

Claxby Parish Council Newsletter November 2024

Dear villager,

Councillors and volunteers have been very busy during the last few months and much has been achieved. Here is an update of the work completed together with some future plans. Thank you to everyone involved – there has been lots of very positive feedback from villagers, their families and funding providers.

To keep up to date regular news and information is always available on the Parish Council Website:- <https://claxby.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/>

Community Field

Volunteers spent many hours during the year clearing and removing overgrown vegetation and old unrepairable play equipment. Grants obtained from the National Lottery and West Lindsey District Council enabled the purchase of new and accessible play equipment and an accessible pathway. The installation was completed by Wicksteed contractors in mid August.

To celebrate this a “Picnic in the Park” event was held where young and old enjoyed trying out the new equipment, playing the village games and having refreshments including ice creams in the village hall.

A grant obtained from Lincolnshire Wold Grant Services also enabled volunteers to seed the reclaimed areas around the field, plant bulbs, create a wildflower area and install steps and a gate to the dog walking area.

Further work planned includes improvement to the pedestrian entrance to the play area, installation of new seating and accessible picnic tables, a new signage board and a nature area. Grants are being sought to cover the costs with, again, much of the work being carried out by volunteers.

The car park is currently opened for events in the Village Hall and Community Field and can be booked by villagers or walking groups. It was also open during part of the school holidays to improve accessibility to the play area.

Wheelchair users, particularly, need access to the field via the car park and are currently limited when it is locked. Options to overcome this are:-

To leave the top gate open and lock the bottom gate.

To leave the top gate closed but unlocked and lock the bottom gate. These measures would allow access at all times to the play equipment and seating but would prevent vehicles being able to access the whole field.

To have a combination lock on the top gate with villagers having access to the code, again locking the bottom gate.

Villagers are invited to express their views or offer alternative suggestions to enable Council to decide on the best solution to ensure that everyone has appropriate access to the facilities.

Lincolnshire County Council Contractor Volunteers

We were again fortunate this year to have the offer of services from this group.

The old swings and slide in the playground and the fence and railings at the village hall were repainted. Membrane and gravel was laid between the hall and the neighbouring fence. Overgrown vegetation was cleared on St. Mary’s Lane and the sign posts and bins around the village cleaned.

It has been suggested that to keep the signs and bins clean and looking good, villagers, who are willing and able, may wish to “adopt a sign” and/or bin near their property and periodically clean it.

If interested in this or volunteering for other projects please contact **David Beer on 07710 692534** or email claxbyparishcouncil@gmail.com

Footpath Mulberry Road

Work is planned to remove overgrown vegetation from the footpath from Bristow's corner to the telephone box along Mulberry Road to improve access. Council have appointed a contractor and the work is due to be carried out some time in November.

Village Hall

Volunteers continue with improvements and maintenance.

Fundraising events for the hall held during the year included:-

A Soup and Roll lunch and a "Wimbledon" Strawberry afternoon tea

Money raised at these events was used towards heating costs and to purchase material for new tablecloths which Charles Blake kindly volunteered to make free of charge.

Many villagers will know Charles as he has had his handiwork on sale at several events during the year and, along with others, displays his artwork in the hall

The hall was used more than 250 times last year. Regular events include:-

Yoga with Sue Normandale Tel. **07415304174**

Mat Yoga Tuesday 10.30am-12md

Thursday 9.30am-10.30am

Chair Yoga Thursday 11am- 12noon

Handbell ringing - John Goodchild Friday 2pm-3pm with refreshments afterwards.

Ionian Service - Elaine Turner First Tuesday of the month, **except** November when the service will be on **Thursday the 7th at 3pm**. Refreshments half an hour before the service.

Afternoon Teas – Second Wednesday of the month October to April 3pm-4.30pm Next ones

Wednesday November 13th and December 11th where Charles will have his work on sale.

COWS craft group next meeting – **Wednesday November 6th 9.30am**.

Parish Council Meetings as advertised in the Noticeboard and on the website.

If you are interested in any of these events, wish to volunteer or discuss displaying your artwork please contact **Jenny Lofthouse Tel. 01673 828359 or 07703 149429** or email

jenny.claxbypc@dlmail.uk

Suggestions for a Book Club and Village Fete have been received from villagers. Please get in touch with Jenny if you would like to be involved or if have any other ideas for events in the Village Hall or Community Field.

Additional planned events in the hall

Age UK information talk November 20th 1pm- 3pm with refreshments

Talk on Autism Thursday December 5th 6.30pm

"Autism would appear to be a subject that is well known by all but still very misunderstood by many. Everyone on the spectrum is different and yet the media put out some outdated ideas which hinder the individual from being able to be understood and lead a full life.

If you want to find out more from a parent who has had to become an expert in the dealings of her son please join me at The Village hall" Geraldine Blake.

PCSO

Newly allocated for our area is PCSO Rachel Turner. Contact details for her are:- **07976946506** or email Rachel.turner@lincs.police.uk

Rachel is hoping to "drop in" to events at the hall as work commitments allow.

New Councillor and Councillor Vacancy

Council welcome Councillor Rosie De Smit who was co-opted at a meeting on October 29th 2024. Rosie has lived in the village for 36 years and having recently retired feels that she has more time available to contribute to the community.

One Councillor vacancy remains – if anyone is interested in applying and would like further details please contact David Beer - details as before.

Other Community News

Platts Wood

The bridleway from Claxby to the railway line and the circumference of the wood has been opened up. Work has finished for this year but will recommence next spring when, hopefully, the ground will have dried somewhat. Access now is much better. We will keep villagers up to date as and when we hear anything from Anthony Strawson, the new owner.

Church Services and Events

Details are available following this link:- <https://www.walesbychurches.org/>
or on the church or village notice boards

If you have anything that you would like including in the next newsletter please contact David Beer or Jenny Lofthouse - details as before.