



Ropsley & District Parish Council Autumn 2021 Newsletter

Since our spring newsletter it's been fantastic to see the social life in our Parish open up again. Children back to school and no more 'bubbles', Churches are open for services again and The Green Man is thriving. It's been a great hub for the community, with live music on too! Sports clubs at the wonderful new Ropsley Hall are back in full swing and your Parish Council have now met there twice in person after 12 months of only being able to meet virtually. Read on for our latest news...

Best Kept Garden Competition

Back by popular demand, through May, June & July, Ropsley & District Parish Council ran the 'Best Kept Garden Competition'. Kindly co-ordinated by Cllr Anne Marshall, we received a large number of fantastic entries which were judged by last year's winners. This year's worthy winners received a certificate and gift token from The Green Man. Congratulations to this year's very deserving winners:

- ♦ **"Best Kept Flower Garden"** - Terry Fytche of Great Humby who's garden always has a beautiful array of flowers. Judged and prize presented by Paul Hance.
- ♦ **"Best Kept Veg Plot"** - Nina Coffey's veg plot was bursting with so much lovely fruit and veg! Judged and prize presented by Rowland Gosbee.
- ♦ **"Best Use Of recyclables In A Garden"** – Benji turned an old picket fence destined for the tip into a fantastic play sandpit for the garden. Judged and prize presented by Clare Coffey.
- ♦ **"Best Garden Created by Kids"** - Poppy-Belle Mann created a fantastic garden of vegetables and flowers, all her own work. Judged and prize presented by Rebecca Shopland.



Calendar Photograph Competition



Following a very successful inaugural photo competition last year, again under the watchful eye of Cllr Anne Marshall, Ropsley & District Parish Council called for entries for photos to be judged for entry into the 2022 Parish calendar. Entries are now closed but we wanted to say a big thank you to everyone who sent in photos from across the seasons, over the fields and around the year of stunning views, farm animals, sunsets, our wonderful buildings & structures and our nature at its beautiful best! We have had over 200 entries and we are now going through each one to get to our final 13. Winners will be announced in October in good time for you to order your Parish calendars for Christmas! Updates to follow very soon.

Your Ropsley & District Neighbourhood Plan

As many of you will know, the Neighbourhood Plan has been passed with a resounding 87% voting yes, at the elections in May. This now forms part of South Kesteven's "Development Plan" and will have real influence over planning in the Parish as per your wishes, collected during various public consultations over the last few years. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this. You can see the final Plan on the SKDC website: www.southkesteven.gov.uk/RDNP or to see a hard copy do get in touch with the Parish Clerk (see the last page) and she will be able to help with this.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022 Celebrations

Next year will see the Queens Platinum Jubilee and celebrations taking place across the country, over the weekend of 2nd - 5th June 2022. The Parish Council would like to work with other local groups and individuals to help to appoint a committee to plan and oversee festivities. Volunteers interested in helping are eagerly requested so if you can help or have ideas, please do get in touch with the Parish Clerk.

The Queens Green Canopy / Tree Planting

This is a tree-planting scheme inviting people across the country to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee." Everyone from individuals to local groups, our school, farmers and other businesses can plant trees from October 2021 when the tree planting season begins and into 2022, to create a legacy in honour of the Her Majesty to benefit our landscapes, the environment and to combat climate change for future generations. We are keen for the Parish to contribute. For more information on how you can take part please look online here: www.queensgreencanopy.org

In more tree news...

The Parish Council applied for Lincolnshire County Council's Treescape Fund for 'Standard' and 'Whip' trees for all our 5 villages. We are waiting to hear about our allocation and more news is to follow.

For those concerned about overgrown trees or with low hanging / dangerous branches in the villages, with SKDC we are surveying those trees in public spaces and will oversee appropriate trimming and lopping work.

Adopting our phone boxes



In Sapperton the Parish adopted red phone box that now houses a defibrillator was renovated over the summer. This follows a similar renovation to Little Humby's phone box last year. In Braceby, the Parish Council are also in the process of 'adopting' (for £1, no less!) the redundant red phone box from BT. Once adopted it is planned to also use it to house Braceby's defibrillator.

Village Gates



You will now all have seen the new entrance gates are up in Ropsley! This has been a long-coveted project of the Parish Council, not only as a nice way to mark three of the entrances to the village but importantly also to aid in the quest to encourage traffic to slow down. Well done to all those involved. The new Ropsley village sign is following soon.

On the point about speeding through the village, the Parish Council has also been liaising with Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership to do a speeding survey using 'archer strips'. We are on their list and we hope this will take place soon.

Grants and awards

Each year the Ropsley & District Parish Council issues grants to community bodies and clubs. Notably, this year the Parish Council donated £500 towards replacement nets for the Baboons Cricket Club and £2000 to the new Ropsley Hall, which is going towards a new stage.

Keep your eye out for...

Little Humby Road Resurfacing - You may have spotted the yellow markings on the road in Little Humby. This is good news, after 7 years of chasing Lincolnshire CC Highways department is about to undertake long-overdue road resurfacing works through the village in January 2022. Great Humby's Church Lane was resurfaced in the summer, as was part of Somerby Road up past the golf course.

For any more general road repair work you see that needs doing – potholes, collapsed verges etc. please report it on www.fixmystreet.com

Anglian Water pipeline through the Parish - In 2022 Anglian Water will be laying an underground water pipe through farmland in the Parish to the east of Ropsley. If you want to know more use this link: www.anglianwater.co.uk/spa

Behind the scenes

Nathan Coyle continues his excellent work litter picking and keeping our verges tidy...thank you! As ever, our deep gratitude also goes out to the amazing volunteers who keep all the villages looking so tidy and beautiful through the year - the lawns are kept, the planters entering Ropsley always look magnificent (as does Humby's), the cemetery is immaculate, benches and signs cleaned and repaired, hedges trimmed. Thank you to all - you know who you are. Finally, we just wanted to say how great it is to see Barry Buxton active again in Ropsley after his fall earlier in the year.

If we ALL do a bit to pick up litter, keep our speed down, park considerately, help nature and be considerate and generous with neighbours, Ropsley & District Parish will go from strength to strength as a very special place to live.

If you feel you or your Parish Council can help with any community-related matters then please do get in touch with a Councillor or contact our excellent Clerk, Nikki Gascoigne at ropsleypcclerk@hotmail.co.uk or 01522 695396.



You can also join [Ropsley and District Parish Council](#) Facebook page for regular updates from round and about our community including meeting dates, agendas and minutes.