

COUNCILLORS NEWS LETTER CHRISTMAS 23/24

For Colston Bassett, Upper Broughton, Hickling and Hickling Pastures, Kinoulton, Langar and Barnstone

I wish you a Merry Christmas and hopefully a Prosperous New Year.



The Recent Town & Parish Forum was well attended and informative.

There was a good presentation on Planning which included

- the apportionment of CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) monies to villages and communities.

(CIL is imposed on new developments and should benefit the local area)

- The value of Neighbourhood plans,
 - Tree Wardens
 - Imposition of local by-laws
 - Bio Diversity

Paul Phillips, the Borough Environment office, spoke regarding local bio-diversity and need for Parishes to Plant and look after trees, and to include Bio-diversity in their Neighbourhood Plans

To carry out an audit demonstrating the value of nature in their area.

Under latest planning regulations developers need to demonstrate 10% more hedgerow on site following development.

Something to consider when commenting on planning applications.

FUNDING

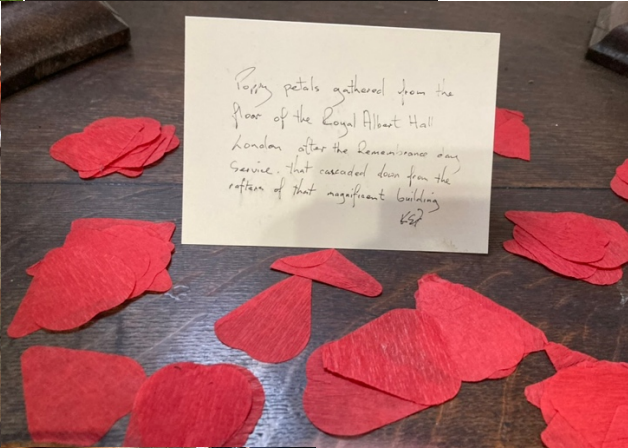
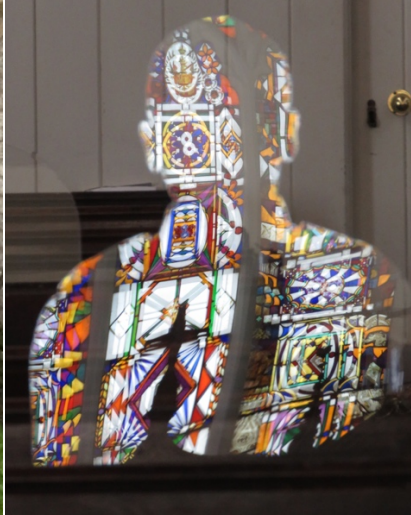
There is money out there if you need to improve you locality

There are lots of funds available for community and environmental projects. If you have a planned idea which will benefit your village and want help with funding, I might be able to point you in the right direction The UKSPF and REPF funds are open until January 19th.

e mail me at

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POPPY DAY (Armistice)
Remembrance in the villages
(just some of the many images)



PLEASE SEE BELOW THE MESSAGE FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Stay warm and safe this winter

WaterSafe
10 YEARS OF LOCAL APPROVED CONTRACTORS 2013-2023

P 7

As the clocks go back and temperatures drop, now's a good time to get our homes ready for winter. **It's important to think about how to stay warm and protect yourself against plumbing emergencies.**

WaterSafe, the UK's register of approved contractors backed by all water companies and drinking water regulators, works in partnership with the Met Office to share winter advice.



WaterSafe Director, Julie Spinks, said: "Every winter, our members see first-hand the misery burst pipes can cause. But **taking these five simple steps to get ready for winter now can make a big difference** when it comes to protecting your home.

Using a WaterSafe approved contractor means work will be carried out by someone who is competent and qualified."

Remember these five top tips to get ready for winter:

- 1) **Fit foam lagging on your pipes** and an insulated jacket on your outside tap to prevent the water inside freezing and bursting the pipes
- 2) **Make sure you can find and use your stop tap** to turn your water off in an emergency - it's usually located underneath your kitchen sink
- 3) **Find the number of your local WaterSafe-approved emergency plumber** and save it in your phone or stick it on your fridge - just in case
- 4) **Arrange a boiler service to help keep it running smoothly**, using an engineer registered with both WaterSafe and Gas Safe
- 5) **Keep an eye on your water use**; a third of energy costs come from heating water, so saving water means saving on your water and energy bills too.

Did you know?

WaterSafe provides a register of qualified, approved, plumbers and water contractors who are trained in the water regulations, are insured, and hold relevant professional qualifications. [Visit their website for more advice and guidance!](#)

Neighbourhood Watch Network is a charity registered in England & Wales, CIO no: 1173349

RURAL CRIME

I attended a very engaged meeting with local farmers and landowners plus the new Neighbourhood policing inspector, Tim Cuthbert and police and Borough Council representatives plus the Police Commissioner. New high tech detective equipment was discussed including drones.

The recent arrest of criminals involved in farm machinery thefts in the area was discussed plus environmental crimes and fly tipping. These meetings are very productive and demonstrate the need for continual reporting of suspicious events, however minor, on 101

or 999 if serious, as all information adds to the jigsaw. There was also a presentation by the
Woodland Trust on Agroforestry.

We are looking for all local farmers to engage with these meetings - your input is invaluable.

You can join the **Local Farm Watch Whats App group** by contacting

Jo McQuat 07860790511 the co-ordinator

Any information of suspicious activity is then immediately passed to other local farmers.

Please stay informed and connected.

PARKING ON PAVEMENTS

Please make sure you park considerately.

I have discussed this matter with the Rushcliffe Portfolio holder and
Neighbourhood Policing team

It is an issue in the Borough and villages but is not an offence.

However, it is an offence to obstruct a right of way, pavement or road. Too many vehicles
are parking on pavements and forcing pedestrians, invalidity scooters and push chairs into
the road. Please park with consideration of other road users.

Please make sure contractors attending your property do not obstruct the pavement.

See you in the New Year

Cllr. Tina Combella

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