

In Touch With...

Walton

Life and News in Walton Village

NOVEMBER 2021 Issue 70



From the Chairman,

When walking my dog, I cannot help but notice the amount of litter that accumulates in the hedgerows and ditches around Walton. It is sad that the litter is dropped in the first place. It is also sad to see the vandalism in the play area that has led to some damage to the matting.

However I also notice, with great gratitude, that some residents step up and, unprompted, litter-pick both occasionally and some, on a regular basis. With the pandemic restrictions easing, I hope that the council can once again organise litter-picks in the coming year. Until then, we should thank these public-spirited litter-pickers.

My thanks also to my fellow Councillors, who this quarter improved access to the East Mead field, repainted the equipment in the play park and cleared the overgrown patch near the garages on Chancellor's Close. The council has arranged for this small area to be maintained henceforth.

In the current climate of spending cuts, it takes great persistence to get local government department action, however recently 30 mph roundels have been painted on the road and pavements have been cleared.

Individual actions of civic-minded residents, either individually or as part of the council, help make this village a more pleasant and safer place for us all.

John Harvey

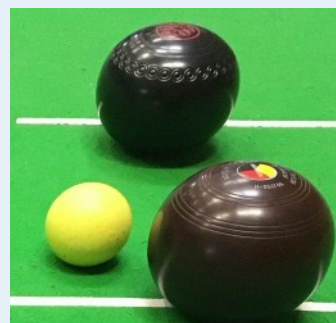
Lets go Bowling!

Short Mat Bowls

Following the Covid shutdown, Walton's Short Mat Bowls Club is back on: Mondays from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm in Walton Village Hall.

New members are welcome to join us.

All the necessary equipment is supplied, just wear flat indoor shoes or thick socks. The first two evenings are free so why not give it a try.



Holy Trinity Church Walton

Our regular Thursday coffee mornings are again happening from 10.30 am.

Christmas...

We are really looking forward to welcoming you back to our Christmas services and events this year including our popular Midnight Communion, (11.30 pm) and Crib Service (4.30 pm) on Christmas Eve. This year, we will also be celebrating a Messy Christmas for primary school aged children and their families on Sunday 12th December (2.30 - 4 pm) as well as welcoming pupils and parents from the school for their Christmas celebrations. Look out for special Christmas themed surprises that you may discover around the streets of Walton in December and join us for our regular Thursday Coffee Morning (from 10.30 am) which will also have a Christmas flavour on 9th December. We look forward to welcoming you to celebrate with us at Holy Trinity and check out our website at www.swcd-churches.org.uk to find out more.

Ana Lawrence, Rector.

Walton W.I.

Since my last quarterly report, we have been pleased to get gradually back to normal. In August we enjoyed a picnic in the grounds of Walton Village Hall where twenty-four members, the County Chair and one County Advisor attended. Although we brought our own food and drink there were also cakes available provided by the committee.

We have been out and about again with our last Garden Visit of this year in August visiting The Alms-houses in Wells, where we were guided by a very knowledgeable resident. In September, some of our ladies served refreshments, including homemade cakes, at the Merriman Park Fete, and four members ran an away kurling session for Kingston St. Mary W.I. The annual Treasure Hunt took place this time in Glastonbury and, having had a circular walk lasting an hour and a half whilst endeavouring to solve the clues, we adjourned to a local restaurant for fish and chips. The winning team will host the next one. Our 'Explore Your Local Area' monthly activity also resumed in September with a visit to Bere Cider in Aller



where we learnt the history and methods used in cider making before enjoying our Ploughman's lunches and having the opportunity to sample their brews. Then in October, eight members braved what was forecast to be a wet day for a guided tour around the Catcott Nature Reserve. We saw some



interesting sights and lovely views during the thoroughly enjoyable morning walk in the sunshine. Throughout the summer we have been able to continue our popular weekly activities of croquet, table tennis and craft whilst adding a new Autumn opportunity to socialise with 'Coffee and Conversation' weekly get togethers especially aimed at members who live alone.

Our monthly evening meetings in September and October enabled us again to socialise and be entertained by our speakers. The first gave us some history and interesting facts about local buildings and landscapes and the second compared the varying costumes worn in Slavic countries bringing with him some colourful examples. Both used slides as illustrations. At the latter meeting our new committee, with two additional members, was introduced and updated photographs were taken. Four visitors joined us that evening and a further three members joined boosting our membership to fifty-seven.

The next evening meeting will be on Thursday 11th November 2021 at 7.30pm in Walton Village Hall when our speaker, Brian Wright, will be giving us 'Food for Thought - Curious, Amazing and Surprising Facts' and the competition will be 'A Favourite Recipe'. We encourage new members and visitors to join us.

Jo Haydon

Could you be a Walton Parish Councillor?

There is currently a vacancy for
1 Councillor

If you are interested or want to
know more about what it
involves please speak to any
current councillor or the parish
Clerk

clerk@waltonpc.org

Somerset Libraries..

Did you know Somerset libraries offer a Home Library Service to individuals who cannot access the library due to ill health, mobility or caring reasons?

Our volunteers will choose and deliver books to you on a regular basis. If you or anyone you know might be interested in volunteering or receiving this service please contact the Home Library Manager on tel: 07814 079831 or email at KJenssen@somerset.gov.uk who will be happy to help you.



Merry Christmas from the Street & Walton Men's Shed

Looking forward to Christmas? Maybe this year you will be able to meet with more family & friends, so you may have a full social calendar.

But what happens when the festive season is over? What do you do to fill your social calendar then?

One answer could be becoming a member of a Men's Shed, we are open for new members both Male and Female to join us. We have plenty of space in our two workshops for you to work and a kitchen/social area for you to chat over tea or coffee.

We open 3 days a week, Monday 9am to 12:30pm on Tuesdays 9am to 4:30pm on Thursdays 9am to 4:30pm, we may be opening for extra days if there is a demand.

The lady's session is from 1pm to 4:30pm on Tuesday afternoon, we also hold a mixed session on Thursday afternoon from 1pm to 4:30pm.

Please note that the shed will be closed over the Christmas/New Year from the 23/12/21 to 03/01/22.

We are still accepting donations of tools and equipment (no matter how big), so please let us know if you have anything you no longer need (Maybe someone gave you a new tool for Christmas and you no longer need the old one!) please contact us and we will collect.

If you want more information about what a Shed is, how to visit or join our shed, or any of the other local sheds, please use the contact page at:

<https://streetwaltonmensshed.wixsite.com/street-walton-shed>

or Facebook using the tag: S&WMS in your browser or ring: 01458 443940.

Do you use a local bus?

The new Bus Strategy for England, better known as 'Bus Back Better', heralds a new way of funding and determining the bus services in our town or village.

Somerset County Council is bidding for £163 million of Government funding to upgrade bus services in Somerset. Once the final Government grant is known, Somerset County Council will begin working jointly with the bus operators in an 'Enhanced Partnership' to determine the nature of future bus services in the County. By April 2022, these new bus services will become operational.

So it is of crucial importance that Somerset County Council is made aware of your local priorities for bus services: where the buses need to go, how frequently, at what times including whether in the evenings and at weekends.

Could you be the Walton representative or do you know who the best person would be?

Each quarter the representative would be asked to produce a short report providing an update on local bus issues. Local needs can then be incorporated within submissions to Somerset County Council.

If you are interested please email somersetbuspartnership@gmail.com and/or the parish council

clerk@waltonpc.org with your name, email address, the main bus route that you use, and if you are a:

Regular bus user/occasional bus user /
Parent with school children who go by bus to school / Shift worker / Evening bus user / Hospital outpatient / Disabled / Other [please specify]

The Church Clock

For those of you that have noticed the church clock not working recently: the mechanism has been sent away to be updated to work electrically, removing the need for manual winding. It will be back up and running soon.

POT HOLES

Potholes or other road faults can be reported directly to the County Council at:
WWW.SOMERSET.GOV.UK
Under the roads and transport section

Walton Village Website: www.waltonpc.org

If there is anything that needs updating or that you would like to see added then please get in touch using the contact form on the website, or email the clerk direct : clerk@waltonpc.org

Your Parish Councillors:



Cllr. John Harvey - Chairman



Cllr. Bob Collins vice chairman



Cllr. Richard Crossman



Cllr. Simon Loader



Cllr. Richard Vowles



Cllr. Bob Musgrave



Cllr. Lisa Whitty



Cllr. M. White

1 vacancy

Dates of future monthly parish council meetings: [These are all Fridays]

December 10th 2021

All at 7pm in the Village Hall - all covid 19 regulations will be followed regarding mask wearing and social distancing - and all safety measures put in place by the Walton Trust will be followed.

Could you be a Councillor?

There is currently a vacancy for 1 Councillor. If you are interested or want to know more about what it involves please speak to any current councillor or the parish Clerk

Walton Parish Clerk - Helen Moore

clerk@waltonpc.org
07399 040 667

Walton Parish Council c/o
21 Bere Lane Glastonbury BA6 8BD

Please note that the Clerk works part time and you may not receive an immediate reply

Cllr Matt Martin
Mendip District Council
cllr.martin@mendip.gov.uk
01458 860344



Walton Parish Council parish news - talking about Walton copyright 2004-2021 designed and compiled by H Moore edited by H Moore and J Harvey
Articles for information or consideration for inclusion in future editions can be sent to the parish clerk. Articles in this newsletter are gathered from the parish council, village and public sources & contributors. The information and views are accepted as factual & honest. Information or views expressed in articles are not necessarily those of the editors or the parish council.

This News letter is printed by the Walton Press

Footpaths...

The footpaths around the local area continue to be well used and any issues with them can either be reported to the parish council or directly to Somerset County Council on their interactive map. At <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/waste-planning-and-land/public-rights-of-way/>



Parish Path Liaison Officers

Walton Parish Council currently has two councillors with responsibility for footpaths, this is what they do:

1. Carry out MINOR clearance of gaps and signposts/ stiles/ gates and bridges and at any other points where the paths might become difficult to use, by cutting back vegetation such as overhanging brambles.
2. Regularly survey the paths in the parish.
3. Report any problems encountered, such as broken stiles, missing signs or blocked paths to the Somerset County Council's Rights of Way team [via Explore Somerset] who are responsible for repairs.
4. Report back regularly to the parish council.

Current Liaison Officers
Councillor Simon Loader assisted by Councillor Richard Vowles