

FARNSFIELD FLYER

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE PARISH OF FARNSFIELD



Welcome to **March 2021's** Farnsfield Flyer, produced 3 times/year by Farnsfield Parish Council. <http://www.farnsfieldparishcouncil.co.uk/>

Our full parish council meetings are at 7pm on the 4th Tuesday of the month, using Microsoft Teams. You can join the meeting by following the link on the agenda, which is on our website. There is a 10-minute opportunity for you to comment on any of the agenda items near the beginning of the meeting. Details of our other committee meetings are also on the website and you are welcome to join those.

Your parish councillors are:



Derek Jackie Ian Barry Lesley Stuart Chris Helen Stu

+ Lynda and Karen

During the Covid Crisis, if you know of someone who is vulnerable or 'at risk' and they don't have any local or family support, please email chris@farnsfield-pc.uk, or phone Chris on 07971 863661, and we will try match them up with one of our volunteers. *Don't let anyone slip through the net.*

Also see APPENDIX 1 at the end of the flyer for useful information.

There are some paper copies of this Farnsfield Flyer in the porch of the Village Centre, St Michael's church, and some of the local shops.

Can YOU help?

Wanted - old village photos, documents and information - do you have any past photographs, documents or information relating to the village, pre-2000? We are looking in particular for documents relating to Lady Goodwin Memorial Park, the tennis and bowls club sites, the Village Hall and Wilson's Field. We would love to see them and if possible, keep copies for our archive. If you have any snippets of past information, please send to helen@farnsfield-pc.uk or put them through the village centre letterbox for collection. We will return any items you want back.

Clerk's report from Vikki Arkell:

I am very excited to be working with Inspire Design and Development, (Inspire), now that the East Side Project (ESP) is moving into the landscape architecture design stage. Inspire is currently preparing a draft full colour masterplan that we hope to have in April. The masterplan will allow everyone to have an idea of what the space could look like and how each element, to be agreed within the consultation process, could integrate into the space. The ESP area of the council's website has been updated recently with all the currently available project documentation and I will continue to update this section as the council is able to release further information.

I have also been working hard on my Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA) qualification and with only one more unit to complete I am confident I should have it finished within the next couple of months. This qualification has broadened my knowledge of the laws and procedures for local councils and increased my confidence in advising the council on its duties and powers.

Farnsfield Parish Council – working for the future in difficult times:

During the current Covid lockdown the Parish Council has continued working towards providing a village centre that will be a pleasant and safe environment for all users when legislation allows it to re-open.

Since the last Farnsfield Flyer the old fluorescent ceiling lights in the lower hall have been replaced with low energy LED lights to help reduce costs and the unpleasant flickering that often occurred. Annual maintenance has been carried out on the fire extinguishers, the 6-monthly maintenance carried out on the fire detection system, and the annual gas safety maintenance on the boilers will have been completed by the end of March. The football pavilion has had a 5-yearly safety inspection carried out with a few minor recommendations identified.

Before the centre is re-opened all areas will have been cleaned, and we will continue to maintain a village Covid safe environment, with operating protocols in place.

Western Power is carrying out works at The Acres and Millennium Woods to reduce the height of hedges and remove trees, to protect the powerlines that supply Farnsfield and Blidworth from possible storm damage as a result of falling trees and any possible arcing due to vegetation being too close to the lines. As a result of a comment from a member of the public asking if Western Power would replace any trees, 20 trees have been supplied by Western Power that will be planted around council owned sites and other sites maintained by the Parish Council.

The Parish Council has contracted with JR Islip and Son, a local joinery firm, to repair and refurbish the door to the Old Lockup, giving due consideration to the Grade 2 listed status of the building.

New goalposts have been purchased for The Acres pitch and Farnsfield Villa will be installing these.

If you have taken a leisurely stroll around Hadleigh Park during the lockdown you will have noticed a lot of recent activity around the area:

- The parish council has recently engaged Newark and Sherwood District Council (NSDC) for green area maintenance in the village, and as part of the contract NSDC highlighted the need to maintain the two shrubbery beds by the gateway to the area.

Whilst weather and growing conditions mean they have yet to start their grass cutting program NSDC have carried out work on the shrubberies, pruning the trees and undergrowth, improving the look of the area, and removing growth encroaching on the footpath.

- A number of councillors and residents have spent many hours improving the copses to the right, on the opposite side of the road to the car park. Ivy has been cleared from the trees, and dead trees, excess undergrowth and accumulated rubbish have been removed. A number of beds of bluebells, which should bloom this year, have been planted. Due to the amount of work and effort required to dispose of all the cleared rubbish and undergrowth this is still a work in progress, but it is planned that this will be finished soon. If you would like to help all you need to do is bring a rake and turn up on Parfitt Drive at 10.00am on Mondays.
- Half way down the green area of Hadleigh Park a new bench has been sited, allowing villagers to pause whilst taking in the exceptional vista to the north east of the village towards the Oxtan Ramper. Despite the cold weather the new bench has already proved popular with many villagers who stop to take advantage of the view.

Any ideas for the improvement of other green spaces across our village, and help in their implementation, would be gratefully received. Please email clerk@farnsfield-pc.uk.

We are in the process of seeking volunteers to help form an Events Committee to help organise things like the Christmas tree lights switch-on, performance of outside plays and work towards our Best Kept Village status. We have 7 volunteers so far but would welcome more. Again please email clerk@farnsfield-pc.uk.

Our digital notice board is now up and running in the window of the Village Centre, to help residents who don't have online access stay informed.

Our Speed Awareness programme is continuing, with more volunteers trained to use the equipment. Hopefully after lockdown finishes we can get some teams up and running to monitor the speed of motorists travelling through the village.

We are still pursuing the possibility of additional double yellow lines in the village, with NSDC and district councillor Bruce Laughton. New double yellow lines are being put in around the school.

Dumping litter from cars:

You may have recently noticed black bin bags full of rubbish waiting for pick up on Cockett Lane. These mainly comprised plastic bottles, cans and fast-food packaging collected from the roadside. Unfortunately, the day after the rubbish was removed more started to appear. Littering from cars is an ongoing blight on our countryside and it takes hours of volunteer time to clean up. With a new fast-food drive through outlet nearing completion on the outskirts of Mansfield we are likely to see an upsurge in the problem.

Car owners are legally responsible for anything thrown from their vehicles and drivers can be fined up to £150 for any litter thrown from their car. Please don't be an inconsiderate driver or passenger; we all have a part to play in keeping our village and its local environment tidy and litter free.

Farnsfield Bowling Club:

We plan to open the green for casual bowling in the first week in May and we are planning to enter teams into the local leagues to play matches over the summer. We also plan to play our traditional friendly matches against local teams.



We are running free 'Bowls Coaching for Beginners' sessions starting Monday 24th May, for 8 weeks, 10.00am to 12.00, with all equipment provided. Social distancing and covid restrictions will be fully observed. A qualified coach will take you through the basic skills and on to feeling confident enough to play in club sessions and matches. For more information please contact Paul Ritchie on 07761418496 or 01623 883391, or visit our website www.farnsfieldbowlingclub.org.uk.

In the meantime members are busy working together in a socially distanced way to prepare the green.

If you are interested in joining us, whether you are a newcomer or an experienced player, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please contact our secretary Lynn Williams on 01623 883074.

Farnsfield Tennis Club:



It has been a very busy time at FTC even though we have not been able to play. The courts had their annual clean in December and the much long-awaited clubhouse extension has been completed. The build is finished, the interior has been painted throughout and has a

new kitchen, new flooring, new lighting, new heating and insulation. New safety lighting and a second toilet have also been installed and a patio area outside the new bifold doors has just finished being laid. FTC wish to thank everyone who has contributed / helped with this project – the result is amazing and we can't wait for everyone to see it.

Although some restrictions will still be in place, we are looking forward to getting back onto the courts to play at the end of March.

Hogs of Winterfell Winter Update: Hogs of Winterfell is a 6-bed hedgehog rescue centre run by Dawn and Darren Haynes from a purpose built shed in their garden on D'ayncourt Walk.



Andromeda and Snowdrop

Winter has been a busy season here at Hogs of Winterfell. We had a hedgehog come in to us on Christmas Eve with various parasites so naturally we called her Eve, then along came Andromeda, Snowdrop, Mandy, and last of all the gentle giant Henry, weighing in at a whopping 1kg but with a very poorly chest.

We were able to help Henry because in January we purchased a nebuliser, so along with a course of strong antibiotics and sessions in the new nebuliser Henry was restored to health and was able to be released in late February. A nebuliser is the same one that is used to treat humans, the only difference here is that instead of the hedgehog wearing a mask they are put into a safe container where the vapour is pumped in for them to breathe in. Nebulisers are a great help in combatting serious respiratory infections and we are so grateful to everyone who has sent us donations which has enabled us to by this useful piece of kit.

Henry, Andromeda, Snowdrop, Mandy and Eve all recovered from their various ailments and were successfully released back to their respective sites in late February.

It's now March and we have an empty rescue, which has enabled us to deep clean and restock ready for the baby season starting in the spring. In readiness for the orphaned hoglets the rescue will be getting a vivarium with a temperature-controlled thermostat and heat lamp which will keep the whole enclosure at a constant warm temperature. This is much easier than keeping wriggly hoglets on a heat mat as they will be warm no matter where they are.

Don't forget that while most of our spiky friends are tucked up safely asleep, some are beginning to wake up and will welcome a bowl of non-fish non -grain cat food and fresh water being left out for them. Please pay extra attention when starting to work in the garden

too, especially when trimming hedges, moving logs, cutting back Pampas grass and other bushes because there might be a hedgehog asleep. Just a 5-minute check could save a little life.

Lastly, if you find a hedgehog that is out in the day, sick or injured, please get in touch immediately. Contact Dawn on 07860 542337 or dawnpickering1977@yahoo.co.uk.

The Foodbank:

“Without the food bank, I don’t think I would be here today.”

A quote like this makes you stop and take notice. It is a quote from someone who has benefited from support from a food bank like the Food Hamper Project we support. CAR (Community Action Response) LifeSpring Food Hamper Project was set up in Ollerton at the start of the Covid lockdown in March 2020 to support those who are isolated and in desperate need, and those who cannot put enough food on their family’s table.

Each week two of our team of around 18 Farnsfield volunteers, make daily collections from St Michael's Church porch, and then take this up to the LifeSpring Church in Ollerton, along with donations received at the Veg Stop, the Co-op and Atherley’s.

It is shocking that within a few miles of Farnsfield there are families who cannot feed themselves and really do need our help. Places like Warsop and Ollerton are really suffering. But we should not forget that there are those who are experiencing hardship in other villages too, including our own.

The people of Farnsfield have been amazing. In the last year they have donated: £2,367 in cash, 3,127 bags of food and personal items and, 149 crates of vegetables and fruit. These are all used by CAR LifeSpring Project to give support to those in need.

“When the children are at home, you’re feeding them more than when they would be at school having a free school meal. I was really struggling, and the foodbank has made a big difference”



Even though the schools have just returned, and some children will be receiving much needed free school meals, it is then only a few weeks until they break up and are home again for Easter. This causes a major problem for some families as the children are back home and need feeding.

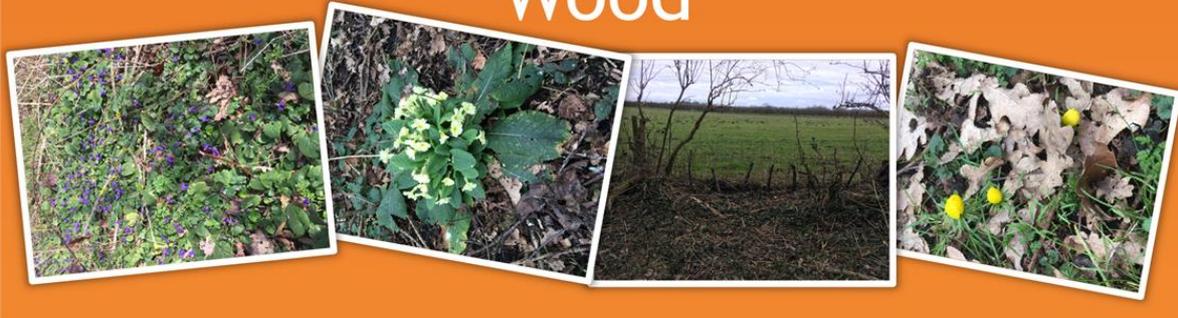
Please help us to help others.

People are still in extreme food poverty in many areas nearby and our continued help is needed. If you can help please leave gifts of food at the Church Porch. Long-life

products, tea, coffee, UHT milk, tins of meat and vegetables, dried foods are all really urgently needed.

If you know someone who needs help then please call Corinne on 07790 215797. If you would like to give money, you can do so at Atherley’s and the Veg Stop, or by phoning Paul Mortimer on 07970 059618.

Springtime in The Millennium Wood



The woodland is approximately 4 hectares and since 2018 a management plan to increase biodiversity has been carried out with a Suitable Accessible Natural Green Space (SANGS) grant. A tree thinning programme has allowed more light into the woodland and this has increased the flora and fauna.

Volunteers from Community Spaces have planted bulbs in 2018/19/20 with proceeds from the sale of plants on the community table, and trees from Newark and Sherwood District Council have been planted as part of the Greener Strategy. The footpath on the Eastern side of Millennium Wood was cleared by the Parish Council in the Autumn and the meadow area reinstated. The main paths through the woodland have been well trodden this winter and it's interesting to see new routes that emerge when it gets muddy. The blue bells are coming up slowly and hopefully will give a lovely show in April. We have the bright yellow winter



Aconites near the entrance and a clump of primroses in the centre of the woodland. Look out for wild garlic and Star of Bethlehem in April, and blue and white violets on the margins of the wood.

Tree Planting and Meadow Creation: Birch, hazel, blackthorn, grey willow, hawthorn and crab apple were planted this winter so look out for saplings with tree protectors. Some infilling of the hedgerows has taken

place too. In the centre of the woodland, where the bench is, we have a meadow area which will be cut annually for the wildflowers to flourish and we hope to have a Barn Owl nesting in the box too. Bat boxes are situated in the southern end of the woodland.

If you would like to get involved with any of the group's activities please contact any of the following people: healylesley@gmail.com, gill_sarre@hotmail.com, or sewalker1525@outlook.com. You can also follow the group on the Farnsfield Community Facebook page or Instagram farnsfieldcs.

St Michael's Parish Church:

As I write this we're approaching the anniversary of the first lockdown in the UK. One full year of restrictions, social distance, and sanitiser. Back then none of us could have imagined just how long and arduous this journey would be and what a toll it would take. The numbers of those who have died from coronavirus have sadly far surpassed all expectations with many families left grieving, and the adverse effects of this pandemic are of course much more far reaching than that.

As a church we've 'muddled through' like everyone else, following the guidance as it has tightened and loosened, as we've sought to support each other and our community as best we can. Early on we moved our services and midweek groups online and this has continued throughout this last year. I've got to say I never imagined starting an 'online church' in my first year here in Farnsfield and yet, whilst it's not quite the same as being together in person, it has allowed new people to join in with services and experience church for themselves which has been a real positive (if you've not joined us yet for an online service then please feel free to try us anytime on our Facebook page or YouTube channel – our 10.45am online service will be continuing for some time yet!)

As restrictions have eased, we've joined together for services in-person when we've been able to, and it was good to be able to hold some events and services before Christmas as well as welcome people into church to 'Light a Candle for a Loved One'. After the latest lockdown we've now resumed our in-person services once more and whilst many of the necessary restrictions are still in place (and we still can't sing!!) it's been good to be able to come together again.

Connect, our After-School Church which usually meets in the school hall on Thursdays is still sadly not able to meet in-person and we're having to make do with ZOOM Catch Ups for now. Again, it's not the same as being together in the hall, but it's been a good way of keeping up with one another and still having some faith-filled fun.

Throughout this last year it's been amazing to see the effort of the people of Farnsfield pulling together to support one another. There have been some lovely community initiatives that have helped to keep spirits high, and the work of the Foodbank Team, supported by our local shops and businesses, has been outstanding – I've often been blown away as I've come to church porch to open up to see just how much has been given in support of those who are in need, and huge thanks must go to all those who have led and supported this effort. As a governor of St Michael's school too I've seen first-hand amazing dedication and perseverance of our school teachers and staff who've given so much and done so well to support the education and well-being of the children of St Michael's through this most difficult of times. It's been a challenging year in so many ways then, but it's a blessing to have journeyed through it in the midst of a caring and loving community such as ours.

As a church, in the midst of the ongoing challenges, we're excited by the opportunities that lie ahead. We're delighted that our new Children and Families Minister, Andy Proffitt, will be beginning his work with us at St Michael's after Easter. Andy is coming to support the work of Connect as well as to shape up some new and exciting ventures for children and families in our village and set up the children's groups for our new Sunday service. He and his family have already moved to the local area and are looking forward to getting to know the village in the months ahead.

Plans are also well underway for a new Sunday service to begin at St Michael's later this year. The hope is that with children's groups available and a contemporary, informal feel this service will compliment what we already have on offer at St Michael's and enable many

more people in our village to find a home at St Michael's and feel able to come and explore those deep questions of life, faith, and meaning with us.

We're hoping too, in time, to work alongside other village groups to provide ways of supporting the whole community as we seek to recover well from what's been a really challenging time for us all.

Even with the positive vaccine rollout and the 'roadmap' now in place there's clearly still some way to go isn't there? But as Christians we believe in a God who (as Easter shows) specialises in bringing joy out of sorrow and new hope from despair, and so my prayer is that, in his strength and by his grace, we will come out of this time closer and stronger than we ever have been before. May we all continue then, in the weeks and months ahead, to hold on to hope and to look out for one another – knowing that there are, indeed, brighter days to come!

Rev. Chris Pearse (Priest-in-Charge at St Michael's Church) 07505 963759,
chris.pearse04@gmail.com.

Farnsfield Methodist Church:

Although the Methodist Church building in Farnsfield has now been closed for a year, apart from a few Sundays in September/October, worship and fellowship has continued in different ways throughout the pandemic.

Weekly Sunday service podcasts have been available on YouTube or on a recorded CD, and weekday services, Sanctuary Space quiet times, Bible studies, fellowship groups and discussion groups on Zoom have been attended by many people around the Sherwood Forest Methodist Circuit, which includes Farnsfield. The Zoom activities are accessible by phone for those who have no internet access, and we thank our ministerial team, family workers and lay preachers for keeping us connected in this way. There is also a weekly service sent out from the Methodist Church UK website which can be printed off and delivered to those who prefer the written word, and during this season of Lent Rev Bob Jones is providing a daily 10-minute study. Further information on all these activities can be accessed on the Sherwood Forest Methodist Circuit (public) Facebook page.

Time away from the responsibilities of running a church building and its activities has given us an opportunity to join and connect virtually with people from the other fourteen churches in the Sherwood Forest Methodist Circuit as well as link into services and study groups with friends at St Michaels. This thinking and praying time has been invaluable for us to try to discern where and how God is leading us, the Church, in our community and in the wider Circuit.

As we have done for the past three years, we will again be offering Farnsfield St Michael's School copies of 'It's Your Move' for all the Year 6 children leaving in July. These booklets, produced by Scripture Union, tackle the move from primary to secondary school in a very user-friendly way, with questions and answers, reassuring articles, asking the children to talk/write about their feelings etc. The books are usually given out towards the end of the summer term during a special activity time led by one of our Circuit family workers but that may not be possible this year if restrictions are still in place. Input was restricted last year as well because of Covid guidelines, but the books were still able to be delivered and were well received.

The decision has been made to have a short service of Holy Communion in our church on Easter Sunday morning at 10.15 am, strictly observing the guidelines to keep everyone safe (unfortunately, that includes no singing). You would be very welcome – numbers will be

limited so please contact Rosemary Wilmot on 01623 882644 to book a place if you would like to join us. God bless you.

Date for your diaries: We have provisionally booked a performance of Shakespeare's The Tempest for the evening of Thursday 26th August 2021.

Details of the many clubs and groups in Farnsfield are on our website. If your group isn't there, email Cllr Barry Westbury at barry@farnsfield-pc.uk and he'll be happy to add you. If you would like to receive an email alert when each new edition of the Farnsfield Flyer comes out, go to the website and click on the blue icon as shown below.



If you know someone who would like to receive a paper copy of the Farnsfield Flyer in future, please email their name and address to chris@farnsfield-pc.uk.

APPENDIX 1

Home Delivery Services

Name	Type	Telephone
Farnsfield Pharmacy	Chemist	01623 882310
Newark News	Newspaper delivery	01636 703408
The Veg Stop	Fruit & Veg	01623 882354 01158 881328
W Coleman & Sons	Dairy Farm	07599 293374
Atherley's	Bakery & Eggs	01623 882283
Hamilton's of Farnsfield	Butcher	01623 883551
Maxeys	Farm Shop	01636 814566
Old Reindeer	Pub Food	01623 882253
The Handicentre	Hardware DIY	01636 813628
Maloneys	Butcher	01623 491114

Please note: The Veg Stop will also deliver bread and are working with Atherley's, so if you phone through a bread order at the same time both can be delivered together. The Veg Stop normally delivers the next day.

Tradesmen: (Only to be used for emergencies please)

Name	Type	Telephone	Comments
Harris Sutton	Joinery	07702 042855	harrissuttonjoinery@gmail.com
Mark (Newtec)	Plumber	07866 431321	
George Roffe	Electrician	07949 883297	
Andy Rogers	Gas Engineer	07970 888148	
John Cracknell	Electrician	07967 636780	
Metro Rod	Blocked toilets, drains etc	0800 66 88 00	

Useful Links and Websites

Tim Clark: 07770 303412: Free transport to appts, vaccinations etc.

Notts Community Transport: 0115 9856904: can arrange transport to appts etc.

Southwell Torpedoes: 01636 330005: help with shopping etc.

Mental Health Support website (www.mentalhealth.org.uk/coronavirus)

National Health Service (www.nhs.uk)

Farnsfield Parish Council (www.farnsfieldparishcouncil.co.uk)

Facebook Sites

www.facebook.com/farnsfieldstmichaelschurch

www.facebook.com/farnsfieldparishcouncil

www.facebook.com/farnsfieldvillage