EXTON PLAYPARK

The Parish Council is delighted to report that RCC ‘Healthy Rutland Grant Scheme’ have agreed to contribute funding for new equipment in the Exton playpark.

An Eco Trail as above is planned plus a blue horse springer to replace the broken one and a new bench/seat. We now await delivery which should be within 8 weeks or so, weather dependent of course.

The Parish Council have had a rethink concerning allowing dogs in the playpark and have decided in order not to penalise visitors who would like to multi task – i.e. dog walk and entertain their children, provided dogs are on leads at ALL times and there is no fouling, they would allow this, as it is common practise across the country. The exception will be in the toddler area. We would like to remind owners however that some children are seriously intimidated by dogs of any size so please do not let your pet spoil the enjoyment of others.

So many emails and letters of support have been sent to the Clerk from parents, all of which helped the panel grant this award.
I was delighted to receive 16 hand written letters from Teal Class aged 6-7 years from Exton school who visited the play area during an Art Class and sent some lovely pictures of what they would like to see included, using a fair bit of imagination. Thanks to Arthur, Cherry, Chloe, Fenton, George, Gracie, Henry, Howie, Jack, Luke, Maley, Mason, Matthew, Sapphire, William and Teacher Miss Barker. Some pretty advanced ideas I may say – water and dinosaurs involved in some instances that I think parents may have issues with! Your letters were appreciated. It is necessary to keep reminding users of the park that the skateboard is of its time and therefore wooden construction and complaints received about splinters in posteriors cannot be upheld because it is not meant to be a slide! Modern day skate parks are made of metal but cost a huge amount. Perhaps with the addition of the eco trail attention will be diversified.

Hopefully this work will kick start some fund raising by the ‘user group’ to add more items and encourage even more use. A ‘painting day’ is being organised to brighten up the fencing in the toddler area; the PC to supply the paint if the helpers bring their own brushes! Maybe during the Easter holidays? Everything is so weather dependent at the moment.

Comments have been received concerning the football area, and the current uneven surface. Unfortunately this was brought about recently when a car was driven by joy riders across the play area and around the pitch. Our playpark warden has done his best to flatten the damaged areas but it is not easy and any offers of help are appreciated. We now have a ‘locked’ centre post in position to hopefully prevent a reoccurrence. It is appreciated the goal posts are old but the Parish Council has to budget for all sectors in the village and therefore we encourage the users of this area to perhaps try to do some fund raising to assist with further improvements.

Grass cutting due to begin February has been delayed because of the constant rain. It has yet to be discussed at the March Parish Council meeting but it would be nice to have an official ‘open’ day and cut the ribbon to announce the arrival of the new pieces of play furniture don’t you think? Thank you to all the parents and children too who have helped with their emails and support which has made this bid possible..................Annette, Clerk to the PC
**SPINNEY**

David Healey is doing a good job keeping the Spinney tidy and has planted some trees and shrubs donated by residents. Please remember do not throw away old pots of bulbs as they can be planted and will be happy to naturalise in this environment. Abigail and Sandra are kindly donating three fruit trees which will be very welcome. It is particularly disappointing that plastic bags of dog poo have obviously been chucked into the Spinney by dog owners. This will NOT disintegrate – please find a bin or take it home!!! Here we have a volunteer doing a great job to make this area pleasant for all of us in the village - he should not be clearing up after YOUR dog.

**REMINDER**

Rutland County Council have sent out reminders that 2019/20 subscriptions end 31st March 2020. Unless you have a Direct Debit set up new payments will be taken after 3rd February 2020 to continue the collection of garden waste 2020/21. The cost remains the same i.e. £35 and new stickers will be sent out. Any household not renewing in time will find their green bins are not collected. Queries to Rutland County Council 01572 7558 488. greenwaste@rutland.gov.uk

**HIGHWAYS**

The constant wet weather over the past months has certainly meant lots of muddy pathways and verges. It is very disappointing to see how inconsiderate parking has damaged the verges around the green and the other small green triangles in the village. Having invested so much funding into the repairs to the Town Pump it is a shame that cars seem to be ‘cutting the corner’ off and the grass is gradually disappearing.
Please drive with care around the village and help us to keep Exton the pretty place it is. Local road works are another cause for concern. Car drivers and lorry drivers using the back roads around the village to ‘cut through’. Verges are being ploughed up as the roads are not wide enough for commercial vehicles. Let us hope these will in due course be repaired. The Parish Council is still extremely concerned about the parking at the Old Coach Road, dog walkers parking on the path and half on the road causing oncoming vehicles to move to the centre of the road.

EASTER LILLIES
Anyone wishing to donate towards Easter Lillies in Exton Church in memory of loved ones please contact ...Ann Bell Tel 01572 812594.

The appeal to the Rutland County Council regarding help with the ‘dog poo’ issue discussed in the last Newsletter resulted in a visit to the village by one of the officials to see for themselves. They obviously came on a good day as they did not find much. What they did find was sprayed with pink chalk and by now Biffa should have cleared this away.

Going forward the parish council has been supplied with 5 cans of the chalk to issue to volunteers to continue with this method both highlighting the problem and preventing anybody stepping into it. Once it has been sprayed an email to environment@rutland.gov.uk with the rough location and the RCC will do their best to get it cleared by BIFFA.

RCC officers will visit from time to time to monitor the situation, however they only have a very small team and are somewhat limited due to other commitments unfortunately.
Five cans were supplied to the Clerk. One has gone to the school, one to a resident who has a particular problem outside her home. **The remaining three cans are available should any other volunteers wish to collect them from me. First come first served.** The spray is biodegradable and is also available on Amazon £7.80 plus delivery. Another idea being trialled is a stencil as seen in the photo.

![Dog Poo Stencil](image)

The morning after the school received their spray – three heaps of dog poo were on the pathway outside the entrance! This is absolutely disgraceful and not what the staff should be looking for and not what the parents expect to find escorting their little ones. This was sprayed by the staff and Biffa will clear in time but whoever the owner is they should be ashamed! It is disappointing to have to raise this issue under the Spinney item on page 2.

**CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX APPEAL**

Thank you again to all who contributed. Our boxes were part of a delivery of 98,726 which were sent to Liberia and they were very enthusiastically received. Liberia is in Western Africa between Cote d'Ivoire and Sierra Leone.

*Patricia Hagger*

---

GET WELL SOON TO PAUL DADFORD, PARISH COUNCILLOR, NOW HOME AFTER A RECENT KIDNEY OPERATION
Enhancing Learning...

We were very excited to have a ‘Virtual Reality’ morning in school during February. Our ICT Support bought 30 virtual reality headsets into school and the children were all able to set off to different places to enhance their learning.

Our youngest children have been learning all about the North and South Poles and were transported to the Arctic, where they could see the ice and polar bears close up.

The Year 2 and 3 children concluded their Dinosaurs topic by walking with dinosaurs, and experiencing their great size by standing amongst them – Wow!

The top class started their topic for term 4 looking at the Rainforest by walking through the Rainforest and looking at orang-utans in their natural environment. This enabled them to begin to think about what they would like to find out as part of their topic next term and begin to ask questions.

Pictures cannot do the morning justice – however, just ask any of the children and they will tell you how amazing it was! We look forward to finding another opportunity to bring our learning to life in this way.

Do look at the school website to find out more about what we get up to during our time at school.

School website: www.extonschool.co.uk

Phone: 01572 812380 if you would like to arrange a visit to the school.
CORONAVIRUS: PUBLIC INFORMATION

The Government and NHS are well prepared to deal with this virus.

You can help too.

Germs can live on some surfaces for hours. To protect yourself and others:

• Always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.
• Bin the tissue and, to kill the germs, wash your hands with soap and water, or use a sanitiser gel.

This is the best way to slow the spread of almost any germs, including Coronavirus.

If you have arrived back from China or specified countries within the last 14 days, follow the returning traveller advice.

Check the list of countries and find out more at gov.uk/coronavirus
MOVIE NIGHT SATURDAY
Village Hall
28th MARCH at 7.30PM!

Our next feature at the Village Hall is a coming of age drama set in 1980s Luton to the music of Bruce Springsteen. Directed by Gurinder Chadha of Bend It Like Beckham fame. A great heart warming story! Tickets £5 per person in advance please - email markbutterill@gmail.com or call 07710 459655.

Just bring your own drinks, we'll have popcorn & other snacks!
‘FOX AND HOUNDS’ EXTON

New landlords Simon and Christina are pleased to announce their new telephone number

01572 811032 and email info@thefoxinexton.co.uk.

They are organising a Quiz night every Tuesday, starting 3rd March, £1 entry per person.

OR a special deal for 2 persons: Entry to the Quiz, 2 fresh home cooked pizzas, and a bottle of wine £28, 7.45 for 8 pm.

Easter opening hours are as follows

Good Friday 12-11
Easter Saturday 12-11
Easter Sunday 12-9
Easter Monday 12-9
Casserole by Fairylight organised by Ann Bell and June Green was as usual a cracking success. Lots of happy faces, superb food, good humour, lovely venue, people catching up with other friends in the village, what more could you want? Well I tell you what – you need an auction! Auctioneer extraordinaire John Marshall with his delightful assistants - modelling as and when required Nicola, Sharon and Jayne entertained us all while trying to squeeze money out of the diners. Such an array of donated goods on display! Thanks to the generous support of everybody, those who brought puddings, gave up their time, the dauphinois potatoes from Jackson Stops, cleared away at the end of the occasion, those who donated to the auction and support of the raffle organised by Stevie Boys. Stevie had been busy as he also donated several hand sculpted wooden pieces in the auction. Well done all!! Ann Bell, friends and family, where would Exton be without you!!?

The grand total of £1,200 was raised for Exton Church of St Peter and St Paul.
EXTON LITTER PICKING FEBRUARY 22\textsuperscript{nd}

February, organised once again by Ed Heckels, like a military operation. Around 50 bags of rubbish were collected from the local roadsides. We are lucky to have so many people willing to turn out to do this task, about 30 this year. Ed led the helpers into the pub at the end of the action to celebrate with a well earned drink.

A big thank you to one and all, a job well done.
ST PETER AND ST PAUL PARISH CHURCH,

Services in March

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8th</td>
<td>11.15am</td>
<td>Morning Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22nd</td>
<td>11.15am</td>
<td>Mothering Sunday Holy Communion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29th</td>
<td>10.30am</td>
<td>Benefice Service at Cottesmore</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The day of Morning Prayer has changed to Thursday but still at 9.15am at Malting Barn.

A welcome addition to the church furnishings is the purchase of two ‘pew runners’ in memory of Jane Mills and bought with a share of the money donated after Jane’s funeral. Her name is embroidered along one edge. They will certainly be a much softer seat than the wooden pews. We hope eventually to have all the pews furnished in such a way. If anyone would like to ‘sponsor’ one in memory of a loved one, please let me know. The cost of the longer runner is £169.20 and £128.40 for the shorter one. The embroidery, which is optional, is £24 for up to 50 letters/numbers.

General queries can be directed to the cottesmorebenefice.office@gmail.com or to me at sallyrm24@gmail.com or on 811411. Sally Miller, Churchwarden

ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

Holy Mass Sunday 9 am
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Tele</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Village Hall Chair</td>
<td>Mark Butterill</td>
<td>813652</td>
<td><a href="mailto:markbutterill@gmail.com">markbutterill@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Village Hall Secretary</td>
<td>Joy McNally</td>
<td>811183</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Village Hall Bookings</td>
<td>Lorraine Cash</td>
<td>812121</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rutland County Councillor [Exton]</td>
<td>June Fox</td>
<td>01780 461133</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jfox@rutland.gov.uk">jfox@rutland.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parish Council Chairman</td>
<td>Derek Palmer</td>
<td>812121</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dpalm9@yahoo.co.uk">dpalm9@yahoo.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parish Council Clerk</td>
<td>Annette Oliver</td>
<td>812233</td>
<td><a href="mailto:annetteoliver63@gmail.com">annetteoliver63@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>20 Stamford Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exton Defibrillator Co-ordinator</td>
<td>Bernadette Wallace</td>
<td>01572 812956</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bernie.wallace@btinternet.com">bernie.wallace@btinternet.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mob: 07858484918</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exton Village website</td>
<td>Paul Taylor</td>
<td><a href="http://www.exton.org">www.exton.org</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:paul.taylor282@outlook.com">paul.taylor282@outlook.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RC Priest Oakham Presbytery</td>
<td>Father Stephen Dye</td>
<td>722308</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parish Church Rector</td>
<td>Anthony Oram</td>
<td>812948</td>
<td><a href="mailto:revanthonyoram@gmail.com">revanthonyoram@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Peter &amp; St Paul Churchwarden</td>
<td>Sally Miller</td>
<td>811411</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sallyrm24@gmail.com">sallyrm24@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fox &amp; Hounds</td>
<td></td>
<td>811032</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@thefoxinexton.co.uk">info@thefoxinexton.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Room</td>
<td>Susan Ware Meggie Kroeger</td>
<td>812825</td>
<td><a href="mailto:s.p.ware@btinternet.com">s.p.ware@btinternet.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>812509</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kroegermeggie@gmail.com">kroegermeggie@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxi</td>
<td>Lee Secker</td>
<td>07742815446</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pest Control</td>
<td>Ziggy</td>
<td>07973954552</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playpark Warden</td>
<td>Jonathan</td>
<td>812153</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter -</td>
<td>Dan Howison</td>
<td>812511</td>
<td>Main distributor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter</td>
<td>Annette Oliver</td>
<td>812233</td>
<td>Editor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OBITUARY

It is with much sadness we report on the death of FAY HOWISON, wife of Dan for so many years,

APRIL NEWSLETTER contributions to be received no later than March 20th

Email annetteoliver63@gmail.com

If you wish to be added to the list of those who receive the Exton newsletter by email and therefore in colour and earlier, then please contact the Editor.

Anyone who wishes to have their name deleted from the list of email contacts please also contact the Editor.

Please note in accordance with Data Protection best practice and Privacy regulations, these addresses are not passed on to other parties for distribution purposes.

Thanks to the School for printing the Newsletter