

Sheriff Hutton Village News



Number 614

December 2020

Parish Council

www.sheriffhutton.co.uk

Due to Covid19 restrictions and the lockdown imposed by the government on the 5th November the planned Parish Council on Friday 13th November did not take place. Therefore, items were communicated via email.

The following new planning application was received for consideration:-

20/00949/FUL West Mill Barns, Stittenham Hill, Bulmer

Change of use of holiday let to allow the incorporation into main dwelling to form 1no. four bedroom dwelling.

The following new planning decision was received:-

20/00684/HOUSE 1 Park Cottages, Strensall To Sheriff Hutton Road, Sheriff Hutton

Erection of part single-storey, part-two storey extension to west elevation, together with erection of attached double garage building following the removal of existing garage, store and lobby.

APPROVED.

Parking Issues

The parish council would like to remind residents that it is not only very dangerous but also illegal to park on double yellow lines and also that residents should not park vehicles on grass verges throughout the village. This damages the verges beyond repair.

Next Meeting

The date of the next Parish Council meeting will be Friday 11th December 2020.

Louise Pink, the Parish Clerk, can be contacted regarding all Parish Council matters at sheriffhuttonparishcouncil@gmail.com or on (01904) 861131. 13 White Rose Avenue, New Earswick, York. YO32 4AG.

Super-Mobile Library

A new temporary timetable has been set up but for now can only offer a 'Select and Collect Service'. To arrange to collect your books call 01609 533878 or email supermobile@northyorks.gov.uk

The library van will be in the Village Hall car park on Friday 4 December from 10 to 12 noon, (lockdown rules permitting). There continues to be a range of e-books and publications available to download, for further information visit <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/libraries>

Lillings Ambo Parish Council

Due to the resignation of Robin Barker at the last parish council meeting on 3rd November (by Zoom), Lillings Ambo Parish Council is required to appoint a parish councillor.

Please apply to Fiona Hill, Clerk, at lillingsamboparishcouncil@outlook.com

Robin Barker

It is with great sadness I inform you that Robin Barker passed away on 7th November. He had been a member of Lillings Ambo Parish Council for 39 years, following his father, and his Grandfather, who initiated the Parish Council. He brought local knowledge to the meetings, a farming perspective and his interest in the history of the area, particularly the Enclosure Act. He will be missed.

Helen Loynes (Chairman of Lillings Ambo Parish Council)

Thank you!

Following Anne's fall and subsequent emergency hip replacement at YDH, we want to thank all who have helped especially Jonathan Hull and Mark Oakley for rapid response plumbing alterations, Ann Nelson for supportive care, and Jill Hodges and the Parish Church. Myhealth, the NHS Community Support carers and all those others who have sent good wishes and who have understandably stayed away in these difficult times. How blessed we are. Roy and Anne

Stillington Surgery

Our Senior Partner, Dr Peter Jones, will be retiring at the end of this year. Having had a career of 41 years within the NHS, Dr Jones has worked at Stillington Surgery for the last 33 years and is known and well respected by many local residents. We all wish him a long, happy and healthy retirement.

Dr Mike Potrykus has now joined us for the next few months. We will also be joined by Dr Laura Bradley in January and Dr Kate Keen at the end of February.

Message from Dr Jones

After 41 years working in the NHS, I will be retiring at the the end of December.

I joined Dr Willis as a partner in 1987, working from the surgery at The Folly in Stillington, seeing patients at his dining room table. In those days we only had 2 part time receptionists and 1 part time nurse. Life in general practice was a lot simpler. No computers!

We moved to our purpose built surgery in 1990, since when the health service has undergone several reorganisations, and medicine has changed enormously.

I consider myself very fortunate to have worked in Stillington all this time. I have had excellent colleagues, some great staff, and wonderful patients (who have always been very generous to us in the annual national patient satisfaction surveys).

I'm proud that our small practice has managed to resist pressures to become larger over the years. By design we have kept our patients per doctor ratio much lower than the national average, leading to easier access and greater continuity of care (the value of which cannot be overstated). Long may this continue.

It's been a privilege being a GP for many of you, and I wish you the best of health in the future, and hope to see you around for a long time to come.

Dr Peter Jones

Christmas/New Year Opening Times at Stillington Surgery

Closed Friday 25 December reopen Tuesday 29 December

Closed Friday 1 January 2021

Please order your medication in good time, preferably allowing a week.

Please do not order more than one month's supply of prescriptions

Email your requests to: VOYCCG.B82079prescriptions@nhs.net

Wishing all our patients a pleasant Christmas and New Year

Playgroup

We've been looking at our environment, the changing colours and making colourful autumn pictures. We've been celebrating festivals and celebrations such as Halloween with pumpkin carving, singing five little pumpkins sitting on the wall, making magic potions with different coloured water and dressing up, Bonfire Night we painted firework and bonfire pictures and talked about firework safety, Diwali we decorated paper plate candles with patterns and today we made poppy pictures, assembled our own poppies to wear with pride and had a two minute silence to honour the fallen.

We also did our bit for Children in Need to raise money for the not quite as fortunate with a pyjama/fancy dress day and families have been choosing a duck for the virtual duck race.

We are looking forward to Christmas!

We currently have spaces available for 2,3 and 4 year olds, so if you are interested in your child attending our setting, please get in touch and we can organise a taster session. Playgroup is a great place to send your child and makes the transition to school very easy for the children who attend here.

Please contact Angela on 07717 799646 or visit the website for availability.

Babies and Toddlers – Update

As Playgroup is an open session and people come from all the surrounding area we do not feel we could open safely and meet the guidelines in the current circumstances. We will continue to monitor it and look forward to a time in the future when we can start up again.

On behalf of the committee I would like to say a big thank you to all of the staff at Playgroup who have worked so hard this year meeting the challenges COVID 19 set us.

Jess Dunford Chairperson

Marton Church

As long as it is permitted, we intend to continue opening Marton Church for personal prayer on Thursdays 9-11.30 (including Christmas Eve) and now on Sundays 1-3 (to make the most of daylight hours). It looks as if all our carol singing will need to be done at home this year! But we look forward with hope to being able to meet together again as soon as it is safe to do so.

Advent and Christmas 2020

At the writing of this letter I am anticipating the end of the second COVID lockdown and the re-opening of nonessential shops and stores and hoping that we can at least find a degree of normality in the run up to Christmas. We know that Christmas *is* going to be different this year, that there will be regulations on how and where we can meet, and the family get-togethers' may not happen in the usual way. It is with this thought in mind that I have made a conscious decision, call it an early resolution if you like. I am not going to allow this virus to rob me of the joy of this season.

Christmas may be different; Jesus is the same!

Jesus is God's perfect, indescribable gift. The amazing thing is that not only are we able to receive this gift, but we are able to share it with others at Christmas and every other day of the year. Here's my request to you, take a moment or two to reflect on your loved ones and the blessing they are to you, and recall moments of care, love and kindness with family, friends and neighbours, those we love, re-experience moments and what they mean to you. When we remember a special Christmas, it is not the presents that made it special, but the laughter, the feeling of love, and the togetherness of friends and family that made that Christmas special.

Advent is a time of waiting, of anticipation, a time to make ready for Christmas, it is the time of year when Christians prepare to celebrate the first coming of Christ, the first Christmas and await and make ready for the second coming of Jesus Christ. They prepare their hearts and minds to receive their Saviour and Lord, King of Kings.

As you prepare for Christmas I hope and pray that we can see beyond the sparkling tinsel and see that Christmas is also about renewing within us the radiance of the inner meaning of this season. I also pray that the spirit of Christmas is in every shared joy and in every act of kindness during what is this wondrous time of year. Wishing you the blessings of the season.

Rev Steve

Sheriff Hutton Tennis Club

The courts have been closed since November 5th due to the Governments Lockdown restrictions covering outdoor sporting facilities. This has been very disappointing for tennis players everywhere as playing tennis has been considered a safe sport during the pandemic. The lockdown is due to end on December 2nd and we hope that restrictions will be lifted and the courts can re-open. All details will be on our website and the LTA website, please log onto them for current information.

Members will find that the courts have been power washed and treated for moss during the lockdown; this should improve the surface and is part of the continued commitment by the club to update and improve their facilities.

Details of the club are available on www.sheriffhuttontennisclub/clubspark/lta.org.uk

Or contact josephinejohnson6@gmail.com or telephone on 01347878626

Friends of Sheriff Hutton Village Hall

Sadly, we will not be able to hold our usual Christmas coffee morning this year, which means our only fundraising is the 200 Club. **So**, if any current member feels they can add another (£20) number to their valued and much-needed support of the Hall, or if anyone else would like to join please contact me on 01347 878310 or bandl@bergeres.co.uk

November's 200 Club £25 prize winners were 67, 126, 137, 154 and 251.

The December draw will include the additional half-yearly prizes of 1 @ £150, 1 @ £100, 5 @ £50 and, to reflect the draw membership of 254, 1 @ £20, bringing the prizes paid out in the year to one half of the draw income.

200 Club subscription renewals: thank you very much to all who have renewed to date in these unusual times. Those who haven't so far renewed should have received a reminder by the beginning of December.

Brian Shepherd

Message from Councillor Eric Hope

Well what a year! Let's hope we all can look forward to better times in 2021: I for one have had enough of 2020. We have many memories of lost ones dear friends, we have to be strong and look forward to the future, and remember all those who have gone before us. I personally owe thanks to many people who have helped us while I have been ill, things are sorted out now and on the mend. Highlights are now looking forward to Wednesday lunch hot pork pie from the post office. Council work is a challenge at the moment what with Corvid-19 and reorganisation of councils (devaluation). I hope all gets sorted out and we all can have a happy Christmas and a better new year

Happy Christmas

Eric and Daphne Hope

Sheriff Hutton History Group

The History group as with other groups in the village has been closed down since March with no monthly meetings to keep readers in touch with what the group is doing, what we have been able to do is to spend time individually sorting boxes. This has been a very interesting task searching the boxes and finding snippets of interesting local information. One piece I found was about the Maundy Money and how it relates to our village. During our Village Personalities exhibition 2018 we highlighted the voluntary commitment of many villagers and were fortunate on the day to be able to display a Maundy money box which had been awarded to Albert Edward (Eddie) Hickes by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in Selby Abbey on Maundy Thursday April 3rd 1969. Eddie was the Sexton and Verger at St Helen and the Holy Cross Parish Church for many years and a devoted servant of the Church. The box is held by the Church on behalf of itself and the Parish, it is displayed on special occasions and with due regard to security, thanks to John Oakley for being on guard for the day.

Maundy coins are special as they have such direct connection to the Queen who personally distributes them to the recipients. In 1969 Eddie received his 17 coins in two purses, a white purse containing Maundy coins specially minted for the occasion, a red purse containing £5.50 in circulating currency representing the robe, food and clothing allowances. A Maundy set comprises one each of the four Maundy coins, having a total face value of ten pence. Each set represents ten years of the monarch's age and each recipient is given one set of Maundy coins for every decade she has lived, with any remaining years represented in single coins. Maundy coins were the only four British coins that did not change shape, size or design when the nation adopted decimal currency in 1971. With fewer than 2,000 sets struck each year Eddie must have been very proud to be chosen for this honour.

Quote from Nancy Megginson "Eddie was a lovely man, kind and gentle, a dependable sort of chap, had been Church Sexton for many, many years and was affectionately known as Uncle Eddie" he departed this life on Maundy Thursday 1975.

I hope that readers find this article as interesting as I did researching it, if you knew Eddie or can give us further details about him please get in touch. 01347878136

Christmas rapidly approaches and we are unsure as to how it will affect family and friends celebrating together, our thoughts will be with you at Christmas as we in the History Group send you warm wishes for a Peaceful and Joyous season.

Sheriff Hutton PTFA

A reminder for those who'd like to support our two fundraisers this December:

Virtual Balloon Race! 1st December 2020

Purchase a virtual balloon to race on 1st December in the 'Christmas Shopping Race' from Harrods - visit: <http://ecoracing.co/user/page/883> Balloons cost £3 and can be decorated and tracked online as they fly! There will be a prize for the first Sheriff Hutton balloon across the line.

Village Christmas Trail, 10th-13th December 2020

A family friendly Christmas trail around the village with special trail sheets and fun clues to solve on the way! To help support the PTFA and enter our Christmas prize draw, submit your completed trail sheets to school or the village shop, with a small donation (full details on the trail sheet).

Wishing everyone a warm and peaceful Christmas, The PTFA Committee

Message from the Jumbles

Just to bring you up to date the final total sent to Macmillan Cancer Support was £423 which included £75 small change that would have gone on the Money Tree and £100 raised from the sale of Jewellery earlier in the year. Thank you so much to everyone who contributed so generously. Hopefully we will be able to hold our "World's Biggest Coffee Morning" next year in its usual format.

This brings our total raised this year from 3 Jumble Sales and including the above amount to £6,703.

Since we started in 1986 we have raised £352,564 for worthy causes. We are all hoping that it won't be too long before we can get back to our fundraising to bring us nearer to our next target of £400,000.

Christmas is just around the corner and at this stage we don't know how we will be celebrating it. We are ever hopeful that we will all be able to meet up with our families and friends but our main concern will be to keep safe and help to curb Covid. I am sure the news that a vaccination could be soon available will have given us all hope.

We wish you all a Good Christmas. Enjoy it however you spend it.
Keep safe, keep smiling

Penny Bean – Sheriff Hutton Jumbles – Turning cast offs into cash 01347 878392

The Methodist Church

On Sunday November 25th we move into Advent the period of time when we begin preparation for Christmas and the celebration of the birth of Jesus. For the last few years the Church and the Primary school have organised a Nativity Trail, when 3 shoeboxes containing a nativity scene passed from family to family until they reached the Christingle Service on Christmas Eve afternoon. Sadly this is another victim of the coronavirus pandemic which prevents many families from worshipping together and receiving a Christingle a symbol reflecting God's gifts to the world. The village churches are jointly arranging how we may still share in the provision of christingles and offer them to families who would like one.

At present we do not know what restrictions we may have to adhere to, so that we can all be safe. Meeting to worship may not be permitted but wherever we are we can still give our personal thanks for the gift of Jesus Christ whose birth we are celebrating.

We Pray You Will Have A Very Happy And Safe Christmas

St Leonard's, Farlington

Although we were unable to hold our annual **Service of Remembrance** in November we did open the church specially on November 11th for people to be able to go into St Leonard's to pray and remember privately and quietly. For the three days the church was open that week we had a collecting box for donations to be split equally between The Royal British Legion and BLESMA (British Limbless ex-Servicemens' Association). Donations to these two important organisations totalled £180.00 and £90.00 each has been sent to them.

Services in December

At the time of writing this in mid-November we cannot be certain which services we shall be allowed to hold in December. However, the current plan is:

Sunday 13th 11.15am Shortened Matins (BCP)

Christmas Day

Friday 25th 10.30am A Family Celebration for Christmas Day with Holy Communion

Please note. We are required to have a booking system for people attending church on Christmas Day. If you would like to express an interest in attending St Leonard's for this service please ring 01347 878581 or email richardhaste@btinternet.com

Sunday 27th 11.15am Holy Communion (BCP)

St Leonard's Decorated for Christmas

We regret that it will not be possible to hold our annual, and very popular, *Carols by Candlelight* this year but the church will be decorated as usual for Christmas in celebration of Christ's birth – well, perhaps not quite so many candles!. The opening days and times over Christmas are as follows:

- Tuesday 15th Church open 10.00am – 3.00pm
- Friday 18th Church decorated and open 10.00am – 7.00pm (if you visit the church after dark the path will be lit)
- Saturday 19th Church decorated and open 10.00am – 7.00pm (if you visit the church after dark the path will be lit)
- Sunday 20th Church open 10.00am – 3.00pm
- Christmas Day Church only open for the service at 10.30am
- Boxing Day Church open 10.00 – 3.00pm
- Sunday 27th Church only open for the service at 11.15am
- New Year's Day Church open 10.00am – 3.00pm. Last day of the church being decorated.

During the period when the church is decorated for Christmas, any donations put in the box in church will be given to the work of The Salvation Army

From January 5th 2021 St Leonard's reverts to the Tuesday and Saturday pattern of church opening.

Please remember – face masks must be worn at all times when you are in church. They are not a requirement in the Churchyard.

Notices for St. Helen's for December 2020

Christmas

At the time of writing, we don't know exactly what services we will be able to have. We await government regulations. However, we have planned for two services – one on Christmas Eve and one on Christmas morning, both at 10.30am. We will hold the Christmas Eve service outside to reduce any chances of infection and transmission of the virus. We did this for the Act of Remembrance, and it worked really well. It will also enable us to have more people there. We don't know yet about government regulations on numbers, but we will have a booking system asking people to select one of the services and how many there will be in their party. It seems very sad to have such a system, but we feel it is better to have one rather than people come and then be turned away because we have reached our limit. It will be a case of first come/ first served. Details of when the booking line opens will be in the Christmas Card that we will deliver around the village mid-December and will also be publicised on the usual notice boards. The number to phone is Jill and Neil Hodges on 878595. Alternatively, you can email jill.hodges57@btinternet.com.

But it's still a case of watch this space. We will update you through posters in the usual places around the village when we have more definite information. We will do our best to maximise opportunities at Christmas whilst still being Covid-secure.

We do have a couple of ideas that are also Covid-secure that friends from the Methodist Church and ourselves have come up with. Follow the Star – there will be a Star Trail of 24 numbered stars in shops and windows around the village but mainly down West End, East End and Main Street. Lists and a map will be available so that you can track your progress. The trail ends at the Methodist Church above the stable mural that is always at the front of the church. It would also be lovely to see as many stars as possible in windows or on doors around the village – decorated and sparkly. Templates can be provided if you would like one.

We obviously won't be able to have the usual Christingle service this year, but our second idea is to have a Christingle Collection activity. Please come and collect all ingredients you need to make your own Christingle at home on Wednesday, 23rd December between 10.30am and 12 noon outside the Methodist Church. There will be instructions and a link to a YouTube video for further advice. Everything will be bagged up by only one person to minimise contact.

Christmas boxes

The Harvest Boxes were such a success that the two churches have decided to do Christmas Boxes too. So please let me know if you have a neighbour who might enjoy a Christmas Box and who would welcome the contact. Equally if you can help with some goodies to put into the boxes like a few mince pies, slices of Christmas cake, biscuits or any other Christmassy food or treats then please let me know. Boxes would also be appreciated – shoe box size or just a little larger please.

Churchyard and church tours followed by a cream tea

We have now finished our churchyard tours and cream teas for the season. They have gone down really well, and feedback has been very positive. A huge thank you to Roy for doing the tours and to Louise for providing the cream teas. £400 was raised so thank you to everyone who contributed and donated.

We couldn't have a **Remembrance Service** on the 8th November, but we were permitted to have an Act of Remembrance. However, we were told we couldn't publicise it and must only invite representatives from the services and the Royal British Legion. A fine morning gave us the opportunity to remember those who had lost their lives through the traditional poems, a two-minute silence, the Last Post and Reveille, and a prayer.

Opening times

The church is still able to be open for private prayer and reflection on the following dates:-

Thursday 3 rd December	Tuesday 8 th December	Sunday 13 th December
Thursday 17 th November	Thursday 24 th December	Friday, 25 th December
Friday 1 st January		

But please watch this space for any changes and any details regarding Christmas services.

Please sanitise your hands on entry and departure, and for those of you who have the NHS App please check in with the QR code. Please wear a mask when you are in the church. Thank you

Jill Hodges, 878595

Village Volunteers

Just a reminder that the Village Volunteers are continuing so please do call on them if you would like any help or support. Everyone should now have a postcard with their Village Volunteers' contact details. Please do contact them if you would like help with shopping, medicines or would just like to chat on the phone, or indeed anything else! If we don't know something, we know people that do, and who can help.

A reminder that the free library is up and running again at the bus stop near the junction of Main Street / Church End and Coble Lane. No children's books are available this time because they are back at school. Donations of books are not needed at this time thank you. Any books to be returned should go to Roy Thompson at May Rose Cottage, Main Street. A box will be outside the side gate.

Please also remember the Vamoos App that gives up to date village, local and national information. The Village News is also on there. The app can be used on Apple devices (iPhone or iPad) or Android devices (Android phones or tablets). Instructions for accessing are:-

- Download "Vamoos" from your app store.
- Apple: search for Vamoos in the App Store
- Android: search for Vamoos in the Google Play Store
- When prompted enter -user id: sheriff passcode: sheriff

And lastly, if you aren't currently a Volunteer but would be interested or would like to know more then please do get in touch. We can always do with more people !

Jill Hodges 878595 or 07968 052118

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW)

I understand that there have been a significant number of Lamping and Poaching instances in the area, with consequent significant damage to crops etc., in view of the wet weather. If you are out and about, particularly after dark, please be vigilant for any suspicious activity such as roving vehicle lights, parked up vehicles etc., which should immediately be reported to 101, unless you are of the opinion that a crime is being committed, then call 999 for a faster response. Ideally note any vehicle details, but DO NOT approach anyone.

Speeding continues to be a problem through the village, Police initiatives (CSW) are currently suspended due to Covid-19 lockdown, but examples of high speeds/dangerous driving etc., can still be reported to 101 via "Operation Spartan" with the vehicle details and ideally a second witness or camera footage.

Terry Johnson, NHW Lead Coordinator, CSW Lead Resident
(01347 878626, terryj70@btinternet.com)

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Due to the 4 week lockdown counting of the money donated for poppies etc has been delayed therefore the amount raised in our Village will now be announced in the January News.

There is still time to make a donation to the Poppy Appeal. If you would like to give please let me have a cheque made payable to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal for inclusion in our area appeal.

Barbara Grinham, Margaret Frank and I spent a rewarding morning putting the poppies round The Square again this year and we were amazed at the amount of traffic continuously passing through the village. The Large Crosses and silhouettes were added by Neil Hodges and Jock Fairclough erected the obelisk. It was good to see the small crosses that other people had placed there in remembrance of their loved ones. We have received such a lot of appreciative comments. With the disruption of the traditional Acts of Remembrance it was good that a bit of "normality" prevailed.

Thank you to Nicky Smith for helping us to take the poppies down and to Quarmbys for the very welcome coffee. The poppies have now been washed and put into store however after three years some were a bit worse for wear so had to be disposed of. We would like to continue with the temporary Garden of Remembrance in future years and the knitted poppies demonstrate our community involvement. We are therefore, appealing for help with knitting more poppies. Ideally we would like to have another 1000 so we need to start clicking away as soon as possible and welcome any help you are able to give. If you need a pattern please contact Barbara on 878476.

The 15th May 2021 is the centenary of the founding of the British Legion which by the granting of a Royal Charter became the Royal British Legion on the 10th September 1971.

Penny Bean

Honorary Poppy Appeal Organiser - 01347 878392

Sheriff Hutton Field Naturalists

Autumnal fruits and Berries

Between 55 and 34 million years ago, much of the Earth was covered in thick jungle. Horses and cuddly little hoppy things evolved and the first primates. Plants developed fruit, the fleshy coating being the ovary. Mammals ate the fruit and often the seed or stone inside, so spreading the seeds still further afield. Primates

grew to rely on fruit, but often the fruit was eaten before it was ripe. Plants evolved colour coding so that only ripe fruit or berries were eaten.

Whilst this seems a neat solution, there was a problem as primates were colour blind, having receptors to see red, blue and green only. (Early mammals could only see green and blue.)

Unripe fruits are green because of chlorophyll in their cells. As they ripen, the chlorophyll breaks down and is replaced by orange carotenoids and red anthocyanins. Fruit eating animals and birds have also evolved to use colour change as a sign of ripeness, and this helps the plant too, since they need animals to eat the fruit to distribute the seeds. The evolutionary benefit of fruit ripening is that as a fruit ripens, enzymes break down the starches inside the fruits into fructose, a sugar.

The brightest colours often occur when the fruit is optimally ripened, which tends to be when animals and birds need the food source most.

Berries are an important food source for many birds during the winter, especially when the ground is too frozen to hunt for worms or snails, and there are few insects about. Some birds, like song and mistle thrushes, blackbirds, redwings and fieldfares find most of their winter food from berries. The elderberries are important sources of summer food for many kinds of songbirds. Let's throw in some science!

Frugivores are birds that eat fruits and berries. Birds are also tetrachromats, they see four colours, Ultra violet, blue, green and red. For, unlike humans, birds can perceive wavelengths in the ultraviolet as well as the visible range of the spectrum, and so can make a judgement of when a fruit or berry is ripe enough to eat – or not!

Dave Newman B.Sc. Chairman SH Field Naturalists

If you are interested to find out more about the Field Naturalists group, please get in touch with either Dave on 878672, Jim on 878667 or Angela on 878347.

Gardening Club

The club's AGM was held by zoom on 18 November. There were no changes to committee membership. It has been agreed that, since we'd only been able to have two meetings and organise the village show and competitions in 2020, subscriptions paid this year will be carried over into 2021. Of course, new members are always welcome to join: they would still need to pay a subscription for 2021. Unfortunately, it is too soon to know what activities we will be able to have next year. We want to do as much as is possible safely and within government rules. But rather than make detailed plans now which we have to change, we plan to review matters once the current lockdown is over and/or when we are clearer about what will be possible in 2021. So please await further announcements. It only remains to give our good wishes for Christmas and happy gardening in 2021.

Suggested Gardening Activities for December

Plan your beds, borders and edible crops for 2021. Try to rotate crops every year in order to have healthy soil and plants. Do this even with patches of primulas, wallflowers and the pansy family. Growing them on the same site year after year can lead to a decline in plant performance often attributed to "soil sickness". One of the joys of gardening is to try growing a few plants or varieties that are new to you. Bear this in mind when ordering your seeds and plants or buying them from a garden centre or nursery.

Reduce the amount of water and liquid feed that you give to house plants in general. It is better to keep them rather on the dry side during the winter months. When the day length is short and light quality is often poor plant growth slows down almost to a standstill - they just can't use the water. Plants that prefer a cool and fairly sunless north facing windowsill during the spring and summer can be moved to a lighter west or south facing windowsill between mid-October and mid-March. The lovely florists' cyclamen is a good example of a plant that responds well to this treatment and will flower for months on end.

Check regularly that all is well with any stored fruit and vegetables eg apples, onions and potatoes. Remove and destroy any diseased and damaged specimens to prevent the risk of fungal diseases which can develop and spread very quickly. Protect produce against vermin and frost.

Bulbs and corms in containers: - (ref. gardening notes in Oct issue). Do check these items in the "plunge bed" weekly to see how growth is progressing. Take particular care with "prepared" hyacinth bulbs for flowering during Christmas and early New Year. The growth process can't be rushed. Wait until the shoots are 5 to 7 cm high before bringing them into the light and warmth of the house/conservatory, otherwise subsequent growth will be stunted. When watering avoid splashing the flower spike as this can cause rotting of the individual florets.

Another wet autumn with rather soggy soil conditions, so some cultivations and plantings may not have been possible. Try to take advantage of any drier spells that occur in the days ahead but be mindful that working

and walking on very wet soil can cause long lasting damage to the soil structure and natural drainage. Work off footboards in such conditions if a planting job is urgent.

If outdoor plantings of onions, shallots and garlic cloves have not been possible these can be started off in modules or small pots using a multi-purpose compost. Do this job in early January and grown them on in a ventilated cold frame or unheated greenhouse. These plants are quite hardy so don't coddle them. Good root systems and shoots will slowly develop and planting out in the open should be possible in early to mid-March as, hopefully, weather and soil conditions start to improve.

A start can be made with the pruning of apple and pear trees once they have become fully dormant. Ideally choose a dry, frost free day for this job which should be completed by the end of February.

Garden centres and nurseries remain open during the current lockdown so cheer yourselves up with some essential Christmas shopping for compost, seeds, plants and perhaps some gift tokens for the keen gardeners amongst your relatives and friends. Wrap up warm and keep active. Many plants need a period of dormancy but not so the gardener. Keep pottering and take care.

(PS Apologies for the typist's mistake in the November news. Rhubarb crown buds should be 5 cm below soil level, not above as mistakenly typed.)

Christmas Shoeboxes – Operation Christmas Child / Samaritans Purse

We've done it! Following on from last month's appeal, a heartfelt thank you to all who helped gather together a total of **86** shoe boxes filled with goodies, and £200 in donations. They will be distributed to children aged 2 – 14 years old across 100 countries, who would otherwise have nothing this Christmas.

There are too many people to list here but I must mention that although donations came mainly from Sheriff Hutton, two lovely volunteers, one from Terrington and one from Strensall, also contributed. Whether it was knitting hats and scarves, donating gifts and money, gathering gifts or wrapping and packing boxes, great appreciation was expressed by the Samaritans who run the shoe box campaign.

This challenging year has seen many charities struggle, so if you still wish to contribute the deadline has been extended to December 14th because of the latest lockdown.

For more information please use the following link <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child>

Very many thanks again and wishing you all a wonderful Christmas.

Sheriff Hutton Bowling Club

The Club has finished its season with the disappointment of a Covid-19 cancelled Presentation Lunch so trophy winners will be offered the opportunity to pick up their engraved cups and shields at the Clubhouse on December 3rd at 11am subject to lock-down rules and social distancing. As we look forward to celebrating our 60th season we hope to sustain the playing surface of the green with a nucleus of players familiar with playing all their matches and competitions at home.

Due to the **severe loss of income** from Bingo and other scheduled fund-raising events at the Village Hall, such as the Village Market café, Jumbles jumble sale and match fees, the Bowling Club has successfully applied for a licence to run an **annual draw**, and full details are available from the officers named at the bottom of this notice. It is anticipated participants in the draw from the Club and the wider public will wish to support the Club in its 60th year of providing sporting and recreational opportunities for the Village.

Roy Thompson, Chairman 07716338924 thompsonroy5@gmail.com

Terry Fisher, Treasurer 01347 878314 terryfis1@btinternet.com

Village Hall

During lock down all community buildings are required to be closed, except for a limited number of exempt activities, none of which the Hall currently hosts. As Covid-19 restrictions change we will open the Hall for any activities that are allowed under the Government guidance. Please contact us if you want to discuss putting on an activity in the Hall. We will continue to publish updates on the Hall website and Facebook page.

In the meantime, we wish you a happy and healthy Christmas and hope for safe, sociable times ahead in 2021.

Village Play Area

At the time of writing, the play area remains open under current Government guidance. Please read and follow the guidance that is given on both gates to the play area and has recently been updated. In particular, please take note of two new restrictions that were introduced in the most recent Government guidance:

1. There is now a maximum of **eight people** (children plus adults) allowed in the play area at the same time;
2. Eating and drinking is not permitted in the play area as it increases risk of infection from contaminated surfaces.

<p>STILLINGTON FISHERIES for the finest skinless haddock and cod Tues / Wed / Thursday 5.00 – 7.00 Friday & Saturday 11.45 – 1.30 & 5.00 – 7.00 Closed Sunday and Monday The Green, Stillington, YO61 1JX Tel : 01347 811 747</p>	<p>Sheriff Hutton Post Office and Stores 01347 878 331 opening times : • Mon – Fri 8.00am – 5.30pm • Sat 8.00am – 12.30pm • Sun 10.00am – 12.00pm • Post Office opens at 9.00am Find us on Facebook</p>	<p>CASTLE QUALITY MEATS Unit 2a Sheriff Hutton Industrial Park 'Quality Meats at Competitive Prices' Hot Sandwiches Mon – Fri 9.00 – 1.30 Jerry Petch Tel : 01347 878 222 jerrytech1958@aol.com</p>
<p>Willow Farm Produce Neil & Sally Fairweather Seasonal Homegrown Plants, Fruit & Vegetables, Home Produced Honey, Handmade Natural Christmas Wreaths, Fresh Farm Eggs, Market Stall Hire Ash Tree House, Bracken Hill, Sheriff Hutton Tel: 07590 676 929 or 07719 624 033 www.willowfarmproduce.com</p>	<p>Allison Massingham Flowers Fresh Flowers for Every Occasion Made to Order The Flower Shop, Spring Street, Easingwold Tel: 01347 822 963 or 07786574359</p>	<p>The Lanes Yorkersgate <i>Malton The Biggest Little Toy Shop</i> Toys-Games-Homewares-Gifts Health Food & Body Care Visit us or shop on line for the best deals around. Free village delivery www.wvsm.co.uk 01653 602880 sales@wvsm.co.uk</p>
<p>York Wines Specialist Wine Importers Retail, Wholesale & Internet Wine Sales Wellington House, Sheriff Hutton www.yorkwines.co.uk Tel: 01347 878716 Open daily except Sunday</p>	<p>pizza's world Pizzas : Kebabs : Burgers : Parmesa : Off-licence Sunday – Thursday 4 – 10.30pm (CLOSED Tuesday) Friday and Saturday 4 – 11pm Sheriff Hutton Industrial Estate Tel: 01347 878 967</p>	<p> WRIGHT'S COAL MERCHANTS LTD www.johndruryandson.co.uk johndruryandson@btconnect.com Tel: 01759 371 319</p>
<p>PHYSIOTHERAPY ACUPUNCTURE AVAILABLE  www.fionawoolfons.com 07951 137814 FOSTON</p>	<p>Pilates and Circuit Training in Sheriff Hutton Children's Swimming Lessons with 'Swimming with Linzi'  07583 936 246 linzifitness@gmail.com fb ...swimmingwithlinzi</p>	<p>Sarah Douglas  Hatha Yoga Wednesdays 9.30 - 11.00am Sheriff Hutton Village Hall  07854 801 260 www.SarahDouglas.co.uk</p>
<p>Everything But The Pet Supplying most brands of dog food and natural treats at a competitive price. Free delivery in the Sheriff Hutton area Also dog walking, day care & boarding Contact Louise on 01347 878619, 07592532619 www.everythingbutthepet.co.uk</p>	<p>Janet Hull Sewing Tuition Mondays 7 - 9pm Sheriff Hutton Village Hall mobile 07979484663 Home 01904491001 e-mail janethull@tiscali.co.uk</p>	<p>Spanish Talk Anna Martinez-Armitage Spanish Tutor Courses for people of all ages and abilities Business Courses - Interpreting & Translations Conversational & Holiday Spanish Tel: 07800 634510 W: www.spanish-talk.com W: www.books4spanish.com</p>
<p>Sheriff Hutton Private Hire Pre Booked : Licensed Driver <i>Taxi for all your transport requirements</i> suedodd@ymail.com Mobile: 07824 318 105</p>	<p>MORSE COACHES & TAXI HIRE Tel : 01347 878 969 www.morse-coaches.com admin@morsecoaches.com</p>	<p> Puddleducks Award Winning Children's Nursery Open 7.30 – 6.00pm Purpose built, modern facilities Fully Qualified, Professional Team <i>~ Ofsted Outstanding ~</i> Tel: 01347 878 648 www.sheriffhuttonnursery.co.uk</p>
<p>Poppy Caterers Limited Fresh Delivered Meals to Your Door Lunch & Dinner Menus, Vegan & Vegetarian, Desserts & Cakes. All Dietary Requirements Catered For Please call: 01347 878 628 info@poppycaterers.co.uk www.poppycaterers.co.uk</p>	<p>NICOLA'S CUISINE OUTSIDE CATERING Tailor Made Menus Crockery, Cutlery & Glass Hire Tel: 01904 468 220 Mobile: 07860 612 622 Email : nicola@nicolas-cuisine.co.uk</p>	<p> Hall Farm Boutique Luxury B&B and Holiday Cottage Sally Hemingway YO60 7TW 2 miles from Sheriff Hutton and Castle Howard  01347 878 386 info@hallfarmhouseyork.co.uk In-house Chef</p>

<p>DENTAL SURGEONS</p> <p>New Patients Welcome Early Morning Surgery</p> <p>Robert Glover: Helen Halliburton</p> <p>96 The Mount, York Tel: 01904 623 436</p>	<p>PURE DENTAL YORK formerly Richard Fisher & Associates</p> <p>Neil Martin ~ Mark Bentley Zareen Ashraff ~ Jonathon Hindley</p> <p>Martin House, 24 Barley Rise, Strensall York YO32 5AA Tel: 01904 490 060</p>	<p>Howardian Dental Practice</p> <p>Sheriff Hutton Industrial Estate WE go the extra mile so YOU don't have to!</p> <p>Convenient, approachable, professional Dr Christine Parker BDS Telephone 878 111</p>
<p>BEAUMONT'S GARAGE</p> <p>MOT Testing Repairs : Servicing</p> <p>Tel: 01347 878 326</p>	<p>J SKELTON GARAGE SERVICES LTD</p> <p>MOT Testing, Servicing & Repairs Discount Tyres & Exhausts Electrics & Engine Diagnostics Air Conditioning & Wheel Alignment</p> <p>3-5 Dale Road, Sheriff Hutton, York, YO60 6RZ www.j-skelton.co.uk Tel: 01347 878 790</p>	<p>York Boilers Ltd Derek Precious Worcester Bosch Accredited Gold Installer</p> <p>Office: 01904 490 421 or Mobile: 07740 493 903 derekprecious@hotmail.com</p>
<p>Neil Eshelby Painter and Decorator</p> <p>Free Estimates : Interior & Exterior</p> <p>68 Anthea Drive, Huntington, York YO31 9DD Tel: 01904 654 523 Mobile: 07704 403 358 Email : theeshes@tiscali.co.uk</p>	<p>PAUL NELSON <i>Holly Lodge, Sheriff Hutton</i></p> <p>FOR ALL YOUR PAINTING AND DECORATING</p> <p>Tel: 01347 878 185</p>	<p>CATHY CUNNINGHAM</p> <p>CREATIVE INTERIOR DESIGN ALL TYPES OF DECORATING PAINTING • WALLPAPERING FURNITURE PAINTING</p> <p>Tel: (Bulmer) 01653 618152 cathymcunningham@icloud.com</p>
<p><i>Flaxton Forge</i></p> <p>Artist Blacksmith & Fabricator Bespoke Ironwork made to Commission</p> <p>Contact : Tom Heys : 07861316672 Website : www.flaxtonforge.co.uk</p>	<p>Howardian Contracts</p> <p>Tracked 360 Excavators 1.5 – 8.5 tonne tracked operated digger hire Drainage, drain repairs, ditching landscaping & pond excavation Contact: Guy Unsworth 07778 589 952</p>	<p>JONATHAN HULL GRANVILLE G HULL & SON Ltd.</p> <p>for all new Bathrooms, Tiling, Central Heating, New Boilers and Repairs Registered Installer Tel: 01347 878 267</p>
<p>THE TREE FELLA Sam Dickson C&G Arb.</p> <p>All aspects of Tree Surgery and Forestry Woodchip, Mulch and Logs for Sale Chipping, Log Splitting and Winching Fencing, Hedge Cutting, Site Clearance</p> <p>Tel: 01347 810 491 or 07725 053 449 www.samthetreefella.co.uk</p>	<p>MALCOLM COLLINS 30 Years Experience</p> <p>Fencing : All Tree Work : Hedge Cutting Fully Insured</p> <p>Logs Sold Loads : Half Loads : Bags (Min 3 bags) Tel : 01347 878 275</p>	<p> All aspects of gardening</p> <p>undertaken including; Paving, fencing, planting, turf, design & maintenance</p> <p>Please call Tom for a free quote Tel: 07752 420 906 or 01759 377 561 www.wildlandscapesyork.com</p>
<p> Dawsonbuild</p> <p>T: 01347 878 186 M: 0772 769 4428</p> <p>Extensions Conversions Renovation New Build Conservatories Driveways Repairs</p>	<p>STEPHEN SHIPLEY T/A D R Shipley</p> <p>Builders and Contractors</p> <p>6, Warwick Close, Sheriff Hutton Tel: 01347 879 173 Mob: 07850 783 842</p>	<p>EDWARD HULL BUILDER and CONTRACTOR</p> <p>Tel : 01347 878 354 Mob : 07702 661 664</p> <p>DAVID HULL Plumbing and Heating Mob: 07715 943 381</p>
<p>PETER BEAN BUILDING</p> <p>Farm Building: Concreting Home Extension & Repairs Tarmacadam and Block Paving Excavation and Drainage</p> <p>Tel: 01347 879 107 or 07836 623 188</p>	<p>Aerial Services – York.co.uk</p> <p>Fed up with poor reception? ... Still running off your Old Aerial System?.... We offer: Fully Insured professional service Your property left clean and tidy We supply our own vacuums! Call Steve on 01904 819 030 or 07972181025 steve@aerialservices.uk.com</p>	<p>DUO HANDIMAN</p> <p>Handyman services to the Sheriff Hutton area</p> <p>No job too small</p> <p>Please call Michael Binnersley Tel: 01347 879056 or 07977 226 595</p>

Village Regular Activities

Sun	9.30am	Holy Communion	Parish Church but check in church for details			
	10.30am	Morning Service	Methodist Church			
Mon				7.00pm	Sewing Class	Village Hall
				7.30pm	Yoga	Village School
				7.30pm	Badminton	Village Hall
Tues	9.15am	Pilates	Village Hall	7.00pm	Circuit Training	Village Hall
	10.30am	Pilates	Village Hall	8.00pm	Pilates	Village Hall
Wed	9.30am	Yoga	Village Hall			
	10.00am	Drop-in for Coffee	Miss Ward Room			
	10.30am	Ladies Tennis	Tennis Club			
Thurs	9.45am	Babes and Toddlers	Village Hall	6.30pm	Youth Group	Village Hall

Additional Activities in December

Fri	4	10-12 noon	Mobile library in Village Hall carpark
	10-13		Primary School PTFA Village Christmas Trail
Fri	11	7.30pm	Parish Council meeting in the Village Hall
Wed	23	10-12 noon	Christingle collection outside the Methodist Church

Dates to Note

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To Hire the Village Hall call **07894 734446** or email **SHVHbookings@gmail.com**

To contact the Village News production team email **villagenews@sheriffhutton.co.uk**
alternatively, call

Richard and Wendy Haste (878581), Brian and Lynne Shepherd (878310)
Peter Hepburn (878795) or Melanie Hunt (878711)

Items for the **January Village News** must reach the Editors by **no later than December 14th**