



SOUTH WILLINGHAM NEWS

Footpath Update

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At the Parish Council Meeting, Councillor Spencer reported on a reply from the Definitive Map Officer of Lincoln County Council. It's in official jargon but the meaning is clear:

"All of the applications have different supporting evidence and require separate "Statement of Reasons" to be written.

Three of the four routes, applied for by the Parish Council, are linked together. It is therefore felt that all four cases should be referred to the Secretary of State for consideration at the same time.



Site of new notices for Moor's Lane

I am currently drafting the statement for the route which runs between Barkwith Road and Panton Road in South Willingham/Benniworth.

In writing the statements of reason, the evidence for each application is fully evaluated. Until all four statements have been written and

referred to our Legal Department for advice/checking, I am unable to comment on the strength of the evidence or the stance the County Council will take in each case. I am unable to say, whether the County Council will support the confirmation of the orders, go for non-confirmation or remain neutral for each applications at this stage.

If the County Council decides to remain neutral in any of the cases, it may fall to the Parish Council as the Applicant to present a case or put forward an argument to

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Special points of interest:

- Footpath progress
- Film Group programme
- Hilda Blackburn remembers
- Longwool sheep do well
- Village history group
- Parish Hall refurbishment
- A much cleaner village

What a load of rubbish! or Where's the Flymo?!

The day broke bright and clear for The Big Tidy Up around South Willingham Village on March 7th 2010. The first Tidy-Up [of what I hope will be many] was well attended and I thank everyone for their help and support.

Notwithstanding the help from East Lindsey District Council who supplied bags, litter pickers and picked up the accumulated rubbish afterwards plus Keep Britain Tidy who, through The Big Tidy Up Campaign, supplied bags,

Rowland Crouch

stickers, badges and tabards, I would really like to say a big thank you to [and in no particular order – as they say]: -

Margaret & Barrie, June & Steve, Virginia & Marcus, Jan, Dave, Kay,

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The Parish Hall Committee said farewell to Mel Montgomery who had been Chairman for several years. (L to r): Fran Kingsley, Paul Ferguson, Virginia Knyvett, Chris Washer, Maureen Ferguson, Mel Montgomery, Chris Nutten, Jan Crouch and Ann Crookes.



Appletree Cottage where Hilda Blackburn used to live



Terry Ringrose has been hard at work in the Churchyard



The 'northern narrows' where the Hainton Road meets the village. A 'reduce speed now' sign will be put up near here



Things I have heard about the village.....

The Morris's cottage was there in some form at the time Lincoln cathedral was built. The Bett family came over from France with the Heneages, roughly four hundred years ago!

When I was young at school, there was a blacksmith's shop and a carpenter's shop, two chapels, one is now a stable, or was, and one of course a house. The school was closed around the 1900s.



Blacksmith's Lane with the school down on the left, the blacksmith's house on the right and the old forge at the bottom

Corner Farm and Hodson's Farm are old, I've heard it said that Cromwell stayed a night in one of them, on his way from the battle of Revesby.

My step-father told me, when he was a boy he had to raise his cap to the vicar and bow to the vicar's wife (the vicar was head of the village).

An old villager told me a road came across the field where Mrs Neave lives and then it went through Mr Webb's yard and over his field to join Hainton Road somewhere near the

farm where the Huxtons live.

My father could thatch a cornstack (Woodbine Cottage is thatched), dig a drain (that was called gripping*) and layer a hedge (called

pleach*). These things were crafts that ordinary farm workers could do! He also ploughed and looked after horses and cattle. Five or more men worked on a farm (one as big as Harry Bee's).

Mrs Hilda Blackburn

Notes

Gripping is the practice of digging ditches in an attempt to drain wet areas of heath and blanket bog

In hedge laying the aim

is to reduce the thickness of the upright stems of the hedgerow trees by cutting away the wood on one side of the stem, and in line with the course of the hedge. This being done, each remaining stem is then laid down towards the horizontal along the length of the hedge. A stem that has been laid down in this manner is known as a pleacher.

The Morris's used to live in The Thatch.

Hodson's Farm is now Rose Cottage on Church Lane.

There was a private road that used to go from Station Road, across the field through to Barkwith Road and then through the yard at Carpenter's Cottage and on to join Hainton Road. This road was used by the Heneages as a convenient route to the railway station.

Mrs Blackburn used to live in Appletree Cottage on Barkwith Road.

Interview by Liz Noblet



"I've heard it said that Cromwell stayed a night in one of them..."

Lincoln Long-wool Sheep

Martin Doughty

The Lincoln is the largest longwool sheep. It has a white hornless head with dark ears, pointed slightly forward with a broad forelock of wool. The fleece is the heaviest, longest stapled and most lustrous of any breed in the world.

Archaeological evidence suggests that the Romans introduced a white polled breed to Britain which was the progenitor of all modern breeds. However, sheep were found in Lincolnshire during the Bronze and Iron Age, and flocks were farmed within the settlements on the Wolds. The Anglo Saxons were adept at spinning and weaving and there is evidence of a substantial wool industry in Lincolnshire at this time.

The Norman invasion of 1066 introduced the monastic way of life to this country. Early records and literature give evidence to show how important Lincolnshire was as a wool producing area at this time. Florentine merchants bought considerable amounts of wool from

the county, the wool being finer than in the modern Lincoln. Lincoln Scarlet was the most expensive material



Lincoln Longwool Sheep

on the Italian market.

Lincoln during the 12th to 15th centuries was a famous cloth town held in high renown for its Lincoln Green. This cloth of Robin Hood fame was produced by dyeing the cloth first with 'woad' to give a strong blue, then over dyeing with yellow 'weld' or dyers broom. Lincoln produced the best green cloth in all England. Lincoln Scarlet was dyed with 'kermes' produced by the cochineal

beetle, an insect native to the Mediterranean. This made Lincoln Scarlet very expensive. In 1182 the price for Lincoln Scarlet was 6s 8d per yard, Lincoln Green was 3s a yard, and grey was priced at 1s 8d. In 1198 the Sheriff of Lincoln bought 112 yards of Lincoln Scarlet for £30 !

In the seventeenth century the Lincoln Longwool breed became significantly more important, and huge amounts of longwool fleeces were transported to Norfolk, where the worsted method of spinning was practised. The breed was not just important for wool, a large percentage of the animal bones excavated at Smithfield market were from Lincoln Longwool sheep. The advantage of the Lincoln was its long legs, it is said that a Lincoln could walk the 120 or more miles to London and only lose 10 lbs in weight! The large size and docile nature enabled large



Lincoln lamb and ewe

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"Lincoln Scarlet was the most expensive material on the Italian market."

South Willingham Parish Hall AGM

The Parish Hall Committee has a new Chairman. Chris Washer took over from Mel Montgomery during the year. She conducted the AGM and reported on the past year. The following are extracts from it:

“We started our programme of events last May with “Tastes of Lincolnshire” - a particularly successful event. Brian Dawson entertained us with Lincolnshire stories and songs. The annual Harvest Supper was held on 8th October. Mile Perkins conducted a jolly auction in his own special style. In December we departed from our usual Christmas Fair and combined forces with St Martin’s church in the Carol Service and accompanying refreshments. In February we

were “packed to the rafters” for the Quiz Night with fish and chip supper. Many thanks to Steve, Rowland, Dave and Eric for providing



The newest arrivals—Great Tits nesting outside the Parish Hall

the questions and to John Sturgeon for organizing the fish and chips. Our final event, held last month, was a St Georges Day Banquet. The hall was once again decorated with flags and

banners. A delicious meal was provided by Ann and Glynis and Paul Ferguson delivered a lively and somewhat bloodthirsty account of the story of St George.

“Our next event is on 2nd July when we will be holding a celebration of American Independence Day, with authentic dishes and entertainment from Mountain Oyster, playing lively American folk music. After this we are hoping to start work on the next phase of the refurbishments to the interior of the hall. In January Marcus kindly alerted us to the possibility of a grant towards this work and I am pleased to tell you that we have been awarded £600.00 towards the new kitchen equipment needed. Thanks
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What a load of rubbish (continued)

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Dennis, Keith & Thomas, Nikki, Keith, Charlotte & Katy, Paul & Maureen, Margi, Paul, Kath & Nathan, Fran.

We split into a number of teams and spent a good 2 hours picking up along the main roads around the village - also the Church yard, the area in & around the bus stop and even washed some of the village signs. The total collected was 15 bags of assorted rubbish from; food wrappers to an egg.

The unexpected were; 2 tyres, one fairly large piece

of red car and a number [around 20] empty glass bottles. These bottles were all around the same area of Barkwith Road and obviously some were smashed - not clever!

We decided that any big items would be left at the side of the road and picked up later. Here is the strange tale of the missing Flymo which, along with a few other big pieces, was left along Donington Road. A couple of volunteers went back to pick these up only to find the Flymo had been

taken! In its place - bearing in mind this was less than an hour later - was left an empty drinks can - thanks.

So we left it tidy, only for people to start again, as some of the comments made point out: “It’s not difficult to keep things tidy, why don’t people just take things home.” and “I feel sorry for the wild animals.” Just as a matter of interest these comments were made by the children!

So once again, a BIG thanks to all. Look forward to seeing you all - and I hope a few more - next year.



Snippets

Some of us have become very interested in the history of the village and are concerned that stories and details are gradually being lost. Can we do something about it? Are casual and occasional conversations enough? Should we have a village archive? Could there be a database of the houses in the village and who has lived in them over the years? What about collecting photos? Several of us have felt that the idea of a Village History Group would be worth exploring, so a meeting will be held in the autumn. All decisions will be taken then. A notice with the date will be in the August issue.

One and a half acres of land off Donington

Road was sold by auction this month. The reserve price was £12,000 and several villagers were bidding, expecting the price to be a bit



£44K

more than that. They were quite astounded, however, when it went for £44,000 – about £30,000 an acre.

Reel Issues – the film group - met at the Orchard Glass house to arrange its programme

for next season. It emphasised that all residents in the village are considered ‘members’ of the group. You just pay £3.00 as and when you come to the film on the Tuesday evening (the second in the month) and this covers the following Thursday discussion.

The films chosen for next season are: September, Plank & Mon Oncle; October, The Others; November, The Soloist; December, Seven Brides for Seven Brothers; January, Spirited Away; February, Red Balloon & Blue Remembered Hills; March, Notes on a Scandal; April, Treasure of Sierra Madre.

“some of us... are concerned that stories and details are gradually being lost”

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flocks to move along the drove roads, reaching London in less than two weeks.

When Bakewell began to improve breeds at the end of the 17th century he used the Lincoln as part of his breeding program, the Dishley Leicester was put on to the Old Lincoln to pro-

duce today’s Lincoln Longwool. Today our county sheep can be found all over the world.



A well-kept entrance to the Church



Two views of the Parish Hall AGM. Secretary Maureen Ferguson, Chairman Chris Washer, and Treasurer Chris Nutten prepare to deal with the Agenda



We celebrate other national saints in the Parish Hall and on 23rd April it was the turn of St George—a great Banquet.



Even chefs have to eat





Parish Hall

AMERICAN
EVENING

FRIDAY 2ND JULY.

Coffee Mornings 1st
& 3rd Wednesdays

Parish Councillors:	Paul Cutts	313486
	[Chairman]	
	Rowland Crouch	313428
	[Vice-Chairman]	
	Marcus Edmundson	313623
	Martin Doughty	313686
	Nikki Harris	313618
	Claire Harrison	313406
	Nigel Spencer	313614

Acting Parish Clerk: Nigel Spencer 313614

Parish Hall : Chris Washer (Chairman) 313244
Maureen Ferguson (Secretary) 313584
Chris Nutten (Treasurer) 313500

The Parish Council and the Parish Hall are jointly producing this paper and through the Management Committee are publishing it quarterly. As well as official news and information about the Hall, they would like stories from around the village. As they are also reporters, sub-editors, publishers and first copy printers, they hope village people will come forward with ideas and stories themselves. Their thanks to Courseware4Trainers Ltd for the printing. Thanks also to Terry and Ann Ringrose for the colour pages.

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the Secretary of State for the order to be confirmed and the route to be added to the map”

Moor’s Lane is managed by ELDC and new notices are soon to be erected. Let’s hope that the new Secretary of State is still interested in the healthy leisure pursuits of the public.



Bus shelter and seat to be renovated

Other Parish Council matters: Those of us who have skated, slid or skied up Station Road this winter will

be glad to hear that a bin for grit will be placed near the end of Blacksmith’s Lane.

Councillors Paul Cutts and Rowland Crouch were elected as Chairman and Vice-chairman respectively. The Council is still looking for someone to maintain the bus shelter and seat. Traffic signs will be put up at the Hainton Road entrance to the village. Oh! - and the Council has made a very much appreciated donation to the South Willingham News.

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goes to Daniel Simpson for his help in obtaining this. When work is finished we should have a Parish Hall worthy of the support it already gets from the W.I. Over 60’s Club , Parish Council and coffee morning, not to mention those who have, or wish to hire the hall for private functions.”

Paul Ferguson, Vice-chairman then spoke of the forthcoming building work, detailing the electrics, insulation and kitchen overhaul. Hillway Builders will be the main contractors. The Meeting also included the re-election of the Officers and Committee.