

THE WALCOTE WORD

EDITION NO 14: SUMMER 2020

STRANGE TIMES

These last few months have been unusual and, for many, worrying. We've had to get used to doing things in a new way, whether it's shopping or keeping in touch and the Parish Council is no different. Our last two meetings have been "virtual" in that each of us has been in our own home, using the power of Zoom.

On the whole it's worked well, although as you also see a picture of yourself as well as the others, it's a little like sitting looking at your passport photo. Not good!

Our next scheduled meeting is on Thursday 9 July 2020 at 8:00 pm. At this stage we don't know if we will be using Zoom or able to meet in person but if it is Zoom, you can still join us. In the days leading up to the meeting, Cathy, our parish clerk, will publish the Agenda on the parish website making it clear how we intend to meet. If we're using Zoom, it will contain a link that enabling you to join the meeting but if you don't have a computer and webcam you can still join in by phone.

The usual rules apply if you want to say something and all comments must be made via the Chair, this year Cllr. James Robertson.

The one thing we've not been able to do is hold the Annual Parish Meeting – the one where residents generally get to have their say. Hopefully, when times are more normal later in the year, we'll be able to re-schedule it.

WIND FARM GRANTS

One of things we've been able to do is decide the various applications for grants from the Wind Farm Community Fund. If you don't know about this fund then please check the parish website.

This year we've agreed a grant of £1141.20 to St. Leonard's Church which is planning to renew the bell ropes. You may know that the Church has six bells and is popular with bell-ringing teams from far and wide.

A grant of £4000 was also agreed to MWCT, which runs the Memorial Hall, towards the cost of rectifying a long-standing and persistent problem

WELCOME

Welcome to this edition of The Walcote Word, a quarterly newsletter sent out electronically by the Misterton with Walcote Parish Council. If you have any news or photos that would be of interest to others, want to help or just unsubscribe, please contact:

clerk@mistertonwithwalcote.org.uk

Hard copies will be placed on the Parish notice board and in the pub but if you know someone who can't access these or a computer, please let us know.

with the roof, and at the request of certain residents the PC itself applied for funds to carry out various projects in the village. Grants were agreed of £1100 for a “friendly” inward facing curved bench for the Memorial Park (Harborough District Council contributing £500), £560 for a picnic bench in the play area and £1501 for play equipment for younger users of the park. As always, if the projects come in under budget, then the surplus will be returned to the Fund.

THE MEMORIAL WALK

This is our new name for the path from the end of Chapel Lane to the road leading to the Church. Most of you will be familiar with the histories of the First World War soldiers installed as part of our commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the end of that conflict. This year, which marks 75 years since the end of World War II, it seemed fitting to complete the walk with details of the other three soldiers named on the memorials in the Church and at Walcote and hopefully by the time you read this, they'll be in place.

In fact, one of the three, Daniel Bonney, was injured in the Boer War. He eventually retired to Walcote, where his wife was born, and lived here until his death in 1915.

The other two men George Clarke and Henry Charnley were both killed in WWII. George was killed in North Africa working to clear unexploded ordnance. Henry was fatally injured taking part in the Chindits 2nd expedition into Burma.

If you are unable to make the walk it is also possible to read about these men on our website: <https://www.mistertonwithwalcote.org.uk/walcote-at-war.html> We have done our best to be accurate. Please forgive us if you know any different and let us know where we went wrong.

BREAKOUT

PLANS FOR THE AUTUMN?

Perhaps when we get through our present problems, we can have a celebration. There are tentative plans for a village get-together, so watch this space.

TEST & TRACE

We're naturally reluctant to give out personal details on the phone and yet the Government's new Test & Trace system may ask us to do just that. The potential for fraud is high, so it's useful to know what to expect. To find out how to tell if a call is genuine visit: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-how-it-works>

AND LASTLY A REMINDER AND A THANK YOU...

If you're self-isolating or can't get out for any reason and need someone to fetch things or perhaps you just need to talk, please call Liz (557121), Lindsey (552836) or James (552317). And many thanks to all of you who volunteered to help us. So far, we've not needed to call on you but we will if we need to.

In the meantime, stay safe.