

Belchford & Fulletby Newsletter

Winter into Spring 2023



Dates for your Diary

Village Hall Committee meeting - 15th February at 7.30

Parents & Toddler dates - 17th of Feb to 7th of April then reopens after Easter break on 14th of April

Parish Council meetings – on the following Thursdays, starting at 7.30pm in Belchford Village hall at 7.30 pm
16th March; 18th May; 20th July; 21st September & 16th November. All meetings start with a 15-minute Public Forum.

Parish Council meeting Report January 2023

The first parish council meeting of 2023 took place on 19th January at the village hall. We welcomed our District Councillor Mr D Andrews who offered a Community Grant to the parish council, which will be used to finance a waste bin for Fulletby. Public forum topics of discussion included a broken grille and drain cover, highways concerns, plans for celebrating the Coronation in May and owl boxes. Many other highways concerns were raised and these will be reported to LCC Highways. There is to be a working party at the community woodland before the end of winter to plant more trees. It is noted that new locks have been fitted to the Belchford noticeboard and the keys were allocated to 3 councillors and one village hall representative. Parish Council members have concerns about the lack of a village green committee and also the lack of progress with the proposed play equipment. The Belchford Public Purposes Charity account will be discussed in further detail at the March meeting alongside public footpaths/rights of way and Tree Preservation Orders. The Responsible Finance Officer provided a full and up to date finance report.

There is a Parish Council Election coming up in May ...If you are interested in standing as a councillor for the Parish Council please contact either East Lindsey District council or the Parish Clerk for more details.

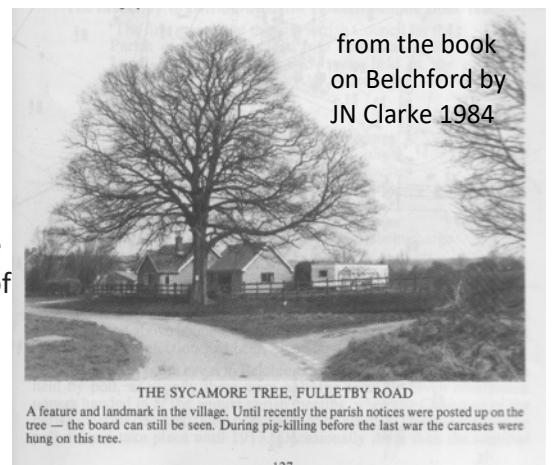


Belchford Village Green Play Area

The Parish Council has decided to apply for grant funding and planning permission for a children's play area, to be sited on part of Belchford Village Green. This project is at a very early stage and the Parish Council is planning to set up a sub-committee to move the scheme forward. Villagers who are interested in getting involved practically, or who have ideas about the type and style of equipment required for the play area are invited to either contact one of the Parish Councillors, or attend the next Parish Council meeting in Belchford Village Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday 16th March 2023, when they will be able to put forward their ideas during the Public Forum at the start of the meeting.

Trees in our villages

We all value the trees in our neighbourhood. Along with the environmental benefits, the trees are a key element to the character of each village. It may surprise you to know that other than the trees in the grounds of the two churches, none of the trees have any official protection. The Parish Council will be asking the ELDC forestry officer to assess the trees in our two villages and advise if any of them merit a tree protection order (TPO). In particular, the Sycamore tree at the junction of Furlongs Lane and Narrow Lane in Belchford, known as the "Pig Hanging Tree", because of its historic use and the maturity of this tree merits consideration for protection. Any trees that you consider are worthy of protection, please let a parish councillor know.



from the book
on Belchford by
JN Clarke 1984

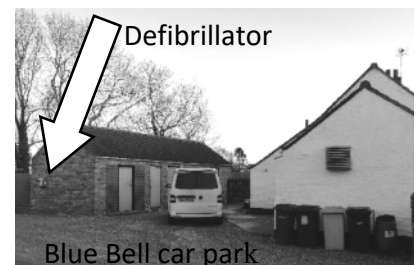
THE SYCAMORE TREE, FULLETTY ROAD

A feature and landmark in the village. Until recently the parish notices were posted up on the tree — the board can still be seen. During pig-killing before the last war the carcasses were hung on this tree.

127

DEFIBRILLATORS

A few years have passed since public defibrillators were installed in Belchford and Fulletby and lots of people have moved to our villages in the last few years. In view of the time it could take for an ambulance to respond to an emergency, it's worth a reminder that Fulletby's defibrillator in the porch of St Andrew's Church, while Belchford's is attached to the gable wall of the store building behind the Blue Bell pub.



Defibrillator

Blue Bell car park

Our Footpaths

Previous newsletters have reported on the Government's ongoing public consultation to establish a definitive map of public footpaths, which would be protected by law. The original cut-off date of 2026 has been scrapped.

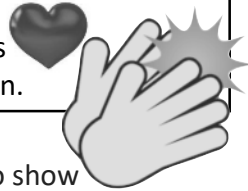
The Ramblers Association has co-ordinated research into lost Rights of Way (RoW) as part of their 'Don't Lose Your Way' campaign and has mapped over 49,000 miles of these paths, many of which were established as legal paths in the Enclosure Acts of the 18th and 19th centuries. The Ramblers Association is now applying to reinstate many of these old RoW across the country, including those in our parishes of Belchford and Fulletby.

Whilst the process to consider RoW applications will take time, and each individual application will be judged on its merits, the Parish Council will be a consultee in the process. Whilst the extension of the public RoW network will increase access to the countryside for all, it is seen as contentious by some.

The Parish Council will be discussing its approach to this subject in an agenda item in the next public meeting on Thursday 16th March. Parishioners who are particularly interested in this issue should contact their Parish Councillors in the first instance and are encouraged to attend the next Parish Council meeting, where they may have their say in the public forum.

A HUGE Thank you for all you folk who help with our parish... Thank you to all who helped after the frozen pipe caused a water leak in the Village Hall. To those who kindly provided de humidifiers and a wet vacuum cleaner and all those who came and helped out with the clean up, for repairing the pipe and removing the wet insulation and for disposing of it.

And thank you to the litter pickers, the church teams, the dog poo removers and everyone that does something to make our community a better place to be! It just shows what a great place we live in.



**Speed
Aware
Signs**

**for the
villages**

We are getting 4 more signs to try and bring awareness to motorists that speed through our villages. 2 for Belchford and 2 for Fulletby.

If you have any thoughts or pictures that could be included that personalise it to our villages
Please contact Jill 07917110614

Contacts for Local Groups

Parent & Toddlers: Sue Murfin 533344
Table Tennis Club: Jon Newby 533397
Belchford Church,
Warden: Neil 07733011046
Sewing & Crafts for All
Val 534322 Or 07825 176177
Village Hall: Bookings Secretary:
Sue Murfin 533344
Fulletby Church
Warden Paul 07939 297774

Parish Councillors:

John Smith (Chairman), Peter Thompson (Vice-Chairman), Nigel Briggishaw (Responsible Finance Officer), Miranda Brown, Ian Goodall, Paul Morris, Jill Newby, Kris Skalka, Rob Short and Zach Henden. Full contact details for all councillors can be found on the parish council website

(<https://belchford-fulletby.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/> or from Parish Clerk bandfpc.clerk@gmail.com)

Don't lose your right to vote – Local elections in May 2023

The Government has recently made it compulsory for voters to show photographic ID when voting in all elections, including those for County, District and Parish councils. Acceptable forms of ID include passports (including passports for citizens of EEA countries), photographic driving licences, a blue badge and various forms of bus pass. If these documents have expired, they can still be used so long as the picture looks like you. A full list of acceptable documents can be found on the Electoral Commission's website.

If you don't have an accepted form of photo ID, you can apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate. If you want to vote on 4th May, you must apply for this document by 5pm on 25th April. Application forms are available from East Lindsey District Council, or via a helpline: 0800 328 0280

King Charles III Coronation Village Bank Holiday Event on Monday 8th May 2023

The Parish Council discussed the Bank Holiday on 8th May 2023 to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. It has been suggested by King Charles that people volunteer for the day, maybe collecting litter, helping others etc. Maybe we could have a parish event, villagers are invited to put forward ideas during the Public Forum at the start of the next meeting of the Parish Council, at Belchford Village Hall at 7.30pm on 16th March 2023.

Neighbourhood Development Plan

The Belchford and Fulletby Neighbourhood Development Plan has largely been written and has been reviewed both internally by councillors and villagers, and externally by professional planners at AECOM. We have been advised to acquire additional evidence on housing needs in the villages, protected views and protected green spaces which we are in the process of organising.