

# THE WALCOTE WORD

EDITION NO 15: WINTER 2020

## WIND FARM COMMUNITY FUND

Grants available



Here you see two socially distanced councilors having completed the base for the new Friendly Bench in the Memorial Park. The bench was the idea of a Walcote resident and purchased by the Parish Council with the aid of a grant from the Wind Farm fund and a contribution from Harborough District Council.

Do you have a project that needs funding? If you wish to know more, visit [www.mistertonwithwalcote.org](http://www.mistertonwithwalcote.org) where you will find guidance on improving your chances of success. Applications should be made by midnight on 28 February 2021, with a decision being made during April 2021. In the meantime, please get out and give the Friendly Bench a try.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – update

The draft plan has been submitted to Harborough DC, which has carried out its own consultation. It is now in the hands of the Examiner and we are still hopeful that we can take it a referendum and seek your vote in May 2021.

## 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](mailto: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.

## SPEED CAMERAS

### In the balance?

The future of the average speed cameras, originally installed on a one-year trial, is uncertain. On 20 October 2020 LCC's cabinet considered a report on speed enforcement in the county: <http://politics.leics.gov.uk/documents/s157173/Community%20Speed%20Enforcement%20Initiative.pdf>

LCC hopes to identify sites throughout the county that are suitable for speed cameras or alternative interventions. Whilst this may mean new sites have cameras installed, it may also mean that existing cameras are relocated. The Parish Council has received an assurance from the County Council that it will be consulted before any action is taken.

## LOCKED DOWN? NEED HELP?

We're all disappointed to be in Tier 3. Most of us will manage but there are others who will struggle. If you're self-isolating or can't get out for any reason and need someone to fetch things or perhaps just need to talk, please call Lindsey (552836) , Liz (557121) or James (552317) or go to <https://www.harborough.gov.uk/community-hub>

## PLAY AREAS – we're on the case

You may have spotted that the skateboard ramp next to the Memorial Hall is in a parlous state. We've already had to remove certain parts for safety reasons. This is a very expensive piece of equipment and we cannot contemplate replacing it out of general PC funds, so we are actively looking for grants and currently have our fingers crossed! As for the children's play area, next Spring we intend installing a piece of equipment suitable for younger users as well as a new picnic bench. We are also giving active consideration to the carousel base, a problem for many years, and seeing how we can improve it.

## TRAILING AROUND FOR CHRISTMAS

As I write this, no one knows what the run up to Christmas holds: will we still be languishing in Tier 3, or will we have more freedom to mix together? Whatever Christmas brings, it is clear that a traditional Christmas Eve church service won't be possible. We won't be allowed to welcome the usual numbers, let alone sing. Not much of a carol service! But the PCC is keen to do something as a community to celebrate and so is in the process of organising a village trail. From 14 December you can download a trail leaflet from St Leonard's Facebook page, request one by email [mistertonchurch@gmail.com](mailto:mistertonchurch@gmail.com) or collect one from 13 Chapel Lane. Most displays will be on show every day (and evening) between Saturday 19 December and Christmas Day.

Finally, a plea: the church has been closed for almost all services since February; our fund raising plans for the summer were scuppered and the Carol Service regularly raises £300 to £400. So, if you enjoy the trail could we ask you to donate to our JustGiving page (see trail leaflet) or leave a donation at 13 Chapel Street or 24 Brook Street? Thank you and we wish you all a very Happy Christmas.

Liz Marsh (for St Leonard's PCC)

