



Eydon Village News

NOVEMBER 2023

ISSUE 436

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Next Issue

Deadline for future articles is the 3rd Friday of the month.

Please email to:

evn@eydon-village.co.uk



EYDON PARISH COUNCIL - FROM THE CHAIRMAN

News and a couple of requests!

It has been some time since I wrote for the EVN and a lot has changed; we have recruited a new Clerk, Steve Fox, who has been a long-term resident of the Village.

The whole recruitment process gave us an opportunity to look at how the Parish Council operates and has been wholly positive.

You may have noticed that things are happening (at last I hear you cry!).

Street Lights

We have finally finished replacing all the street lights in the Village a process which has taken many years. The time taken has actually in some ways been useful as I believe we have ended up with the best technology for the fittings. Only one complaint was received for the whole process, I wish to place on record thanks to the contractor Andy Reynolds and his team who have done a marvellous job.

We have had the posts painted as well and they look great!

Telephone Box

Cleaned and Painted - a reminder it is still connected if you don't have a land line and your mobile signal has gone. We have insisted that it stays due to the still-patchy mobile signal.

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PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

The October meeting of Eydon Parish Council took place on Tuesday 10 October at 7.30pm in the Village hall.

The Councillors present were :- Andy Partridge, Jonathan Walker, Howard Carter, Kim Keeble, Roddy Owen-Smith, Chairman Keith Simmons along with Steve Fox the Clerk.

No members of the public were in attendance.

During the meeting amongst the items discussed were :

Village Projects

The Council reviewed and updated the Village Projects List.

With regard to the Village Design Statement Councillors agreed to read through the VDS with a view to enable discussion how to update the Statement at the next meeting and seek public opinion before the end of the year.

The Clerk advised that the new sign on the burial ground gates would be replaced by the end of October.

The Clerk reported that the Contractor had agreed to add the path from the Village Green to the Church to the Grass Cutting Contract at no extra cost.

The Clerk reported he was meeting Highways to discuss the installation of Village Gates at the entrances to the village and to report back next meeting.

The Clerk advised that a meeting had been arranged with a byways expert to

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Notes from St Nicholas



Services for November 2023

Sunday 5th November

10.00 Holy Communion

Sunday 12th November

10.15 Remembrance Sunday service

Sunday 19th November

No service at St Nicholas

Sunday 26th November

10.00 Benefice Holy Communion and baptism

Please contact a Churchwarden if you need further information or have any questions.

We are happy to arrange lifts to benefice services if needed

Churchwardens:

Sue Tresham

Tel: 260503

sueeyates@aol.com

—

Gary Denby

Tel: 264002

gjdenny@btinternet.com

COFFEE MORNING

On Saturday 9th December we will be holding a coffee morning in the Village Hall from 10.00 -12.00.

We will be collecting for the local foodbanks who desperately need help during the Christmas period.

There will be more information about the needs in due course

Sue Tresham

EYDON ART GROUP

The Eydon Art Group has restarted after our summer break.

We meet on Thursday afternoons in the village hall, mainly untutored and working on own projects using favourite media, but with occasional workshops.

If you would like to join this very friendly and supportive group do get in touch. Lyn 01327 261164



November Bin Collections



Tuesday 7th November

Black bins



Tuesday 14th November

Blue and Green bins



Tuesday 21st November

Black bin



Tuesday 28th November

Blue and Green bins

You will only receive garden waste collections if you pay for the service.

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Burial Ground Gates

These have been refurbished and a new sign will be affixed soon.

Water Supply

More contentious - but I think the road closure will be worth it if we have a more secure supply with the main replacement. I know how painful it is but we are pressurising all the agencies



to keep on schedule. The only problem is once our spanking new bit works, it's connected to the old bits via Culworth from Thorpe Mandeville, so it makes sense that some more work will be required, so probably more pain in the form of road closures to come.

I really believe the strength of feeling made by residents, and coordinated and led by the Council made this happen. Don't forget the Parish Council is the first level of Government and does have a voice - it's not heard enough, but it's up to us to make it so.

The Council is also going through a joint training exercise to improve our knowledge of what we can and can't do, how to carry out our duties and generally become more competent councillors. This will result in us being one of a minority of councils accredited properly as a council rather than individuals.

Village Design Statement

We are planning to update the Village design statement, formulate a Village Emergency plan, watching those house fires in London last year frightened the life out of me on a day we had no water! A whole host of other initiatives including standardising street names signs and other improvements to our community - you may have ideas we haven't considered, please think about it we need you !

Parish Council Vacancy

We currently have what is known as a casual vacancy due to Gordon Anderson shortly leaving the Village. The councillor role is very worthwhile and we need that extra person to enable points of view on village matters to be fully debated. If you have some time please consider standing. It is a rewarding and worthwhile role.

Editor Of Eydon Village News

Gordon, on top of his role as a Councillor, also edits the Eydon Village News and from the comments we have received his editorship has improved the look and style no end. We are sorry to see him and his wife Christine leave the Village, but we desperately need to fill this role. Gordon has revitalised it and has proved that it is better to have the editor with a local connection rather than an outsider, as local knowledge is useful and we do not wish to lose that impetus. It is a paid position and takes around 4 hours per month. Gordon has agreed to assist in any handover and discuss the role with a prospective editor.

If anyone is interested in either of these roles please contact me and I'll be happy to have a chat.

Keith Simmons

Eydon Parish Council Chairman

keith.simmons@eydon-village.co.uk

01327 263014

PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

(Continued from page 2)

progress the rights of way issue regarding the bridal way and sports field.

Andrew Partridge reported that highways would be submitting an application for a footpath to be constructed from Hollow Way to the sports field. The clerk would discuss this at his meeting with Highways.

An initial working party of Councillors Andrew Partridge, Kim Keeble and Roddy Owen Smith was set up to start the formulation of the Eydon Emergency Plan.

The Chairman and Andrew Partridge would look at the street name signs and recommend a way forward to standardise and improve the look of these around the Village.

Roddy Owen-Smith reported that the Wi-Fi extender in the village hall was now installed, which allowed connection outside the hall and the login details would be published to the village. (see back page).

Jonathan Walker agreed to survey the salt bins and also to set in train arrangements for a Village tidy AND a subsequent litter pick for the new year.

Highways and related matters

Highways - Andrew Partridge reported on the many road

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FIRST WEDNESDAY CLUB - WINE

Our speaker this time was Islay Kennedy from Leighton Buzzard. She was born in New Zealand where her parents emigrated and she was named Islay after the Scottish island where her grandfather lived.

Having graduated in bio chemistry at university, she met a British doctor and moved to Adelaide, Australia. In those days Adelaide was the wine "capital" of the southern hemisphere, which she got to know quickly at parties and wine tasting. This was more appealing than bio chemistry, so she obtained a degree in oenology.

A change in her personal circumstances brought her to London with her young family. In order to earn a living, she decided to explore the possibilities of working in the wine industry. So she contacted a wine merchant who she knew in Melbourne. Thus began her career as an importer of Australian wines.

This started by selling small quantities to the likes of Selfridges, clubs and pubs. Her big break came when she managed to sell a whole container load to Morrisons supermarket in Bradford and then others followed! Subsequently, bulk tanks were imported to be bottled on this side of the world.

The path to success had been a rocky one at times, but Islay got there in the end through tenacity and hard work. She has written a book on the subject which has yet to be published, but I'm sure it will be fascinating. The meeting concluded with members tasting a N.Z wine, which was much appreciated.

Richard Forsyth

Eydon Ladies

Eydon Ladies met on Wednesday 18th October 2023 in the Village Hall while Storm Babet was doing her worst outside.



Despite the atrocious weather, many members and guests came along to be treated to a fascinating talk on Canons Ashby House Gardens. The speaker was Bob Illingsworth – a National Trust volunteer for some 17 years - who covered the history of the Gardens starting in the early 18th Century, their decline in the 20th Century and the painstaking restoration over recent years. The evening gave everyone an insight into this local treasure and included some beautiful pictures of the Gardens over the years. Eydon Ladies look forward to visiting them for a guided tour in summer next year.

The next meeting of Eydon Ladies will be held at the Eydon Village Hall on Wednesday 15th November 2023 at 7.30pm. The theme for the evening will be 'Christmas Baubles' with Lindsey Fox and Juliet Nichols. There will be a short history of these festive decorations followed by a workshop where everyone can have fun creating their own. Mulled wine and mince pies will be available to help everybody to get into the Christmas spirit and there will be a raffle. This event is open to all Ladies with guests at a fee of just £5.

So Ladies, whether you are creative, interested in some Christmas history or just fancy an evening of mulled wine, mince pies and a chat, **Wednesday 15th November** is a date for your diaries. We hope to see you in the Village Hall at 7.30pm for an event full of Christmas cheer.

We always welcome new members and anyone wishing to join our merry band should contact Ruth Kukla (Treasurer) on 01327 264109 or send an email to:

ruth.kukla@hotmail.com.

PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

(Continued from page 3)

closures and his ongoing discussions with the Utilities and HS2 to try and coordinate these to try and limit inconvenience to the Village. It was agreed to publicise as much as possible the results.

He also reported that Motorsport UK would no longer use Leicester Lane and routes through the Village for its events.

Councillor Training

Dates had been set for the five sessions and was a mix of in person and online. This would result in accreditation and enable Councillors to fully understand and carry out their roles.

Eydon Village News

As reported last month the current editor was leaving the Village, it was agreed to seek a possible replacement for this paid position and the Chairman agreed to look into this and approach prospective candidates, ideally a resident.

Co-option of new councillor

Councillors would continue to try and find a new Councillor, the Chairman would write an article for EVN to publicise this.

Electricity Provision

Andrew Partridge reported 3 posts had been replaced in the current works.

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PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

(Continued from page 4)

Planning Matters:

2022/1341/FULL Royal Oak Public House

This application had been approved by West Northants Planning.

The Parish Council however, was particularly concerned by this, especially the new access arrangements which the Council viewed as potentially dangerous, and the reduction in parking spaces which would add to the pressure of parking on Lime Avenue and poor visibility of the proposed access caused major concern.

In the report Highways stated that that the access would not meet current standards but the Officer concluded it would be no worse than currently.

The Council believed that not enough weight had been given to the highways elements of the application, (it was subsequently confirmed the decision had been made without highways visiting the site!)

The only option of challenge was to make an application for a judicial review of the decision, which would almost certainly run into a considerable cost.

The Chairman was charged with pursuing the matter with the Officer and Highways and ask the Local Councillor for assistance .

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Fish 'n' Chip Lunches

A select gathering enjoyed the comfort and facility of the Sailing Clubhouse at Boddington reservoir, on October 18th for the fish and chip lunch. It was by no means sailing weather, but we were safely looked after in the warm indoors by past commodore Andy Darby and his wife.



November Fish 'n Chip lunch is on the third Wednesday, **November 15th, in Eydon Sports Pavilion**. It will be open from 12:15, and all are very welcome. The pavilion is limited in size, so numbers could be limited. Bookings on a first come basis.

Please book now with John Grindlay, 01327 260303, or 07836 502756, or email john@grindlay.org.uk.

Do specify whether you would like fish and chips, a Chinese chicken dish, or a vegetarian dish. Food price has gone up, so the meal is now £8.00, which includes a contribution to the pavilion, and 50p to Katharine house hospice.

The Quiz this month is being set by Sue Infrenuzzi.

John Grindlay

The Church Clock

The Clock repair should be completed early this month, and once again it will be seen and heard.

Very many thanks to those who contributed to the repair costs.

Contributors include:

David Kench,
Helen Whittow,
The Nelson family,
Mr & Mrs Ken Fowler,
Mr & Mrs Tony Hardy,
Tony Richards,
Alan Dryden,
Mr & Mrs Patrick Martin,
and 'anonymous'.

John Grindlay



PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

(Continued from page 5)

The chairman subsequently wrote, asking for a site meeting with the parties and included the owner in the invitation.

The Council reaffirmed its view that it was not against development/refurbishment of the Public House and wished to see it thrive but felt it had a duty to raise these serious concerns.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

The next planned meeting of the Parish Council is at 7.30 on Tuesday 14 November in the Village hall

**Keith Simmons
Parish Council Chairman**

Eydon 200 Club

Here are the results for the September draw, congratulations to all the winners:

1st prize: King family

2nd prize: Sophie Beaty

3rd prize: Gary and Anne Peacock

Bonus prizes:

Jo Bushell

Martin Jones

Lettie Wilkins (dog)

King family

Amber Morphew (dog)

GARDEN WASTE

Since the introduction of the green bin charges there have been several matters brought to the attention of the Parish Council around garden waste and these have been discussed recently at our meetings.

One of the challenges is where and how to dispose of the waste if you don't pay for a green bin. The most effective solution is to compost your waste in your garden or allotment but please don't dispose of it over fences and onto farmers fields. If you have a neighbour who owns or rents land who happens to graze livestock - your garden waste can be extremely harmful once it begins to decompose. It may seem like a big field but it is not yours and sheep and other livestock are drawn to grass cuttings once they begin to ferment.



Another option people take is to burn your waste. However, please don't burn your garden waste in a domestic fireplace, as it is often very smoky and can cause concern if it looks like there is a chimney fire.

Finally, the old favourite of bonfires -whilst there is no law in the UK around lighting bonfires, please be considerate; very smoky bonfires can be a genuine nuisance as can bonfires on a warm sunny day when there are likely to be windows open, washing out or windows open.

In all instances when disposing of garden waste please be considerate to your neighbours throughout the village.

Many in Eydon have close connections with Canons Ashby house, our local popular National Trust property. Indeed, Bob Illingsworth of Canons Ashby recently addressed Eydon Ladies with a fascinating talk, as reported elsewhere in the EVN.



A Personal View... *November 2023*



Canons Ashby wasn't always the well-preserved sixteenth century country house we see today. Fifty-five years ago, it was let to an ambitious retired Major in the Intelligence Corps and his wife, as a workshop. Louis Osman first visited Canons Ashby as a 21-year-old student of Architecture. The house and grounds fascinated him, so after the '39/'45 war he resolved to take a lease on the building when the owners, descendants of the poet laureate John Dryden, retired to (the then) Rhodesia. The opportunity eventually came in 1968, after Osman had completed his training as a goldsmith and had become well established as a master craftsman.

Osman settled into Canons Ashby house with his Welsh wife Dilys, and their then 26-year-old daughter MaryLou (Marie-Louise), together with three Great Danes and a herd of pedigree Jerseys. His goldsmith business flourished, and he was able to put on a successful 5-day exhibition of his work in 1974. This would be the climax of Osman's time in Canons Ashby. By the late 1970's, he found it impossible to meet both the peppercorn rental of £150 p/a, plus his contracted contribution of £20,000 (over £1/4 m. today) towards maintenance and restoration.

But his outstanding work drew clients from far and wide. Elizabeth Taylor was a regular client. Sir Edward Ford, of Eydon Hall commissioned a silver and gold cigar box in 1985 for presentation to The Goldsmiths' Company. However, the most famous commission of all was from H.M Queen Elizabeth II. Osman designed and made the Coronet with which Her Majesty crowned the then Prince of Wales at Caernarvon Castle on July 1st 1969.



I well remember visiting Louis Osman at Canons Ashby and looking round his workshop and house around that time. In places, parts of the roof were missing and one could see sky when looking up through the ceilings. Many floorboards were missing, or at best rotten and dangerous to tread on. Osman found a dusty bottle of rather nasty red wine, I recall. My Dad ferreted out some glasses from a pantry, and we toasted Osman's success. The Church, on the other side of the lane, was in an even worse condition. The windows were boarded up, and the roof was mainly off. It was forbidden to enter, being so dangerous.

One of the several skilled silversmiths working with Osman, was Peter Musgrove of Eydon. Peter, with his wife Mary and children Tom & Amy, enjoyed many happy years in our village. Peter has left many of his marks in the area, having made several pieces of silver articles for locals. He still has his workshop in Banbury, and visits Eydon from time to time.

Louis Osman relinquished his tenancy of Canons Ashby in 1980, and moved to Herefordshire till he died in 1996 aged 82. His daughter MaryLou moved to Priors Hardwick where she looked after seven dogs and delivered the daily newspapers around the village. She died in 2021, in her 80th year. We see Canons Ashby House as it is now, well-preserved by The National trust. But no longer is the house alive with the fifteen or more craftspeople that Louis Osman assembled to make wonderful and significant works of art in this historic house.

John Grindlay

Free Wi-Fi is now available outside the front of the Village Hall.

As part of the Village Emergency Plan, should any resident lose their WiFi an emergency Wi-Fi service is available to enable any critical contact required.

(The village hall Wi-Fi is provided by Gigaclear, so won't work during a power cut or if the Gigaclear service to the village is interrupted)

FREE Wi-Fi



SSID: FreeEydonVillageWiFi

PASS: EydonWiFi

Available at the front of the Village Hall

Provided by:  Eydon
Parish
Council