



Pic: R Shorting

Community Magazine

UPWELL PARISH COUNCIL – CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – 2021

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The first Christmas Lights competition within the Parish was held for the Millennium, way back in 2000!



This year it will be judged on 16th December between 6 – 9pm - judges will travel the whole parish; Lakesend, Three Holes and Upwell as they

have other years. What are the criteria? If you have had lights before, they will look to see if you have added any more; it can be a nativity scene, a simple white display, or whatever you choose. One request – please **do not site blue flashing lights close to the road** – this may be confused with emergency services – and we

do not want to cause an accident.

There are two cups for the household section; one for Three Holes and Lakesend and one for Upwell.

A business section is also awarded although this has diminished over the years with the closing of businesses, but those of you that are still in business “let’s see some more lights”?

Both category winners will receive a cup and certificate, all runners up will receive a certificate.

I see some households are already decorated let’s see lots more.

Winners for 2020 were:

Business – Joanne’s Pantry,
Household -

Lakesend and Three Holes – Neale Family.
Upwell – Jess and Darren Hurst

Good Luck everyone!
Ros Shorting.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES



UPWELL METHODIST CHURCH

Carol Service 19 December
10.30 a.m

Christmas Eve Crib Service
3.00 p.m followed by bring and share tea

Christmas Eve service 6.00 p.m
Christmas Day service
10.00 a.m

UPWELL & OUTWELL Christmas SERVICES

Advent Compline & Meditation
December 8th 7.30 pm  St Peter’s Church Upwell

Carol Services
December 12th 4 pm  St Clement’s Church Outwell
December 19th 6.30 pm  St Peter’s Church Upwell

Christmas Eve
Holy Communion 11.30 pm  St Peter’s Church Upwell

Christmas Day
Holy Communion 10 am  St Clement’s Church Outwell



FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Parish Councils have limited powers and responsibilities. Most of the things people complain to us about are problems with amenities or services provided or maintained by other bodies, mainly the borough and county councils. We do, of course, have good links to these bodies, especially through our elected borough and county councillors, and they will often respond to rectify the problems

we highlight to them that you have raised with us. When they don't respond, or do so only after a significant delay, it is easy for parishioners to assume we have done nothing about their complaints. I can assure you we do review all the complaints you raise with us and either address them ourselves if we can, and have the authority to do so, or ask the relevant body to address them. Whenever we do ask for the assistance of these other bodies we keep a record of that request and review progress at each council meeting; if there has been no action we follow it up again. I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to our county and borough councillors. Chris Dawson, our new county councillor, has been very active helping Upwell Parish Council with the problems we have identified that Norfolk CC are responsible for. Vivienne Spikings and Colin Rose, our two borough councillors, have also been helpful getting the Borough to act on various issues that were their responsibility.

The **November meeting of the Parish Council** was filmed and posted on the Welle Film Club website. The meeting lasted about 1 hour and 40 minutes and large portions of the meeting were typical of the routine work we do; early in the meeting you will see us go through our action log where ongoing issues are reviewed to see what progress has occurred since the last meeting. I know that some people who have viewed the film felt we achieved very little in the time, but I think that impression comes from a fundamental misunderstanding of how the council works. Decisions are arrived at democratically and all we do is governed by strict rules. It is the job of our parish clerk, Melanie, to ensure we follow those rules; and whenever she is unsure of the correct course of action, she refers to other more experienced clerks elsewhere in Norfolk or seeks guidance from organisations such as the National Association of Local Councils (NALC).

One area where our powers are routinely misunderstood is planning. All planning applications, including change of use applications such as that for the Five Bells, are considered by the borough council. The parish council is consulted for our opinion, but it is only that - we make no decisions. We may recommend an application is refused or approved, or that a particular condition be applied, but in the end the decision is taken by the borough council planning committee, often on the recommendation of the planning officers who are employed by the borough and have a high level of expertise in planning matters. It is also important that any comments we make on an application are based on planning law and local environmental factors. It is no good us saying we don't like an application and oppose it without a material planning reason.

By following this guidance, it means when we do suggest an application should be refused or a condition is applied, it is more likely the borough planners will pay attention as they will know we don't routinely say no to anything we simply do not like.

The areas we do have responsibility for at present are footway lighting, dog waste bins, the cemetery, the local allotments, the War Memorial, Upwell Hall and other assets such as bus shelters we have erected. We employ the parish clerk and contract with people in the area to maintain the cemetery, empty waste bins and perform various jobs such as pruning and weeding parish council land. We also invest in various ways of communicating with the electorate such as this magazine, our website and Facebook page. This year we also decided, with the permission of Norfolk County Council, to spend some money doing extra grass cuts to public rights of way in the Parish to improve access for parishioners. To pay for these services we can raise money by setting a precept included in your annual council tax bill (last year a band D property paid us £40.39 for the year), by borrowing as we did to buy the old school playing field on Lowside and Upwell Hall in the 1990s and by the sale of assets. We also raise money for the publication of this magazine by selling advertising in the magazine.

Many of you will know that **I was a GP at the Upwell Health Centre** for more than 30 years until I retired in 2018. Like all GP practices in the country Covid-19 brought tremendous difficulties to Upwell Health Centre as they tried to maintain services whilst minimising the risk of spreading infection, both from health worker to patient (and visa versa) and between patients, and then whilst rolling out the mammoth immunisation programme to thousands of individuals. As our lives have become more normal in recent months the day to day running of the surgery has not changed anywhere near as much. You will know from the statistics every night on the news that there are still significant numbers of people with active covid infection in our community. Inevitably the health centre would become a hot bed for infection if patients started attending the surgery in the numbers they did prior to covid. I'm sure you remember sitting in the waiting room with many others waiting for your appointment; if that scenario was repeated now that waiting room would be a very high-risk environment. Also, by the very nature of GP waiting rooms, the people in there would be a high proportion of medically vulnerable individuals who, even after vaccination, are at high risk of dying from Covid.

It is because of these unique circumstances of medical settings that the advice to GP surgeries across the country has been to continue screening all calls remotely and only seeing people face to face where medically necessary and in a safe way. I know the team there are working flat out as the demand for consultations has gone through the roof in recent months. It is not clear why demand is so great; maybe some of it is deferred by people who sat on problems during Covid; maybe people are more concerned regarding symptoms in a pandemic and are choosing to consult when normally they would have managed their symptoms at home with simple remedies. Whatever the reason, the effect has been to put enormous

Chairman - cont

strain on the services at Upwell Health Centre; for all our sakes we need the service there not to break and I urge you all to be patient and calm when seeking help from the team there. They are trying their best and working as hard as they can. Christmas is coming and with it the pleasure of seeing the colourful lights and decorations people put up in and around their houses. Many of you will know about our annual **Christmas Lights Competition**, there is more about that on the front page of this magazine, but I encourage you all to go the extra mile to beautify our Parish in the next few weeks. Hopefully many of us can enjoy a family Christmas this year: many of you will have missed seeing your family and loved ones last year. At the time of writing it looks optimistic that this year we can all meet up again. Please accept my best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a better 2022.

Dr Paul Williams

Blunt Trust Update

I want to start with some sad news that some of you may already know. Nigel Carter, one of the Blunt Trust trustees, sadly passed away quite suddenly over the weekend of November 20th. I had known Nigel since my early years as a doctor in the village both professionally and through many village activities and organisations. Nigel was a very nice man whose absence the community will be worse for. He has for many years been a stalwart at the Upwell Bowls Club and Upwell Playing Field and was a valuable member of our trust board. He gave his time willingly even over the last eighteen months when his health has been troubling him. He helped out with our bulb planting day in October and was due to do so again the day after his death; I found it especially touching that some of his family and friends turned out the day after his death to plant more bulbs in the orchard as a tribute to him. Good-bye Nigel, may you rest in peace.

On the Blunt Trust front things seem to have gone quiet again with very few applications for support from the people of Upwell. Can I remind you that the trust is here to help

you if you have financial problems related to education, your health or simply your wellbeing. You can find out all about what we are and what we do on our website: <https://thebluntrust.com/>

Since the last newsletter we have resurfaced the path through the nature walk as there were several complaints about the quality of the surface. We have also finished the car park with a tarmac area for disabled parking and a large gravelled area for everyone else to park. We have had several volunteer days to plants bulbs etc in the orchard, thanks to all that turned out. We will be planting more hedging trees in the new year.

If you have any ideas to improve the orchard or wish to sponsor an amenity in the orchard please contact us by email: bluntfamilytrust2019@gmail.com

The Blunt Trust is here for the long haul and will be supporting the people of Upwell for many years to come.

Merry Christmas.

Upwell and Outwell Age Concern Lunch Club

Lunch club has welcomed several new members since we re-started in August and everyone is enjoying our new menus and the opportunity to catch up with friends new and old.

This year we celebrated early with our Christmas meal at the beginning of December and will be holding our first charity 'Soup before Santa' lunch just before Christmas.

This year all donations from the lunch will be sent to The Norfolk Hospice, Tapping House. If you would like to join us or have further details please contact Jackie on 07584 735805 or email her on jackiescotten51@gmail.com

Lunch Club 2022 starts with a fish and chip lunch on 4th January. New members are always welcome so if your New Year Resolution is to get out and about a bit more please contact us on the number or email above to find out how to join us.

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UPWELL VILLAGE HALL



Since 1868, Upwell Village Hall has been the hub of the community and today is no different, just somewhat busier.

Now many things have changed since the time it was first built, but the fact remains that the Hall is a great meeting place and allows everyone in the Parish to congregate and join in, which were most definitely the ideals of those who built it.

The Hall has changed hands a few times since its inception and so has the layout, but the principle remains the same:

“A place for local people to get together, to join a club, to visit events or hosted talks on a variety of subjects and along the way meet new people and make new friends”.

So, what happens in the Hall ?

Well, there are quite a few groups and classes that use the hall on a repeat basis and some of these groups have a regular, large uptake of members and all are welcome. Some of the groups that use the hall on a regular basis are:-

- Pilates
- Indoors Bowls
- Ballroom Dancing
- Over 60's Keep Fit
- Patchwork & Sewing Group
- Friendship Group

Along with all of these groups, the Hall is also used as a training venue for various companies in the area and also those that travel from further afield.

Local businesses also hire the facilities to hold meetings for their staff.

And proudly, in recent times, the Hall has been a vaccination centre for the local community. To aid and assist in delivering the Covid-19 Vaccine to all that need it without having to travel too far, in these unprecedented and uncertain times.

There has also been some progress in bringing the hall

into the 21st Century and increasing its ability to communicate to a wider audience with the Launch of the Upwell Village Hall website and increased posts on its social media offering.

The website was launched in May 2020 and in its first year or so has had more than 2000 views. It was designed to be a tool to focus on what is happening in the Hall, with local information, an events page and calendar, contact information for some of the groups involved and now the ability to book and pay for the hire of the hall online. (Should you wish to pay for a class, this is still done directly with the person running that class on the day).

Another update for the Hall in recent times is the addition of a Credit /Debit card machine for the Licenced Bar that operates in the Hall.

This is aimed at making your Bar transactions simpler, with the use of modern technologies, you can now use your Credit/Debit Card, Contactless-payment, I-phone or Google Pay and thus reduce the need for cash handling. Makes the process a faster, smoother and safer one for all.

Whilst installing this new kit, we also upgraded the Hall WIFI for all to use whilst in the Hall.

So why not visit the Hall or check out the website for groups, clubs and up-and-coming events now or in the near future?...you don't know what you might be missing out on!

And talking of future events...

“The Final Fling” a New Year's Eve celebration.

Why not see in the New Year with the Upwell Village Hall, friends and family.

Tickets are available from the website, on the Upwell Hall Facebook page or please contact Ros Shorting directly on— 01945 773604

To contact us for information or bookings please either use the website :- www.upwellvillagehall.co.uk or Call David Aston, the Hall Manager, directly on 01945 774060

FIVE THINGS YOU MAYBE DIDN'T KNOW.....

- **Santa Claus was issued with a pilot's license from the U.S government in 1927.**
- **In 18th century England, having pineapples was a symbol of wealth and would be used for display instead of being eaten.**
- **All the paint on the Eiffel Tower weighs the same as ten elephants and it is re-painted every seven years.**
- **During the Middle Ages, being a bad musician was a public offense and really bad ones were tortured!**
- **About a thousand people a year are injured by Christmas decorations!**

CAN I RIDE MY HORSE ON A PAVEMENT?

We live in a rural area where horses and ponies are a common sight and usually ridden or led with the utmost care. Over the last couple of months, questions have been raised by parishioners about where a horse or pony can be ridden and whether the rider/horse owner should be removing any dung?

Technically, horses **must not** be taken onto a footpath or pavement or onto a cycle track. Having consulted with the local police, they state that it is 'A criminal offence, enforced by the police, under the Highways Act 1835 and can be punishable by a fine not exceeding £500.'

The Highway Code has a whole section dedicated to equestrian road use, with Horse riders under rules 49 to 55. The rules cover safety as well as road use.

For example –

- Children under age 14 **must** wear a helmet that complies with regulations and it **must** be fastened securely.
 - You should wear boots or shoes with hard heels and soles.
 - Wear light coloured, or ideally fluorescent clothing in daylight
 - Reflective clothing if you must ride at night or in poor visibility.
 - Ensure all tack fits well and is in good condition
 - Make sure you can control the horse and if possible, ride with others if you think your horse will be nervous of traffic.
- All of which, I am sure those that do ride are aware of and conform to.

Horse drawn vehicles used on the highway should be operated and maintained in accordance with the standards set out in the Department for Transport's Code of Practice.

This code lays down the requirements for road driving and a comprehensive list of safety checks, which includes that all horse drawn vehicles **must** have two red rear reflectors.

Do Horse Riders have to pick up Poop?

In the UK, the answer is no; it is not a legal requirement to pick up their horse's droppings on the streets or during trail rides.

Why? I can hear you ask.....

It all comes down to what equestrian animals eat. Horses are herbivores and that means their poo does not contain the same sort of dangerous bacteria that carnivore or omnivore poo does. So unlike dog poo, it does not contain the bacteria that can be transmitted to humans or other animals. In fact, according to one scientific publication, you could eat horse manure without bad side effects! I think personally I would question that!!!

However, horse riders are encouraged, if safe to do so, to move their animal's dung to the side of the road so not to cause nuisance. But this is not a legal requirement except for any local by-laws or if it takes place on a private housing estate.

And finally, some facts that you may or may not know...

- In the UK it is illegal to ride a horse whilst drunk
- There are currently no penalties in England for horse riders using a mobile phone but there are safety laws such as control of the animal so it could be considered the rider has less control if using a mobile phone.
- All these rules and regulations also cover Donkeys, Mules and Zebras!

CLA

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ (Answers on p14)

1. Which British city has districts called Walker, Denton, Kenton, Gosforth and Byker?
2. What spice is one of the main ingredients of Hungarian Goulash?
3. On which river does the city of Leeds stand?
4. In the human body, what has four chambers?
5. In Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice*, what is the name of the merchant?
6. Of what do fennel leaves taste?
7. What is tilth?
8. Who was Labour leader before Tony Blair?
9. Aquamarine is the birth stone for which month?
10. Which member of the Spice Girls was known as Baby Spice?
11. What is the only bird that can hover in the air and also fly backwards?
12. What actor was the fifth to play Dr Who?
13. Originals of what can only be found in Lincoln and Salisbury Cathedrals and the British Museum?
14. What is a young fox called?
15. On a London Underground map, which line is coloured light blue?
16. In the nursery rhyme, who ran away with the spoon?
17. To which country do the Canary Islands belong?
18. Who created Winnie the Pooh?
19. Who was Henry VIII's third wife?
20. Which actress plays the title role in *The Vicar of Dibley*?
21. Who beat Holland in the 1978 World Cup Final?
22. What is the capital of Tibet?
23. In which sport might you see a long leg and a third man?
24. Who is the patron saint of Singers?
25. Where would you be if you ate *al fresco*?

Green Fingers Gardening Club



Another three months of cautious freedom has seen the Club return to some sort of normal. We have had two 'in the room' meetings with Speakers and the AGM. Both talks were very interesting, one being on 'Colour in the Garden' and the other on 'Bee-Keeping'. There is a natural relationship between those two and gardeners get to benefit with beautiful flowers, successful seed production & delicious honey. We even managed to hold the annual competition for the Hearndon Cup. This involves the presentation of five roses, cut from members' gardens, in a vase. The winner was Connie.

The Open Garden at Marion's in the summer raised over £800 for this year's charities. That and the funds raised at Christmas 2019 mean that we have over £900 to be divided between Upwell & Outwell Luncheon Club, Alan Hudson Day Treatment Centre (Wisbech) and West Norfolk Befriending. Next year's charity is yet to be decided but initial funds will be gathered at our December meeting. For several years now, we have chosen to give donations rather than the exchange of Christmas cards and this always gets the charity collection off to a good start. At the AGM in November there were some changes within the committee. The most important one is that Susie & Raina have swapped roles. Raina is the new Chairwoman. You can contact her on 772160 should you have any queries about the Club. Susie is now Programme Secretary. If you have a passion for anything loosely associated with gardening & would like to come & talk to us about it, contact Susie on 773576.

Our programme for 2022 starts on Tuesday January 18th when Dr Eric Somerville will be talking to us about 'First Aid for Gardeners'. I bet he will have tales to tell. On February 15th Tony Winchester from WWT will speak on 'Hares & Cuckoos'. I wonder what the connection is? Our meetings are on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, in Upwell Methodist Hall, 7 for 7.30pm. The times & venue are currently up for discussion so check if you are planning to join us in the next few months.

FINALLY, MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

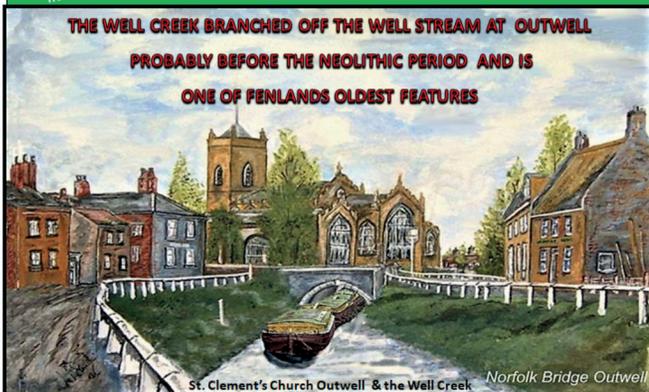
NEW LOCAL HISTORY BOOK

THE ANCIENT TOWN OF

Painting showing the Rising Sun and the Norfolk Hero public houses

WELLA

By William P Smith
December 2021



The Saxon town called Wella consisted of settlements known now as Upwell-Outwell- Welney-Three Holes-Nordelph- Tipps End-Lakesend-Neatmoor-Parts of B-Drove and Christchurch

banks today.

King John gave "Wella"(e) Town status. Wella consisted of what we call today: Upwell, Outwell, Welney, Nordelph, Three Holes, Neatmoor, Tips-End, Lakes-End, part of Christchurch and Barroway Drove.

This relatively short tidal creek has evolved into one of the most important assets running through the West Norfolk countryside and Fenland villages.

The Well Creek Trust will ensure this ancient waterway is safe and will never be abandoned.

Book Launch

"THE ANCIENT TOWN OF WELLA"

By William P Smith

St Peter's Church Upwell will be the venue of a new book being launched by William P Smith.

Date: 4th December 2021 From: 10.30am

A brief synopsis:

This book reveals intriguing Fenland history dating from the 12th century to modern times.

It is a vast collection of maps, photographs, illustrations and tributes to dedicated people who have secured and preserved a small but important part of Fenland history.

The subject and the contents of the book is centred on the "Well Stream", the principal river of Wisbech up to the 13th century. This natural outfall for many upland rivers existed before the Neolithic period and gave Wisbech its prosperity and importance. We are fortunate that our modern ancestors saved the Well Creek, a tidal waterway that historically branched off the Well Stream at Outwell and enhances the numerous settlements that still exist along its

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To Rent Garden Allotments

The Parish Council has a number of garden allotments to rent on its Stonehouse Road site.

Call for more information

Parish Clerk, Melanie Hilton: 07368 420237



UPWELL PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE

New Road, Upwell Wisbech Cambs PE14 9AB.

Tel. 01945 773604

email upfc@talktalk.net Registered charity 300425

– OH what a mixed bag we have had to deal with!

Covid restrictions in force until April when, after several telephone calls, we were able to open up for Car boot sales; this proved a great success due to the fact it was outdoors. Certain restrictions were put in place, i.e., hand sanitiser, one way system etc., notices for stall holders “look, don’t touch, unless buying” We have had a brilliant year, making a clear profit of £4,458 with our best week being 12th August with 52 car boot sellers. The first **horse show** was postponed due to bad weather. It was rescheduled for 26th June and had a brilliant turnout - Light and Heavy horses together - with 108 entries in 27 classes (some with as many as 10). A standalone Heavy horse show was held on 17th July; this again was successful with all four breeds represented. Our last show of the season was held on the 25th of September with Light horses in one ring and Heavy horses in the second ring. This again was well attended. To avoid congestion at the booking-in table we had online entries for all the shows with any extras paying on the day, which worked well. Over the year we have held 44 different classes for Light horse and Heavy horses, with 324 entries. Not bad considering we are not affiliated to any breed organisation - just a village show for everyone to come along and enter - from the complete novice handler/rider with a novice horse to the more experienced who wants to support our village show.

Our **Summer Weekend** went well I thought, considering we were competing against England playing football. It was not overcrowded on the Saturday for **Party in the Park** but the music was good and those that attended enjoyed the evening. **Summer Fayre** - again we were not overpopulated with stalls. Outwell Fire and Rescue were in attendance, and everyone came out for the afternoon - until the rain came down. A first for many years was the Gundog demonstration. Welney Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust attended and recruited some new members. The traditional barbeque, teas, refreshments and raffle stalls all went well.

The **Dog Show** held on August 8th was very well attended. Judged by Hilary Cox, with little chihuahuas to large German shepherds and organised by Liz Thorpe, committee member. Lovely to see several local people with their dogs.

The **Tack Sale** held 5th June was well attended by sellers

and a second one held on our **MacMillan Coffee Morning**, 18th September, all in brilliant sunshine. Everyone’s chance to grab a bargain for their horse.

I would like to thank all committee members for their hard work during this difficult time, with car boot sales, John, Mark - particular mention to Liz for organising “online” dog shows and light horse shows and actual horse shows as well. Pip for sorting online Heavy show, and actual Heavy Horse shows, obtaining sponsorship - well done.

Our behind-the-scenes team, Adrian, Kelvin, and James who came along before work - for erecting the arenas when needed, everyone who helps on event days, Geoff, Pam, Sarah, Hilary and members husbands and wives...“thank you for your help”.

FOOTBALL: With the success of last season, under the managership of Alex Lynn for the first team, the start to this season was at times very “sticky”. Some players left after the success, and it was desperate trying to get new players to gel together. There is a Reserves team now, managed by Karl Schultz. Good luck to both teams. Both teams are sponsored by local company Robinsons Farms, Refrigeration & Transport Ltd.

FUTURE We have been asked about holding a wedding ceremony on the Playing Field – watch this space!... **We are in need of New Members, to attend meetings once a month, have an interest in fund raising, organising and working on event days (but not all).**

We are deeply saddened to have sadly lost one of our long serving committee members – **Nigel Carter**, who sadly passed away on 21st November. Nigel has been a committee member representing Upwell Bowls Club for over 20 years. Nigel was the architect for our pavilion and I’m pleased to say it is finished apart from the benches: he was more than happy with the finished product. Over the years he has run a bar for Summer Fayre day, BBQ for Party in the Park and Summer Fayre and more recently during his retirement he has come along on Thursday mornings and taken the money for car boot sales, and handed out numbers for the horse shows. He was always happy to help where he could. He once commented to me “*I don’t know anything about horses but I love to watch ‘em*”. Nigel will be greatly missed by all members. Our condolences to Liz, Tanya and Mark.

Ros. Shorting.

A CHAT WITH NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR ROB SHAW

One of our recent new Councillors is Rob Shaw, who bought his new home in Upwell in 2019 and moved in 2020 with his wife Emma. Born in Burnley Lancashire, Rob spent most of his life in Essex and made the decision to relocate to the countryside and in his own words '*leave the town life attitude behind on the M11*'.

Rob has an eclectic mix of experience having previously worked in warehousing, managing a large builder's merchants, and building lorries! He has spent the last three years as a self employed Office Manager and he assists three companies with their day to day running, as well Health & Safety measures.

Having lived in the area for over a year, which unfortunately mostly coincided with lockdown, Rob decided to get out and meet people. Seeing that a lot for the village is done by volunteers and groups, he joined the Village Hall Committee as an effective way to start getting involved in the community. When the opportunity arose to become a Parish Councillor, Rob applied as wants to try and make a difference wherever

he can and as he says, '*I can't do that from behind a keyboard or sitting on the sofa!*' Rob hopes to assist the council in improving and expanding its profile and communication with the wider Parish.

With three grown up sons, one grandson and a new granddaughter on the way in February next year, family is important to Rob but he tries to make time for some hobbies such as gardening and has recently taken up fishing, although he reckons he is not very good at that yet.

And on a light-hearted note, he was asked –

•Your favourite musical artist/band? *Jimi Hendrix, Led Zepplin but has been known to listen to Blues and some Opera!*

•Favourite Foods? *Enjoys most foods but favourite would be Lamb.*

•If you could visit anywhere, where would that be? *The Norwegian Fjords and see the Northern Lights.*

I think you would agree that Rob will bring some interesting experience to his role as a Parish Councillor.

CLA

A CHAT WITH NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR BILL PUGH

We have two new recently appointed Councillors and one is Bill Pugh who moved to Upwell around 17 years ago. Bill loves living here and says that the village has far exceeded his expectations of what a friendly village should be, which is nice to hear. He finds it ideally located for his business in Peterborough, with easy journeys to London as well as all that the Norfolk countryside has to offer.

Bill decided he wanted to contribute to the community after he saw what a good job the Parish Council did for residents and he felt that it is also important not only to have councillors who have been on the council for some time but also to have new members, maybe with new ideas. Bill hopes to bring a willingness to assist wherever possible with the important duties that all council members have a responsibility for, and maybe to help in getting more of the community involved in understanding the role of the Parish Council.

When asked if he has any hobbies, Bill doesn't know if they come under that heading but he has kept bees for many

years which are particularly important as pollinators for crops. He also is lucky enough to have the space for 11 cats and 6 dogs! And he also keeps Alpacas!

Quite a menagerie. We wait to find out if there will be any further additions!

And on a light hearted note,

- Who is your favourite music artist/band?

Eclectic mix from Frank Zappa to Red Hot Chilli Peppers and a bit of Bach.

•Favourite foods? *Definitely Indian and a traditional British Sunday Roast*

- If you could visit anywhere, where would that be?

I would like to visit Latin America sometime but deciding where is the difficult thing and choosing which ones as there are over 20 different countries!

We welcome Bill to the council and can't wait to see the Alpacas!

CLA

FOOD WASTE COLLECTION HAS RESUMED

Every week, with your black or green bin, food waste caddies will be emptied. As before, please bag food waste so it doesn't stick to the bin. Any kind of plastic, polythene or paper can be used for this. Cooked food, fruit and vegetable peelings, uneaten pet food, tea bags, coffee grounds, eggshells, bones are examples of what can go in the caddy.

There goes the turkey carcass!

Things not to go in include packaging (apart from lining the caddy) runny oils or fats, non-food products and pet waste (which should be wrapped and go in the black bin).

If your indoor and outdoor caddies are not somewhere obvious it would be worth a search. Replacements are available free from the Borough Council – but delivery time is 15 weeks because of supply problems.





Well Creek Trust will be holding its annual General Meeting on the 3rd February 2022 in Upwell Village Hall starting at 7pm. Please come and join us and get the latest news on the Well Creek. Meeting to commence at 7.00 PM

4. To elect Members to the Trust Council- the retiring members in rotation
5. To appoint the Accountants
6. To transact any other business which is authorised to be transacted at an Annual General Meeting.

This year's guest speaker will be Willam P Smith, the region's local historian, who will be giving a presentation, based on his latest book "The Ancient Town of Wella" The committee is looking forward to meeting you once again, after such a long absence due to Covid-19.

<https://www.wellcreektrust.org.uk>

Facebook: Well Creek Trust

J Delaney Secretary

Agenda

1. To receive apologies for absence.
2. To receive the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 6th February 2020
3. To receive and consider the Annual Report and the Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st Aug 2020



Winter is fading and Spring is around the corner and another year is here with lighter nights and hopefully slightly warmer days. Now is the time to visit the Welle W.I. to see what we get up to. We hold monthly meetings on the first Monday of the month at Upwell Village Hall for 7.30pm. We have various activities which could be a craft item; a Speaker demonstrating an item; or a Speaker giving a talk on an exciting and topical subject. Activities you can join in or sit back and

listen to and discuss afterwards with other members during the tea/coffee break.

A raffle is held at each meeting so a chance of going home with goodies is high, as well as satisfaction at having a good chat with friends, old and new.

New members are always welcome so come along and meet us. For more information contact our President: Janet Roden on 01945 774565

Tea on Tuesday

Tea on Tuesday has been welcoming around thirty six visitors to each session since it started in September. Everyone enjoys the conversation, cake and convivial company! By the time you read this we will have celebrated our Christmas meeting with entertainment by JustUs2 enjoying the music of the 50s and 60s.

Tea on Tuesday is open to everyone who enjoys good company and making friends and is held in Upwell Methodist Church Hall on alternate Tuesdays. Our first session of 2022 will be on 11th January so come along for a chat and a cuppa and blow away those winter blues!

Some of our visitors have difficulty with their mobility, so if needed, we can arrange transport to and from the club using a minibus suitable for those using walking aids and wheelchair users. If you would like further information please contact Jackie Scotten on 07584 735805 or 01945 880631. Email: jackiescotten51@gmail.com

Life is like a cup of tea. It's all in how you make it.....

funded through



Do you have a local project that requires funding?

Groups and organisations, looking to deliver infrastructure to benefit the residents and businesses within the Borough of King's Lynn and West Norfolk, are being invited to bid for Local and Community project funding.

Applications must be submitted within the following timescales:

Start Date: 01 January 2022
Closing Date: 01 February 2022

Start Date: 01 July 2022
Closing Date: 01 August 2022

**You can apply for between £2,000 and £50,000
if you have a project which is linked to:**

- Education – local Initiatives
- Health
- Economic Development
- Community Facilities
- Green Infrastructure
- Open Space and Leisure
- Community Transport

CIL can be used:

To fund all of a project or can be combined with funding available from other sources.

To increase the capacity of existing infrastructure, or to repair failing infrastructure, if that is necessary to support development.

For further information, please contact your Parish Clerk.
You can also visit the Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk CIL Governance and Funding webpages:
west-norfolk.gov.uk/CIL

Borough Council of
King's Lynn &
West Norfolk



740-7-2

If you want to make an application for funding under this scheme, the questions you will be asked by the on-line application form are shown on page 12, along with more details of the criteria your project must meet in order to qualify.

Please note that applications can only be made in the months of January and July 2022

On-line Application Form content – (Questions in italics)

Landing Page: *Which project type would you like to apply CIL Infrastructure Funding for?*

- *Strategic Project funding over £50,000*
- *Community and Local Project funding between £2,000 and £50,000*

CIL Funding: *Amount of CIL funding requested*

Note: The CIL Funding criteria is based on the amount of funding you are applying for, not the total costings of your project.

Project Details:

- *Project Name/Title*
- *Name of Organisation submitting this request*
 - *Brief description of the project:*

Community Support: *Briefly explain how this project will benefit the local Community* **Notes:** *Have you liaised with your Parish/Ward Council?/Have you liaised with other community groups?/What evidence do you have that local people support your project?*

Project timescale: *Please indicate the approximate start date and timescale for completion of this project.*

Note: CIL Payments are made on completion of the project.

Project Match Funding:

- **Parish Funding** –*Amount of funding committed to the project by applying Parish Council's Precept*
- **CIL Funding** –*Amount of funding committed to the project by applying CIL Parish payments*
- **Other Match Funding** –*Details of other match funding secured (amount and organisation providing funds)*

Supporting Information: *Please give details of any other information you would like to provide in support of your application:*

NCC Supporting Letter: *If the project is highways or education related, do you have a letter of support from the relevant NCC department?*

Upload Documents: *Please upload any supporting documents as required* **Notes:** *May include: Project Plan/Letters of Support from NCC/ Parish Plans/ Photographs*

Contact Details: *Please provide details of the person to contact in relation to this application* **Notes:** *Include Name/ Email Address & Phone Number*

***Additional Strategic Project Questions Only**

If you are submitting a Strategic Project Application, please provide the following additional information:

Meeting Local Plans: *How does the project contribute to the delivery of the objectives and policies of the BCKLWN Local Plan/Neighbourhood Plans?*

Evidence of Need: *Please indicate how the evidence of need for this project has been gathered. Include details of any research that you have carried out of strategies/plans which identify this project as a priority.*



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www.threeholesvillagehall00.org.uk

Like everyone else, the THVH&PF committee members are relieved that we haven't had to have another lockdown so far this winter and events at the hall are ongoing. Fingers crossed the new Covid variant 'Omicron' doesn't arrive to close things down again and we are all able to celebrate Christmas and the New Year. If you are looking for a more active lifestyle after the festive indulgences why not join in some of these.....

PILATES - Tuesday, 5.30 - 6.30pm. This is a friendly session for all abilities and you cannot fail to respond to Kathy Whitby's skilled instruction. Booking is necessary – call Kathy on 07808 833036.

NEW, QUICK DISCO, £3, STARTS TUESDAY 4th JANUARY, 6.45 - 7.45pm. Need somewhere to keep moving and keep fit during the dark nights and winter weather? This is a non-stop dance session for everyone. Just turn up, have fun and dance your way, your style for as long or as little as you like. All profits will go to THVH&PF funds. Contact Sue – 07957 444191

SHORT MAT BOWLS, £3.50 - Thursday, 7pm – 9pm. New players are very welcome and for information about how to get involved contact Eddie on 01945 773961.



Our hall decorated ready for a wedding on September 25th 2021.

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contact Helen to ask for more details - 01354 610316 – or at

www.threeholesvillagehall00.org.uk

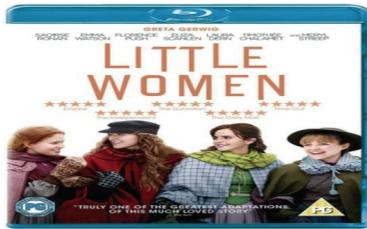
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LITTLE WOMEN (PG)
Sun. 9th January 2022



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 In the years after the American Civil War, Jo March lives in New York City and makes her living as a writer, while her sister Amy March studies painting in Paris. Amy has a chance encounter with Theodore "Laurie" Laurence, a childhood crush who proposed to Jo, but was ultimately rejected.

NEXT SCREENINGS 2022
start 2pm, doors open 1.30pm, admission £3.50 pp

Sun 6th February - Feb. 6th - film to be confirmed

Sun 6th March - Mar. 6th - film to be confirmed

REFRESHMENTS AND A LICENSED BAR WILL BE AVAILABLE

For more details contact Anne on

01354 638405 or 07761 584403



**St. Peter's Church,
 Upwell**



Messy Christmas was held on Sunday 21st November, a lovely afternoon seemed to be enjoyed by everyone who attended. Our theme was Angels and the Nativity. We had lots of crafts going on keeping everyone busy; making paper plate angels, doily pot angels, stained glass windows, a star Nativity luminary, a baby Jesus wreath, J is for Jesus candy cane, a game of Angels play catch, our usual story corner and an Angels quiet prayer space. All this was followed by learning about Angels both in our church, in the Bible as well as those who may be around us. This gave us a lot to think about! Did you know Angels appear in the bible 273 times? This led us to think about Angels that appeared in the Nativity story as we followed the telling of the Christmas story. We finished off with a healthy fruit snack, a Christmas fairy cake and a drink, where we all sat together chatting and getting to know each other. Children then took their bag stuffed with sparkly crafts home, only to find a little chocolate treat at the bottom of the bag! We hope to see everyone back again for our next Messy Church on

Sunday 16th January, 2.00 - 4.00pm,
 when we'll be finding out about Adam and Eve!
 If this sounds fun, why not come along and join us?



Crafts & activities
Shared story time
Refreshments



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We would be thankful for a small donation.

Everyone welcome!

Children must be accompanied by an adult

More Info: Tel. Raine Thorrold on 01945 774322



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 5. Antonio
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 10. Emma Bunton
 11. Hummingbird
 12. Peter Davison
 13. Magna Carta
 14. Cub
 15. Victoria Line
 16. The Dish
 17. Spain
 18. A.A. Milne
 19. Jane Seymour
 20. Dawn French
 21. Argentina
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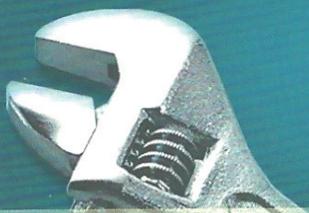
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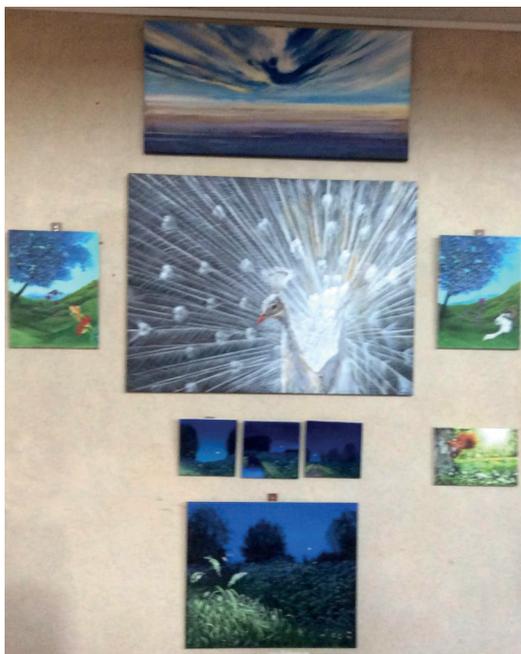
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Would you like your copy of the magazine to be emailed to you?

Do you know of anyone in the parish who doesn't get a copy but would like to? Would you be available to help deliver the magazine within the parish? If the answer is YES to any of the above, then please let us know by emailing upwellmag@gmail.com or calling 07947422677.

The Art Exhibition at Upwell Methodist Church

The man sitting behind tapped me on the shoulder, "Sunday afternoon...when I went out the back to where the refreshments were being served, music was playing and there were craft stalls...the atmosphere...well...it was great...really good."



I smiled and thanked him before turning back to face the front again. I would have punched the air, but the service was about to begin, so I couldn't. 'Great Atmosphere' – hooray! That was what I'd wanted! Yes, we need to raise money – the roof is in dire need of repair/replacement – but I was hoping we would make the three Sundays enjoyable afternoons out for everyone. The first was a bit quiet, but the other two were buzzing – People walking slowly round to admire the artwork – there were over a hundred pictures on the walls – or sitting quietly to listen to the music

playing in the Church. Thank-you Church Music Group. In the hall at the back they were enjoying light snacks while being entertained by one of the lively groups who kindly gave their services for our enjoyment. The refreshments were excellent, as always, and the crafts on sale of a good quality – irresistible jewellery, beautiful cards, resin craft, pottery, handbags and cuddly toys. Something for everyone. A huge thank-you to everyone who helped in any way and to all of you who came to support us.

Sylvie Short

BOAT MOORINGS AND FISHING STAGES

If you have ever watched TV programmes like 'Escape to the Country', you will know that on many a prospective house-movers list are wishes for village life with green spaces and maybe a river running nearby.

Well, we are the lucky ones as in Upwell and Outwell, we have all that on our doorstep. What a picturesque scene it makes as well; lovely enough to adorn any calendar (and it has!)

Some dwellers are ever luckier to have included in their property deeds a section of riverbank. But as with all ownership, it comes with responsibilities. Not only does the owner need to keep their piece of bank vegetation under control; if they want to build a fishing stage or a boat mooring then there are permissions they need to seek before doing so and we set out below the steps you must follow.

1. Moorings can only be applied for by the owner of the adjacent property who will be responsible for the maintenance of the mooring.
2. You need to have detailed plans, which must include sizes, materials to be used, positioning and location. The Middle Level Commission have produced a detailed drawing of how they wish moorings to be constructed.

3. You must contact the Middle Level Commissioners (MLC) to see if they consider a mooring acceptable. *For example, you cannot have a mooring or stage near a weir, lock or bridge.*

4. If it is acceptable you must apply to the MLC and pay an application fee which at present is £50.00.

5. If the MLC give their permission, then you **MUST** then apply to the Borough Council of Kings Lynn & West Norfolk for Planning Permission as this is regarded as an engineering operation and attracts a fee of £234.00 at the time of publication.

6. The Parish Council will be consulted for their opinion at this stage for comment.

7. Once all permissions have been received, then you can construct your mooring or stage.

And finally, once constructed, it is your responsibility to maintain and keep it in good repair - or you can be asked to remove it. After going through all the points above, surely you would not want to have to take it down again?

Our thanks to the Welle Creek Trust for their invaluable information for this article.

CLA

E-Scooters

With many children and teens requesting e-scooters as presents, parents are being reminded by Norfolk Police, that it is against the law to ride one on a public road or pavement. Increased use has seen Norfolk police seize scooters and issue traffic offence reports while pedestrians have been injured and riders have been caught drink-driving.

Ahead of the festive period, officers are now reminding the public of the rules on using e-scooters, which fall within the legal definition of a motor vehicle and are subject to the same legal requirements including MOT, licensing, tax and insurance.

Privately owned scooters are only legal for use on private land and cannot be ridden on roads, pavements or any other public space.

There are many rules and regulations in place regarding the e-scooter and these apply to the hire of e-scooters within trial areas until March 2022.

Here are some of them :-

1. You must be over the age of 18 to hire one
2. You must have the category Q entitlement on your driving licence. If you are in doubt as to whether you have this, it is worth bearing in mind that a full or provisional UK licence for categories AM, A or B includes entitlement for category Q.
3. There is a maximum speed limit of 15.5mph, but this can be reduced to as low as 8mph in certain areas. Often these limits are enforced via tracking, so the e-scooter will automatically restrict its top speed, but it is good to be aware of the rules yourself.
4. You must also have insurance. At present, e-scooter rental operators currently supply this as standard.

*Other safety rules for trial e-scooter users

e-scooters should only be used within the local area hosting the trial

e-scooters should be used by one person at a time.

you must not tow anything using an e-scooter

you must not use a mobile phone when using an e-scooter
you may use a screen to display navigation information, but this must be set up prior to setting off

always ensure bags or other small items you are carrying will not cause a danger to you or others around you – for example, never hang them from the handlebars

you should not ride an e-scooter while drunk or otherwise intoxicated – you may be prosecuted under drink or drug driving laws as careless and dangerous driving offences also apply to users of e-scooters

you should also refer to the terms of use of the e-scooter operator before renting a trial e-scooter

*(source - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/e-scooter-trials-guidance-for-users>)

It is against the law to use a privately owned e-scooter in the public domain. If you use an e-scooter illegally:

- you could face a fine
- you could get penalty points on your driving licence
- the e-scooter could be impounded

There are currently NO trials running in the Local areas of Outwell, Upwell, Three holes or Lakes End.

Therefore, you cannot use an e-scooter on any of the roads, footpaths, bridleways or cycle lanes within this area.

Please consider that these laws have been put in place to protect your safety and that of your neighbours.

Thank you



Outwell Fire Station - Norfolk Fire & Rescue Service

I hope this update finds you and your loved ones, all fit and well, and managing your own way through this situation we still find ourselves in, as we approach another Christmas within this pandemic.

As you can imagine, like all of you around us, life as we knew it is still far from normal at Outwell Station, whilst we still follow current guidance from Public Health England, to protect us and our community. Some of these 'new norms' include that to ensure station availability and also prevent cross contamination to and from our local community, we are still restricted from having non-essential visitors to our station, just as some training events within our community are also restricted, unless relating to critical skills.

However we are now able to once again respond to incidents with a full crew of 8, instead of what was a maximum of 5 for what seemed like an eternity. This means that when attending more dynamic incidents we have more hands to act quickly rather than having to wait for oncoming appliances where needed.

Even though we have had to deal with many challenges in the last 18 months, and still continue to in many ways, I would like to share how grateful I am to all our crew, their families members and those of you within our community for all your continued support, adapting to change, which has allowed us to continue as we have.

Throughout this pandemic, as stated, all but critical skills courses as well as off-site training, were cancelled.

However as you can imagine we have not been idle, but instead we continue to adapt and find new ways to maintain both our skills and competency. This is working well as a whole, whilst also providing us with new opportunities to learn and still continue to plan ahead.

Within Norfolk Fire & Rescue Service, currently as a whole there seem to be more cases of colleagues having to isolate, including at times at Outwell. Luckily we have had no cases amongst our crew, which shows our precautions are working so far. A few crew members' children and loved ones have not been so fortunate, but luckily not severely affected.

Since my last update we have been working hard in all areas. Some of these include Jason Kent who has recently been promoted from FF to become our newest Crew Manager (CM) following his success at all his Incident Command Assessments. Well done Jason, you have worked so hard to achieve this.

FF Rowan Fox-Noble has also nearly completed his Incident Command assessments, and will hopefully early in the New Year, also be in a position to lead our crews as an Incident Commander. Keep up the good work Rowan.

Whilst we have had to adapt and overcome to continue training and developing our skills, we have other crew members who have prepared for and passed various assessments, including FF Ben Lanchester and FF Sanjay Markland who have both passed their Gateway 1 Practicals. Ben has also hopefully passed his Gateway 1 written assessment this week. Keith Game has also been successful with his driving, having passed his LGV, and also this week his Pump Assessments meaning he can now respond to fire calls as a restricted driver (non blues and twos) and to be a competent pump operator at incidents. Well done both of you.

We are so far having the busiest year that we have had for around 6 years due to previously being short of crew and previously being unable to respond to some fire calls. As I type this, we are just shy of responding to our 100th emergency call since the start of April, which is above what we have had in previously in a full 12 months. So we are now able to support our community better, to prevent, protect and respond.

Some of you may have seen our advertisement banner up near Outwell Post Office, that is currently up whilst we search for the 'final piece' of the puzzle to gain a full compliment. At present we have a crew of 10, with an 11th going through the current process, and a few others also having applied who are being considered. Please keep those applications coming in.

In early 2022 we will be having some major work take place at our station, which will include heavy machinery and lots of lorries coming and going for a few weeks: we are having the whole drill yard dug up and resurfaced to make it safer for us to train on. So there is likely to be more noise than usual and considerably more traffic. So please ensure children are kept away and safe.

However we will maintain our availability, by means of a few temporary changes.

With the start of winter weather approaching this weekend, please ensure your vehicles are winter ready and that we are all as safe as we can be.

Remember push the button not your luck.

Get Out & Stay Out!!

Watch Manager Glen Gates

WM Glen Gates Mob: 07946331359 Email:

glen.gates@fire.norfolk.gov.uk

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MON-CLOSED
TUES 4-9PM
WEDS 4-9PM
THURS 4-9PM

FRI 11-1:30PM
4-9PM
SAT 11-1:30PM
4-9PM
SUN CLOSED

105 SCHOOL ROAD UPWELL, WISBECH 01945 772 398

UPWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman

Dr Paul Williams 01945 772946

Deputy Chairman

Christine Aston 07947 422677

Jill Gooch 01945 773301

Andrew Harrison 01945 773735

Keith Harrison 01945 772661

Prue Lester 01945 772234

Richard Melton 01945 771974

Bill Pugh 07377 367868

Chris Robinson 07836 606093

Colin Rose 07885 258434

Rob Shaw 01945 774249

Ros Shorting 01945 773604

Borough Councillors

Colin Rose 07885 258434

Vivienne Spikings
01945 772248

Clerk:

Melanie Hilton

Upwellpc@gmail.com

07368 420237

Facebook Page:

[https://www.facebook.com/
search/upwell+parish/](https://www.facebook.com/search/upwell+parish/)

keywords search

Website

[/www.upwellparish.
co.uk/](http://www.upwellparish.co.uk/)

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR OPENING HOURS

UPWELL HEALTH CENTRE AND PHARMACY

The practice and pharmacy are open as usual on all non-bank holiday work days. So we are closed 25th to the 28th inclusive and Monday 3rd January.

The week leading up to Christmas is always extremely busy in the pharmacy. Please try not to leave any medication requests until the last minute. Thank you

G&B

Normal opening hours except Christmas Day, 08.00-22.00

Brian Tweed Butchers

Monday 20th 08.00 -12.00 noon

Tuesday 21st Wednesday 22nd Thursday 23rd 08.00-1700

Friday 24th 08.00-14.00

Saturday 25th-Tuesday 28th CLOSED

Wednesday 29th Thursday 30th Friday 31st 08.00-12.00 noon

Saturday 1st January CLOSED

Tuesday 4th January 08.00-17.00

Russell's Butchers

Thursday 23rd 06.00-17.00

Friday 24th 06.00-14.00

Saturday 25th- Wednesday 29th CLOSED

Thursday 30th Friday 31st 08.00 -12.00 noon

Tuesday 4th January 08.00-17.00

Rav's Fish and Chips

Friday 24th 11.00 – 13.30 16.00 – 19.00

25th December CLOSED until

Tuesday 4th January 16.00

Joanne's Pantry

Closes midday on Christmas Eve until Tuesday 4th January

Normal opening hours are 0730 a.m.-2.00 p.m. weekdays,

Saturdays 0800 a.m.-1.00 p.m.

M&B Distributors

Christmas Eve: 08.30 – 16.00

Christmas Day, Boxing Day, Monday 27th, Tuesday 28th, December Closed.

Wednesday 29th, Thursday 30th 08.30 -17.30

New Years Eve – 08.30 to 16.00

Saturday 1st January, Sunday 2nd - Closed.

Open Monday 3rd 08.30



MEETING DATES 2022

The Press and Public are cordially invited to attend any meeting. Residents can address the Council at the start of the meeting but may only speak thereafter with the permission of the Chairman

Upwell Village Hall January

10th Full Council 7.00pm

February

14th Full Council 7.00pm

March

14th Parish Assembly 6.30pm

(a special meeting for the residents of the parish to communicate with their Council)

14th Full Council 7.00pm