



Minutes and Agendas are published on the website: <https://www.pitsfordvillage.co.uk/parish-council.html> and the village notice board. If you have any issue that you wish to raise, please contact: Acting Parish Clerk, Maureen Holliday on 078844 90997 or [clerk@pitsfordparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@pitsfordparishcouncil.org.uk)

Under the current circumstances the Parish Council cannot hold public meetings. Legislation has been changed to allow virtual meetings until May 2021. Notices will be published as normal.

Pitsford Parish Council held the Annual Council Meeting last night via Zoom. It was a great success, particularly as we completed a large agenda in 1hr 10mins, brilliant!

**Alastair Kimbell was elected as Chairman**, Edward Rogers remains as Vice-Chairman, the existing Councillors are, Keith Isaacs, Jo Woolard, Shelley McLellan, Steve Arnold. Maureen Holliday returned to the Council as a Councillor and we welcomed two new Councillors in John Price-Stephens and David Bletsoe-Brown. All contact details will be placed on the Notice Board and the Pitsford Village Website.

Councillor Kimbell has been a Councillor since May 2014 and his family background is steeped in local council work.

#### **Matters agreed at the meeting:**

The Annual Meeting is traditionally dominated by agreeing policies, governance documents, audit and accounts but we also made some very positive decisions in the meeting.

**Proposed Speed Limit Changes in Moulton Road:** The works are now complete and the 30mph speed limit signs have been moved further away from the village entrance and past Stable Lane. A suggestion was made by a resident to move the Activated Speed Sign further out towards the new 30 speed limit signs as this would help to slow the traffic down before entering the narrow areas and entrances to Stable Lane and Pitsford School. Permission from Highways is being obtained and quotations were received and accepted at the Council meeting last night. The sign will be removed and re-engineered to work on solar power.

#### **Internet Banking**

The Council agreed to move to Internet Banking. This will save the Clerk time, the payment process will be speeded up and the payee bank will save on charges for processing cheque payments. Policy and security processes will be set in place.

#### **Dedicated email addresses for Councillors.**

In the interests of privacy and data protection all Councillors will have an @Pitsfordpc email address to be used for council business only.

#### **Planning Applications:**

##### **New Application**

**Green Barn on Moulton Road: PD/2020/0014** The owner is now applying to turn the house permission into offices under **Permitted Development** Rights. DDC do not normally consult PC's on PD applications, This application was spotted whilst looking for the application to widen the access.

**Green Barn on Moulton Road: DA/2020/0369** Alterations to the existing access and parking. This is to comply with the requirements for the above PD

The Council has not had time to consider this application yet having only been notified on the 27 May.

#### **Decided:**

**DA/2020/0036** 65, High Street, Pitsford. Single storey rear extension and front porch.

**Amended plans.** The materials have been changed to be more in keeping with surrounding properties. The depth of the extension had been marginally reduced. The height of the extension was unchanged. Response:

The Parish Council considers that the extension is too high and therefore **objects** to the application on the basis of loss of daylight, overshadowing and density of the extension. The Council suggests that the Case Officer should visit number 63 to appreciate the loss of light. This application went before the Daventry Planning Committee last week and was unanimously refused.

**DA/2020/0201** Yew Tree Cottage 38a Manor Rd. Works to tree subject of Tree Preservation Order DA 337 T1 Pine. Response: Defer to the Landscape Officer  
Approved 28 April

**DA/2019/0773** Renovation of The Old Bakehouse and Virginia Cottage including new glazed link to Virginia Cottage and demolition of small outbuildings. Conversion of large barn to residential unit with demolition of small outbuilding. High Street, Pitsford, NN6 9AQ Approved 19 May

**DA/2019/0774** Listed Building Consent for renovation of The Old Bakehouse and Virginia Cottage  
Response: No Observations  
Approved 12 May

### **Other Matters**

#### **There is not much about COVID-19 in here.**

We are swamped by emails daily carrying copies reports of what is generally reported elsewhere. If you have any concerns or need clarification please contact the Parish Clerk.

#### **The Quarry**

Bennies have informed us that they are carrying out conservation work in the quarry. Please avoid the fabric fenced off area and try to keep an eye on it for the benefit of the owners – they do allow the public to walk the quarry even though there are no formal footpaths in the public area. They will soon be increasing their security levels 'technologically'.

#### **The broken light (no. 10) outside Orchard Cottages:**

This repair also fell victim to the lockdown but was repaired on Tuesday.  
Please report all breakages to the Parish Clerk.

**Resurfacing High Street and Moulton Road:** The surfacing and white lining projects have all been postponed for the time being, but we will ensure that this work is carried out.

**Works to Wall in Drummond Close:** No-one owns this land but the Parish Council has undertaken to repair the wall for the benefit of the village. Having negotiated all the hurdles the rebuild has been completed to a very high standard. The contractor, Martyn Palmer, had stated that he was not sure when he could begin the work, so we are very grateful that he squeezed it into his busy schedule.

**Sports Field Wall repair:** The Sports Field Trust own this wall but the Parish Council pay for the insurance on the Sports Field and Pavilion. Quotations are being obtained from contractors who will turn out to quote but they are all catching up at the moment and they are still saying 'I can't say when I can do it'. We will push on.

**New Bench in High Street:** The bench was delivered in March, however, works to create the base and place in position were delayed due to the current lockdown. It should be in place next week.

**News from our PCSO, Paul Miller** We have been getting a lot of calls across the area ref COVID-19. Not so many from Pitsford. Things are still good in Pitsford area and I continue to patrol as part of every tour of duty.

**Other Police Matters reported:** (it would be useful if you would notify us of any reports you have made.) Evening/night activity in the Sports Field car park has been reported. Please report any suspicious activity to 999 ONLY if it is serious and it is happening now, otherwise to 101 or on-line.

[How To Report Suspected Covid19 Breaches](#)

*We are receiving a high volume of suspected Covid19 breaches. To assist us in managing these reports and balance our demand we ask that suspected breaches of Covid19 and made online through the following link: <https://www.northants.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/c19/tell-us-about-possible-breach-coronavirus-measures/> Thank you for your support. Nick Paul (Police, Neighbourhood Sergeant, Northampton)*

### **Garden waste bin subscriptions for 2020/2021**

The service runs from 1 June 2020 to 31 May 2021 and costs £37 per bin per annum.

Payment can be made by debit or credit card or by direct debit. The fee must be paid in full when you sign up to the service. There have been problems with the on-line link therefore it may be easier to renew by calling 0345 2185215

### **Neighbourhood Plan**

As no elections or consultations are allowed until May 2021 (at the moment) the Consultation Period for the Pitsford Development Plan is on hold for the time being. You will be kept informed.

(Full notices can be read on the website <https://www.pitsfordvillage.co.uk> )



### **Children First Northamptonshire - Resources for Families**

An extensive list of links to mental health support, educational sites and other activities for families has been drawn up by Children First Northamptonshire at Northamptonshire County Council.

Families can use these resources at any time, but they are particularly useful through these unexpected times of rapid and unpredictable change during the Coronavirus Pandemic.

The document has links to local, national and international webpages with ideas and information and entertainment to aid you and your children while studying at home. Including information relevant to children across the early years and school age range including those with special educational needs and disabilities:

[https://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/children-families-education/SEND/local-offer/Downloads/NCC%20Local%20Offer%20-%20Lockdown%20Resources%20for%20Families%20\(PDF%200.99MB\)%20V3.pdf](https://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/children-families-education/SEND/local-offer/Downloads/NCC%20Local%20Offer%20-%20Lockdown%20Resources%20for%20Families%20(PDF%200.99MB)%20V3.pdf)

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LibraryPlus



### **A message from the Northamptonshire Libraries**

We are all keen to open as soon as we can safely do so but do need to have a consistent and planned approach to this across all our libraries.

Each library is going to be slightly different of course, depending on the physical layout, but there will be guidelines for all to follow. Please be assured that we will share our procedures with you all when we can.

- **On-line Rhymetimes:**

We know how important it is for families to be able to entertain their youngsters at this time. We're posting Craft activities and Rhymetimes on the Northamptonshire Libraries YouTube channel. During this period of social distancing library staff are recording Rhymetimes and are uploading them on to our YouTube page, so if anyone is missing their weekly fix of interactive singing please go to the link below and join in!

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2ouq9dvlOGwIOV11Jvm8Vw>

- **Facebook Pages:**

Library staff are continuing to keep customers updated on the library offer through individual library Facebook pages. Check them out for some great craft and quizzing activities! If you have your own Facebook pages, please use these to keep your customers informed – like the Library Facebook pages too, so they have up to date information.

- **eBooks now available through Libby:**

We've seen a huge increase in people signing up for Virtual membership and use of e resources. We are investing in additional e resources all the time to satisfy demand.

We recently launched our new eAudiobook service, Libby by Overdrive, and we have now developed the service further by adding eBooks as well! We have started with an opening collection of more than 1200 titles and have also created a special collection for CILIP's National Shelf Service which means you can find fantastic titles recommended by professional librarians all in one place!

We are of course offering all this in addition to BorrowBox, so please don't worry, BorrowBox is going nowhere!

To use Libby, simply download the app from your app store. In the Libby app, follow the prompts to find your library and search Northamptonshire Libraries. Enter your library card number (with the D in front and no spaces) and 4-digit PIN number.

- **For The Love Of Books:**

For the Love of Books – don't forget this challenge is still ongoing. If you're struggling to choose from our huge array of e books, there are different challenges posted regularly to widen your reading choices. Find the latest challenge and join in on the Facebook page.

Many of you may have heard about it or even taking part in the challenge! Basically, from 7 October 2019 to 30 September 2020, Northamptonshire Libraries are challenging you to read, or listen to, 25 books.



Detectives from Northamptonshire Police's Fraud Team are warning local residents of a scam in which people are pretending to be police officers in order to steal money and personal details.

In April 2020, the Force received 12 reports of fraudsters posing as police officers in an attempt to commit courier fraud. Those targeted were aged between 70 and 89, and their total financial losses were £7,100.

Courier fraud involves fraudsters telephoning a potential victim, claiming to be from their bank, the police or another law enforcement authority, and tricking them into revealing their PIN number, bank card and personal details.

They often do this by claiming that they need help with an ongoing fraud investigation, or that they have arrested someone who has cloned the victim's bank cards.

These fraudsters commonly target the elderly and will sometimes even turn up in person to collect cash from their victims.

Detective Sergeant Tim Craven, said: "Criminals are experts at impersonating people, organisations and the police. They spend hours researching you for their scams, hoping you'll let your guard down for just a moment. Stop and think. It could protect you and your money.

"We are encouraging everyone to help us spread the word about this kind of scam to prevent any more people in our county being taken in by it.



**Future Northants media release: Plans to create two unitary councils undergo major redesign**

With tackling the Coronavirus everyone's top priority, plans for creating two new councils in Northamptonshire will be scaled down, with a new approach called

'Safe and Legal Plus'.

New legislation that came into effect on 8 May, as expected confirms the new North and West Northamptonshire Councils will start on 1 April 2021. This follows the postponement of this spring's scheduled unitary elections due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The North and West Shadow Councils' Executives at their first meetings in late June will be considering proposals to prioritise work to ensure all services are set up safely and legally for day one of the two new authorities, whilst still working hard to bring together and improve as many existing services as possible.

Preparations will continue towards setting up the new countywide Children's Trust by 1 April next year, with the timescale dependent on the ongoing pandemic response.

The priorities of the proposed revised Safe and Legal Plus programme include:

- Ensuring all services for the new councils are ready to go next April so residents continue to access services as they usually would.
- Setting up the new North and West shadow authorities, which are made up of the existing district, borough and county councillors. They will meet in June and replace the West and North Northants Joint Committees.
- Ensuring budgets are set for each new council and developing plans for equalising Council Tax rates across each unitary area.
- Bringing together the existing district and borough services into the new North and West unitary councils and splitting county council services across the two areas.
- Even better joint working in Adults Services and Health and Social Care, with improved ways of working to improve services for residents and deliver significant savings.

Cllr Russell Roberts, Leader of the new North Northamptonshire Shadow Authority said: "Our councils and services are facing unprecedented challenges in responding to the Covid pandemic and the health and welfare of our residents is at the forefront of everything we are doing.

"We're working on the assumption that safe and legal is deliverable by 1 April 2021 but due to the uncertainty that exists at the moment, we will continually review what is possible to achieve and by when as we move through the next few months.

"We've had to re-think our ambitions as to what we can achieve by Go Live Day, but while the focus is on Safe and Legal, we'll be doing what we can between now and April."

Councillor Ian McCord, Leader of the new West Northamptonshire Shadow Authority, said: "Providing essential public services to residents and businesses during the Coronavirus pandemic has rightly been our top priority, with work on the new councils put on the back burner. As a result, we've had to scale back how much we can do before launch of the two new councils next April.

"We'll certainly have each new council up and running on time but will complete much of the behind-the-scenes work of integrating staff from the previous councils later on. What's most important is that residents relying on public services continue to see them run smoothly."

To view the vision document, 'Prospectus for Change - the next chapter' and to find out more about the new Safe and Legal Plus approach for the unitary preparations visit

<https://futurenorthantswest.org/information/and> <http://futurenorthantsnorth.org/publications-and-background-documents/>



“ Beware of strangers appearing at your door as a Good Samaritan. Whilst most people are showing kindness, a small minority are out to take advantage of the pandemic by offering help or services with the intention of conning you out of money. ”

Mark Hallas O.B.E.  
CEO of CrimeStoppers

**CrimeStoppers.**  
**0800 555 111**  
100% anonymous. Always.

### Scammers - Household Waste

Northamptonshire County Council is warning people affected by the impact of the COVID-19 virus to be alert for bogus cold callers or online advertisements offering to remove household waste.

Unlicensed carriers may be tempted to illegally dump, or 'fly-tip', the waste they collect in order to avoid the charges for proper disposal.

Flytipping not only causes pollution and

environmental damage, but the council tax payer will bear the clear up costs of waste dumped on public land.

You can check if someone is a registered waste carrier by calling: 03708 506 506.

You can also call CrimeStoppers on 0800 555 111 about any sort of suspicious activity.