# Middleton Tyas and Moulton Village News

No. 472

# July/August 2016



Phyllis Dinsdale is presented with a Letter of Commendation by PC John Wilbor See Page 3 for more.

# Middleton Tyas Parish Council (Please read this. It isn't as dull as you might expect)

For several months, we have been trying to recruit two parish councillors. It is my belief that residents of our beautiful village are much as I was, neither really knowing - even perhaps not caring that much - about what a parish council is, or what it does. I can hear you thinking, "Its all on the web," or "boring administration, who would want to do that?" or even "middle-aged, middle-class people meeting up too often in the middle of the village, to drone on and on." Perhaps the only image in your mind's eye is that of the parish council in Dibley? Well, little is further from the truth.

Our meetings are not particularly long. They last for about 90 minutes once a month in the Memorial Hall, though they are usually shorter. We meet every second Thursday of the month and try very hard to avoid meeting in August. Almost all of our business is conducted via email, and this lessens the load at the meeting substantially as the use of mobile media is so commonplace today, making it possible to share things among us in advance of the meetings. No one expects a fellow-councillor to take responsibility for any aspect of proceedings for which they don't feel entirely comfortable, and individual projects, like the current defibrillator acquisition, was something that an individual felt strongly enough to take on with the full support of the other council members.

Although we cannot make individual decisions on behalf of the council, we do decide whether or not we work in partnership with other organisations and bodies. We have the freedom to operate without consents from central government. We jointly take responsibility for decisions we make - so there is a huge sense of commitment and team work within the council.

Middleton Tyas Parish Council is supported by an experienced clerk who keeps us right on matters of policy and, though there are some things which have to be done to remain on the right side of our local government, it is surprising what we can, and do, achieve. Currently, we are working on the acquisition of a defibrillator; the plans for the playing field and play park; whilst also trying to manage problems from the A1 upgrade - all quite chunky issues in their own right that have significant impact on the village and people's lives.

We are charged with representing and servicing the whole community. We appreciate that we do not live in a perfect world, but it is essential to have representation from the whole community on the Parish Council. There is much to do and the load is heavier for individuals, as currently, there are five of us when there should be seven. My honest estimate is that it takes a commitment of about two hours a week more if you want to get involved with a special one-off project.

Being a parish councillor is an opportunity to contribute something to the village where we live - a chance, some of us feel, to give something back. Most of all, the Parish Council is fun.

If you think you might be interested, please contact any one of us for an informal chat about the possibility of joining us. Or if you would prefer, our Parish Council meetings are open to the public, so if you would like to come and watch what happens, please feel free to do so. Our next meeting is on the 14 July at 7.00 in the Memorial Hall.

You will be most welcome. *Cllr Josephine Collis* 

# MIDDLETON TYAS VILLAGE SHOP NEWS

Tel: 377198 Open Monday to Friday 8.00 – 2.00, Saturday 8.30 – 1.00

MIDDLETON TYAS POST OFFICE Telephone: 339111

Opening hours: 8.30 – 1.30, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays

# Is having a village shop worth £1 a week to you?

The Village Shop has always relied on donations from the community to keep its head above water, but with several of our biggest benefactors recently passing or moving away, we are struggling.

We have seen an upturn in takings since my last ditty in the Village News, and we thank everybody who has come in and supported the shop for that. But our overheads still outweigh profits made on sales, especially now as we are having to pay for the services of a treasurer, a job done before by volunteers.

We don't want to put our prices up. Village shops have a reputation for high prices, and obviously this can't be helped – we can't order in bulk. Did you know though that some of our stock is comparable to supermarket price prices, especially when you knock off your petrol or delivery bill? Sometimes (gasp) we are even cheaper! When you are writing your shopping list, why don't you save one or two items that you know we stock and buy them from us instead of the supermarkets? We appreciate it far more than they do!

It has been done before but we are appealing again – asking if having a shop in your village is worth £1 a week to you. If it is, why not set up a standing order to donate that much (or however much you want) to us? Every penny is greatly appreciated.

Either drop into the shop for details, ring me (01325 377434 or at the shop 01327 377198) or email me

(helfoulds@yahoo.com.sg)

Thank you *Helen Foulds Secretary to the Shop Committee* 

**NEED SOME PRINTING OR COPYING?** 

We can now do A4 photocopying and printing and A3\* printing for you.

We can also laminate\* A4 and A3 documents.

\*Starred services are just by prior arrangement. Ask in the shop for details

COMING SOON!..... ......COSTA COFFEE to take away (or drink in the garden).

Much cheaper than you would have to pay elsewhere!

# Parish Council News Who's who on the Parish Council

#### Parish Councillors:

Bob Davies, <u>rjdavies4@gmail.com</u>, tel 377689 Martin Bartle, <u>martinbartle2002@yahoo.co.uk</u>, tel 377553

John Ross, jryorks@gmail.com, tel 339949 Gordon Davies, gordondavies1943@gmail.com, tel 377450

Josephine Collis, josephinecollis@gmail.com, tel 339948

**Our Parish Clerk** is Christine Jones <u>clerk.mtyas@live.co.uk</u>, tel 377062 We also have a Village website <u>http://www.middletontyas.org.uk</u>

#### Best Kept Village Competition

Don't forget the first two weeks in July are when judging for the Best Kept Village Competition takes place. Tidy grass and hedges, loads of flowers and absolutely no litter are the order of the day!

#### Bus needs survey

We have been asked to remind residents that RDC is undertaking a Bus Needs Survey for North Richmondshire at the moment with a submission date of no later than 8 July. They have asked that, where possible, residents complete and submit the survey form electronically at

#### www.richmondhsire.gov.uk/survey/bus.

<u>However</u>, hard copies of the survey will shortly be available at the Village Shop and can be completed and sent to RDC by post if you prefer. Thank you.

#### Neighbourhood Watch

Phyllis Dinsdale has recently retired from her role as Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator for Middleton Tyas after serving the community for ten years. At the June Parish Council meeting, PC John Wilbor, Community Police Officer for our Ward, presented Phyllis with a 'Chief Constable's Commendation' which noted her "unstinting commitment in her role as NHW Coordinator for the community of Middleton Tyas since 2007". It goes on to say, "She has overseen the other coordinators in the village and has been a link between them all. She has been a key contact for North Yorkshire Police which has made it easy to link in with the whole village. One of those links has been with the Parish Council and they have appreciated her commitment and involvement for the good of the village community.

The Parish Council has written to Phyllis separately to thank her for her long and dutiful service on behalf of all our residents. We wish her a long and happy retirement.

Phyllis has asked us to pass on her sincere thanks to all the NHW coordinators and members who have helped and supported her over the years. Her successor is Mrs Victoria Hamer who is looking forward to the challenge of her new role. We trust you will all support Victoria as she takes over the NHW reins and she will be in touch with coordinators and members in due course.

#### Update on defibrillator

We would like to thank everyone for their donations to date - and also to report that we are very close to reaching our target. If you haven't donated, there is still time to do so. The Village Shop has some envelopes or will take a cash or cheque donation on our behalf. We are running one more event to raise money for this purpose so please do come to the talk on Polar Bears in Churchill by our very own resident Tony Smailes. It promises to be a fun evening. Again, tickets are available at the Village Shop.

Martin Sagan, Secretary of the Community Heartbeat Trust came to the Village on 22 June to run an open session with residents. His informative, yet informal talk gave us the opportunity to see actual equipment and how it is used. It has to be stressed that it is designed to be very easy to use and suitable for use by everyone - including the hard of hearing and visually impaired members of our community.

An awareness session open to all residents will be held once we have the equipment, which is anticipated to be at the beginning of September. Additional guidance will be given to our Volunteer Emergency Telephone System (VETS) team. You will remember that we need ten volunteers from the village who would be expected to take the defibrillator to an address where it is required in an emergency. I am compiling a list of people who are interested in doing this. Expressing your interest does not put you under any obligation to do so. It is a role which is ideal for active retired residents, though people who are able to do only weekends or evenings may also be a volunteer. Unfortunately, if you are a carer, looking after dependants whom you cannot leave alone, it would not be realistic for you to be one of the volunteers. If you would like to add your name to the list of possible volunteers please email Councillor Josephine Collis on

"josephinecollis@gmail.com" or call her on 339948.



## **Moulton matters**

#### Best Kept Village Competition

The competition will be judged during the first two weeks of July. Good luck in keeping the village neat and tidy for the judging. Thanks to all who volunteered to spruce up benches, notice boards, the paper box, the shed and the bus shelter.

#### **Community Defibrillator**

At a recent Parish Meeting those present agreed to pursue the proposal to seek funding for a community defibrillator. As the Parish does not raise a precept, we will seek funding from grant sources at NYCC and RDC.

#### Facebook

You can now follow us on Facebook at "Moulton Village Community" and see pictures of our fabulous Plant Sale and Her Majesty The Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party.

#### Books in the Bus Shelter

The sale of books, CDs and videos in the bus shelter during May raised £27.65. Thanks to all who have supported the village. Good quality fiction books are always welcome. Please leave them in the bus shelter. All proceeds will go towards Moulton Village Association funds.

#### Church Cleaning:

Thanks to all who have volunteered to clean St Andrew's. July: Mr and Mrs Whitehead August: Mrs Osbaldeston September: Mrs Atkinson and Mrs Vaux

## Flooding problems in Middleton Tyas

Many villagers will have participated in the Public Consultation event in June 2014 when England and Lyle and ID Civils presented their proposals for a 35 house residential development on Land off Kneeton Lane. In their consultation document and their discussions with attendees, the developers stated that the development proposal could also provide a number of significant community benefits including assisting in helping to reduce flooding incidents in the village.

There is no doubt that expectations were raised by this stated commitment, and that it influenced the community towards support for the new development, and there are many people who think all this will become a reality. However, as the outline planning has progressed, it has become clear that the flood protection offered only serves to cover the new development site. During the planning process, a number of residents raised concerns over the flood risk associated with the planned new development, and there is no question that the run off from the fields North of Kneeton Park has caused significant flooding for many years. This was fully accepted in the Flood Risk Assessment carried out by ID Civils in support of the planning application.

There are 47 Hectares of fields to the North of Kneeton Park that shed around 25000cubic metres of water during a 6 to 12 hour storm, the like of which we saw many times last Winter. Most of that land is used for turf production which tends to compact the topsoil and encourages more surface water flooding. The new development will offer only 3100cubic metres of storage capacity through 3 balancing ponds, which is sufficient for the 4.7Hectare new development, but is, clearly, many times too small for the capacity of the current drainage design. The fundamental flaw in the drainage situation now and for the future development is the 40 year old 300mm culvert that runs from the field through Kneeton Park and ultimately down the Slough to the Oaklands area. This culvert is overwhelmed in any storm situation, and the pipeline is almost certainly damaged by tree root ingress which further reduces its capacity. Responsibility for the maintenance of the culvert rests with the owner of the land off Kneeton Lane.

When storms or prolonged rainfall occur it causes both surface water and ground water flooding that directly affects a number of properties in Kneeton Park, and further downstream. Excess surface water also flows from the field through the break in the wall (made by the Fire Brigade), and into Kneeton Lane causing flooding at the Five Hills Lane and Kneeton Lane junctions. The problem then is water from the road drains into the same 300mm culvert. On some occasions, the culvert manhole lids lift with the pressure of water in the culvert, which presents an added safety hazard.

Representations have been made to all the key authorities including Richmondshire District Council, North Yorks County Council Flood Protection Department, the Environment Agency, and, of course, our own Parish Council and Ward Councillor. However, the EA and NYCC have advised RDC that their concerns are confined to the new development only in terms of the planning process. They were therefore, minded to approve the Outline Plans for the new development. We funded an Independent Flood Run Off Analysis by HR Wallingford, one of the most respected organisations in this field, and they demonstrated that the drainage plans for the new development would not alleviate current flood risks to the village.

Where do we go from here? Whilst we have conceded defeat in the Outline Planning phase, we still have an opportunity to challenge the detailed drainage arrangements during the Reserved Matters phase of the planning process. In particular, we will address in detail our concerns over the new development being dependent on the inadequate 300mm culvert which is high risk, and offers no redundancy. Additionally, we will continue to lobby the various decision making bodies to address current flood risks. To that end, I would welcome any views and ideas residents might have and any photographs of flood events when they occur to build up an evidence base. If anyone would like more detailed information on the Flood Risk Assessment, please contact me on 01325 377700 – I have a shed load of data and photos! Steve Hill

# The Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration

£155 was raised by the raffle drawn at the end of the celebrations in Middleton Tyas to mark the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. This money has gone to the Community Defibrillator Fund. Many thanks to Mary Parvin, who made a beautiful cake and also donated a bottle of champagne to accompany the cake as the raffle prize. The winner was Liz Randle.

We were very fortunate to have with us a very talented singer and a former runner–up in the final of the very prestigious BBC Young Chorister of the Year competition, who led a rousing National Anthem and rendition of Happy Birthday. Who was this? Our own Jenni Lane, of course. Many thanks to her for giving us a lead (and taking a lot of people present by surprise too). *Susan Mahaffy*