide range of arts from drawing, painting, textile art, collage, tapestry, stitchery and photography. Artists from any discipline are welcomed to join us.

For more information contact Hilary Spurrier on 859191

### **Stitchery Do**

*Creating with fabric and thread*

**Thursday August 2nd**

A workshop on Scrappy/crazy patchwork to use up all those little pieces of fabric. Margaret will provide the materials, but bring your sewing machines if possible.

**Thursday 7th September**

By popular request, Felting with Lesley Underwood. Materials provided. Lesley was one of our original members and we are delighted that she has agreed to return to teach us this beautiful craft.

Bring your own projects to work on if you do not want to take part in our workshops.

Usual arrangements, £4 includes refreshments. 10.00 - 2.00pm Village Hall. All welcome.

More details contact Margaret on 858590

### **BLISWORTH GARAGE SALE**

**Saturday 2nd September 10am – 4pm**

£5 Per Garage/Drive

Payment by 31<sup>st</sup> July please to confirm place on the map.

These will be sold to visitors to the village.

The sale will be advertised on Facebook and noticeboards in surrounding villages.

Proceeds from garage fees and maps goes to Blisworth Community Projects Group to improve amenities in the village. Sellers keep whatever they make.

For more information contact Pat on 07732 191778 or Janet on 07732 987087

## Blisworth Friendship Group

On 31st May, Molly Mayhews School of Dance came and danced for us. To say everyone was enchanted is an understatement. The children were wonderful and so professional. Thank you so much to Brenda and Fiona Sheehan and the Mums who gave up their time. We had a wonderful afternoon.

14th June, Les Carter came with Ringo's Bingo. Thank you Les. You're a star.

28th June we had a silly pass the parcel and on 12th July we are having a 60's quiz.

26th July we had a 5 hour river cruise on the River Nene, with a lovely afternoon tea picnic.

It is such a pleasure for us committee members to run this group, we have over 40 members who are all happy and enthusiastic no matter what we do. For further details please ring Estelle on 858482.



### 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

### What's on:

Sunday 20th August - Café Church  
Tuesday 29th August - PCSO visiting Community café  
Saturday 16th September - Tapestry Open Day 10-4  
Sat 30th September - Men's Breakfast joint with Ladies  
Friday 6th October - Oldies Singalong.

### 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](http://www.blisworthbaptistchurch.org)  
Social media Facebook @BlisworthBC

## Blisworth Film Club

The Film Club will be back with some fabulous films this Autumn.

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September** - "Little Miss Sunshine". A fantastic, special film.

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October** - "The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry". Starring the "legendary" Jim Broadbent.

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November** - "A Man Called Otto". Staring another "legend", Tom Hanks.

Tracey and I are very much looking forward to welcoming you all back to the Film Club in the Village Hall

[MontyDavenport@outlook.com](mailto:MontyDavenport@outlook.com) Mobile - 07968 889971)



## Blisworth Football Club

The club received the fantastic news that after 6 years hard work, the funding was secured for a clubhouse and rebuild.



We would like to thank the Village Hall & Playing Field Association and Parish Council for all their help with the application. A provisional start date is January.

Although its close season, our volunteers were busy helping the school by measuring and marking out a running track for their sports day and mowing in and around the Scouts camp area for their camping weekend.

As we grow the club, we are looking towards the local community for help with the running of the club. We would like to set up an events committee to put on events from next summer when the clubhouse is rebuilt. Please email: [blisworthfc1898@aol.com](mailto:blisworthfc1898@aol.com) if you are interested.

Thanks **Sam King**



## FOBS

Friends of Blisworth School



Thank you to everyone for your continued support of FOBS (Friends of Blisworth School).

Please watch out for more details of the events coming up by following us on [www.facebook.com/BlisworthPTA](https://www.facebook.com/BlisworthPTA) or by contacting us via email - [blisworthpta@gmail.com](mailto: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

## Blisworth Women's Institute

Summer in is full swing and a busy time for everyone, Blisworth Primary school had a summer fete and the WI had a stall selling cakes and preserves of course!



Always looking to challenge ourselves, sixteen members are going to have a game of croquet at the newly open croquet club in Roade – such good fun!

The month of August is usually a trip out for our group PTA and this year we are having a cream tea at The Walnut Tree.

All Wi's in the county provide cakes for Cynthia Spencer Hospice at least one month in a year. We have already delivered a dozen or so cakes in May and have volunteered to do so again in August, the committee and our members always come up trumps not only for this cause but whenever we call on them – thank you.

In September our topic is – 'A taste of the Camino de Santiago', this should be interesting so why not come along as a guest – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September in the village hall at 7.30pm is the date for your diary.

**Tina Alexandrou** Secretary

### BMC Blisworth Mothers Club

#### Tuesday August 15th

'The White Mouse', a fascinating talk on the life of Nancy Wake, by Paul Barwick. She was the woman the Gestapo regarded as the most dangerously elusive British spy and member of the wartime Resistance movement. This talk has been highly recommended.

#### Tuesday September 19th

The ever-popular evening of Board games, taking us back to our childhoods! Including Snakes and Ladders, Ludo, Hungry Hippos....no skill required but lots of laughs. Usual details, Village Hall, 7.30 pm. £3 includes refreshments.

Many thanks **Margaret** on 858590

### Northants Open Studios/South Northants Arts Exhibition in St John the Baptist Church Blisworth

The Parish Church is hosting 8 local artists from September 23rd to October 1st 10am—4pm. (Sundays 12.30—4pm). Do come and see their work and sample the delicious refreshments.

The artists include painters, ceramicists, sculptors and photographers. All of the work is for sale and ranges from greetings cards and other small items to large paintings.

There are activities for children, workshops for budding artists and a chance to meet the artists.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Church.

### Who Are the Blisworth Community Projects Group?

Do you ever wonder who organises things in the village? From the Platinum Jubilee to the Coronation, to the forthcoming garage sale, to the new edition of the Village Directory and planning where to put the poppies. It is all done by a small group of volunteers with the help of all the organisations in the village.

The forerunner of the group, the Blisworth Progress Group worked with the Parish Council and looked after the Old Cemetery, planted spring bulbs and organised planters and seats around the village together with the village sign, set up the Litter Group, won the Best Village competition – twice, set up the CRRG - the Group who helped so many in our community during the lockdown. Members of the Group also started the Blisworth Friendship Group which is so popular with older members of the community.

To make this happen we need volunteers – can you spare some time, give us your ideas of what is needed and help keep our community alive? We have a grant to organise and provide a Welcome Pack for all new residents. We would welcome some help to get this underway.

If you feel you can help please contact me on 858579 or at [ann.north@homecall.co.uk](mailto:ann.north@homecall.co.uk)  
Ann North - Secretary

### Next Round & About copy deadline is:

Thursday 21st September for the October/November Issue.

Please email items you wish to include to:

**[blisworthranda@gmail.com](mailto: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.**

## BVHPFA 250 Club Results

	June	July
£30	202	205
£20	221	228
£20	177	136
£10	49	1
£10	239	140

Thank you all for your support.

**Estelle 858482**

### Heritage Open Day

Saturday 16th September. Blisworth Baptist Church

As part of the county wide Heritage Open Days the Blisworth Tapestry will be open on Saturday 16th September. This important work of art is a 7 panel tapestry which charts the history of the village. Do come and see it and talk to some of those involved in making it. There will be activities for children. The 1953 and 2013 village scrapbooks will also be on display

### Blisworth Parish Church

*"While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease."* Genesis 8v22

#### Services for August and September

6th, 13th and 27th August, 11 am Communion Service  
20th August, 11am Family Worship

3rd, 10th and 24th September, 11am Communion Service  
17th September, 11am Harvest Festival followed by a bring and share lunch

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

These two months cover a time traditionally spent on holiday, a time for refreshment, relaxation and an opportunity to enjoy a break from normal routines. It is also the period when our farmers are busy with the harvest.

The word holiday comes from Holy Day and one of the earliest holidays was the celebration of the harvest a really important festival in rural communities. A time to give thanks to God for the crops safely gathered in.

September marks a month of new beginnings for those in school, college or university. At St John's we are pleased to welcome the Rev Graham Brack who has just joined our benefice as a curate. He will take services across the benefice.

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

### Dennis Hoare

Thank you so much to all our friends and neighbours in the village for your support after the sudden death of our husband and Dad Dennis. A real gentleman. It has helped so much to live in such a caring village.

Pam & Tracey