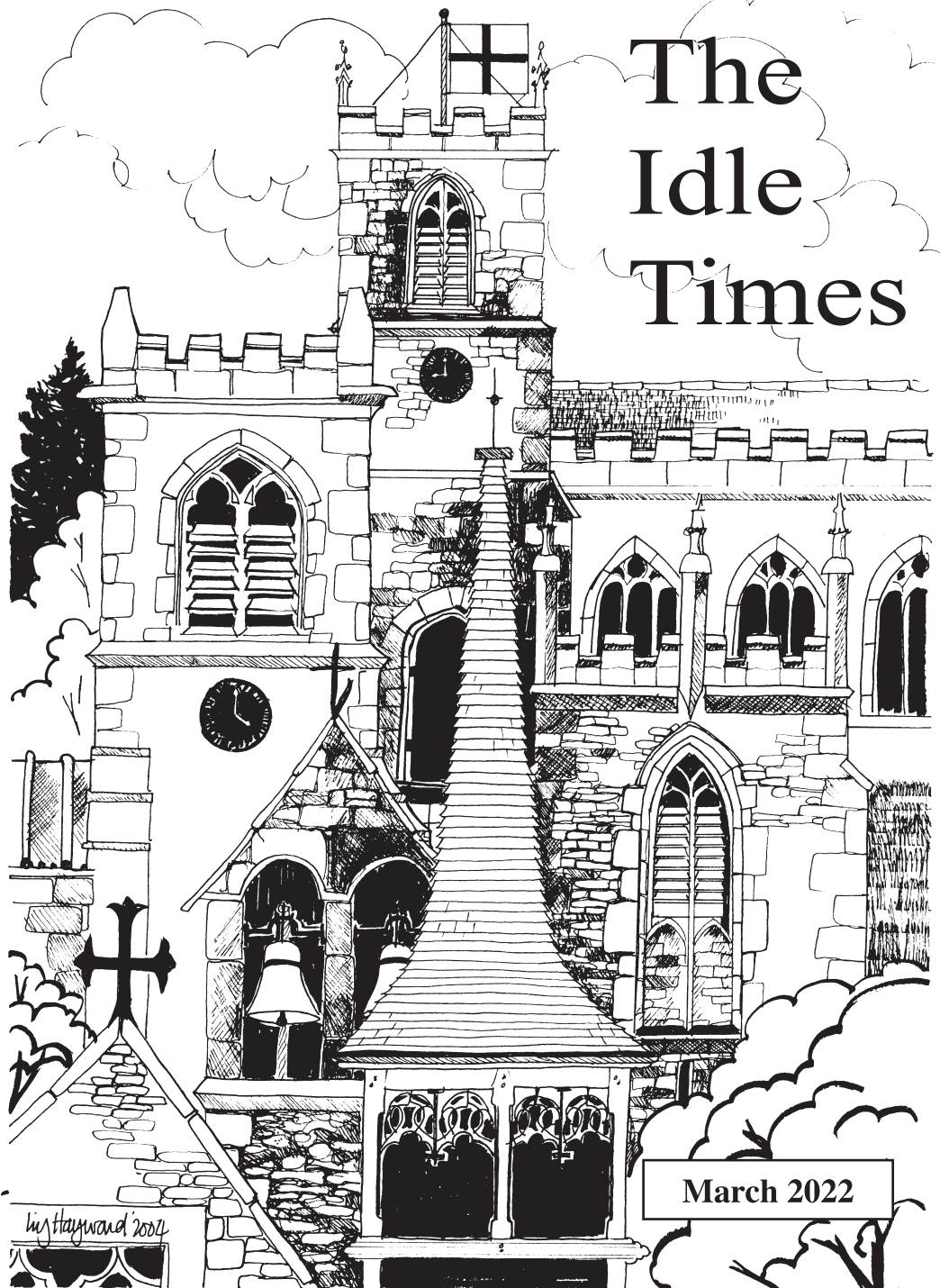


# The Idle Times



March 2022

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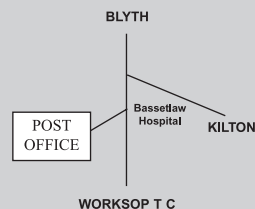
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## Idle Times Copy Date

Please will you send any articles for the April 2022 edition of *The Idle Times* to **Francis Waite**, preferably by email to **faqrouting@tiscali.co.uk** by 21st March 2022.

The postal address for Francis and Alison Waite is:

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## **Notes from the Elkesley Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 15 February 2022**

In the absence of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman, Councillor Michael Stronach chaired the meeting.

Apologies were received from councillors' John Skelton, Jan O'Brien. Robbie May and Neil Jefferson.

Councillor Stronach opened the meeting offering the Councils condolence to the Chairman, who has recently lost his father.

During the public session, a resident highlighted to the Council's attention; the article in the Idle Times referring to Watercourses. He thought this would be of interest.

Another resident asked when the seats would be replaced on the football field. Agreement to do this had been made at a past meeting. This is to be done asap now that the weather is improving.

The County Councillor, Nigel Turner, stated that he had money left in his funds and advised that if we wanted any an application should be sent before the beginning of March. He also referred to the Highway Review Panel who are looking into the repairs etc in the county.

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed as a correct record.

Financial details were given and payments due were made.

The Clerk produced a spreadsheet showing the proposed draft budget for 2022/23. The proposed expenditure is £22,180.00 and income (after approval of the precept below) will be £14,335.00. It was agreed to accept these figures.

The matter of the precept was discussed. It was agreed to increase this by 3% which the annual cost to the taxpayer will be £56.82 (for a band D property); this is a decrease to the taxpayer of 16p of the 2021-22 figure.

The Internal Control document was discussed and approved.

Planning application for erection of a 3-bay workshop in place of existing building at The Gables, Jockey Lane, was agreed with no objections.

A planning consultant was appointed to help the Parish Council with an objection response to the Bassetlaw Local Plan Publication Addendum which included a proposal for a permanent travellers site on Bought Lane. The response has been submitted to the District Council.

A review of Nottingham Waste Local plan has been received.

With regard to the Platinum Jubilee, Councillor Savill suggested that a working committee be formed to discuss this further. Councillor Grounsell is going to discuss this was Councillor Jefferson. It was also suggested that some of the money County Councillor Turner has could go towards these celebrations.

A village litter pick is to be arranged for the end of March beginning of April. A date is to be arranged at the next meeting and then it can be advertised.

It was agreed to purchase spray for the BMX track and get this done asap before the weeds can take hold.

There had been another accident at the bottom of Elkesley Bridge Road where a car has gone through the fence. The signs have also been damaged. Councillor Turner said he would look into this.

Quotations for an Independent Cemetery Inspection were considered and a contractor was appointed. Notices will be displayed on the cemetery gates and notice boards giving notice of the month when the inspection takes place.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 15 March 2022. Elkesley Memorial Hall 7.00 p.m.

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## ELKESLEY SCHOOL NEWS

This half term we have an abundance of days/visits prepared. We have an exciting visitor booked in for Key Stage 2 – an author! He is going to share his books with the children and complete workshops showing them how to plan and write engaging narratives. We have exciting plans for Comic relief and world book day - as we dress as words to create a visual school dictionary whilst focusing on our school value of compassion where we will share the story of wonder. We will be inviting parents in to share in their children's learning during maths day and will have a day of mathematical exploration. We also have a visit from a scientist known as Professor Nitrate who is going to guide the children through a science tour of discovery where they will learn about elements, molecules, the magic of lift and the power of pressure as they investigate chemical reactions. Along with these exciting days, we have whole-school writing and reading days – plus teachers are looking at options for class trips to enrich our already fantastic curriculum!

Our school council are currently having a range of initiatives. Our innovators are looking to improve the range of afterschool clubs available; our play leaders are implementing a timetable for guided games; our Earth Ambassadors are still collecting bottles for their greenhouse and are having a drive on recycling; our Reading Champions have improved the library and have opened the library back up for children to use at break and dinner times.

There are ongoing improvements to the school building and grounds: the children have been enjoying our new playground markings which have brightened up our playgrounds and provided the children with new and exciting games to play; we are installing a new fence around our EYFS to extend the outside area and provide them with further opportunities.

Please be sure to head over to our website, [www.elkesley.notts.sch.uk](http://www.elkesley.notts.sch.uk) for regular updates on school life and a more detailed look into what each class is learning.

## **Gamston with West Drayton and Eaton Council Representatives**

Parish councillors are unpaid and represent local residents. The next election is May 2023. The Parish Council is the most local tier of government with a number of responsibilities, including provision and maintenance of amenity areas, maintenance of parish and common land, local input to planning applications, donations to local groups, and initiating and making recommendations to other authorities on improvements to the Parish area.

Gamston with West Drayton and Eaton Parish Council works closely with Bassetlaw District Council ([www.bassetlaw.gov.uk](http://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk)) and Nottinghamshire County Council ([www.nottscc.gov.uk](http://www.nottscc.gov.uk)). The District Councillor attends regular Parish meetings.

### **Role of a Parish Councillor**

A Parish councillor is elected by the voters who live in the ward in which they have chosen to stand. Parish councillors have three main areas of work, which include:

- Decision-making – attending meetings and deciding what activities to support.
- Monitoring – keeping an eye on what is going on to make sure that their decisions lead to efficient and effective services.
- Getting involved locally.

There is a legal requirement to attend a minimum number of meetings and to abide by a members' code of conduct.

The National Association of Local Councils publishes The Good Councillors Guide and a booklet for people who want to know more about the role of a councillor.

### **Name Area Representing**

Cllr Tom Adam West Drayton  
 Cllr Tim Blagg - Gamston  
 Cllr Simon Chandler - Eaton (Chair from June 2020)  
 Cllr Michael Howard - Gamston  
 Cllr Maria Moakes - Gamston  
 Cllr Derek Newman - Gamston  
 Cllr Donna Ramsden - West Drayton

.....

## **Bothamsall Diary Date**

We will be holding a coffee morning on Saturday 19 March 10am to noon in the village hall. Proceeds will be towards Bothamsall Church. All welcome.

## **Gamston with West Drayton and Eaton Parish Council**

### **Mr. J Bradshaw**

Sadly we have learnt that in December one of our long serving ex councilors passed away. Mr. James Bradshaw, formulary of Rockley severed on the council for over 26years until he retired in May 2015, during his time he also held the position of Chair and contributed on many local matters. The council have sent their condolence to the family.

### **Website**

The current Parish Council website is being updated and can be found at [www.gamstonwestdraytoneatonparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.gamstonwestdraytoneatonparishcouncil.co.uk) we'd welcome your help to improve it a little further.

Firstly, if you have any feedback or ideas on ways we could develop it further to ensure it is useful to all residents then please use the contact form on the site or write to the clerk.

We are also looking at ways we can keep you informed of any news or feedback we may need on a particular item that effects your village and you can do this by signing up to an email service which can be found on the contact us page on the website. Please let us have any thoughts or comments on this?

Secondly, we are looking for five photographs, one that reflect each village within the whole parish to be used as a header on the site. Are you a budding photographer or do you already have such a photograph that you would be pleased to see on the web site, if so please submit it to the clerk via email and hopefully you may find it has been chosen to be used?

If photography is not your strength how about designing a logo that represents the parish?

There are no age restrictions. Again, the winning design will be then used on the website and on all our stationary. Our only requirement is it reflects all the Parish and can be replicated electronically, so get those creative ideas flowing and forward your design to the Clerk at the email address below.

### **Meetings**

Due to the level of Covid cases and the effects it's had on our meeting we have been looking at ways of ensuring meetings can be held. One way this could be done is hold a meeting remotely although currently this is not possible due to current legislation so we have signed a petition asking the law to be changed.

February meeting we will be using the new facilities at St Peters Church in Gamston with a winter start time of 6.30pm

Contact the Clerk at [andreaclarewilson@hotmail.com](mailto:andreaclarewilson@hotmail.com) **07827932022**

## Are you Interested in joining your Parish Neighbourhood Watch Scheme? WHAT IS A NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME

This information is designed to raise awareness of the value of 'Watch' schemes and the simple ideas behind its purpose.

We are also asking if anyone is interested in becoming part of a Gamston with West Drayton (including Rockley and Markham Moor) and Eaton watch scheme to help protect our neighbourhood. The scheme would be run by the Parish Council and your key contact would be Cllr D. Ramsden.

### WHAT IS NHW?

Neighbourhood Watch is a group of concerned/likeminded neighbours joining together to help reduce crime and the fear of crime within their community.

This is achieved by keeping their eyes and ears open, using their local knowledge and reporting anything suspicious to the police.

It is also about members being sensible about their own security and keeping a look out for each other especially vulnerable members of their community.

Scheme Co-ordinators and their members are highly valued for their efforts and commitment in helping improve the safety and quality of life for their community and regular contact with local police staff plays an essential role in this.

### WHY DO WE NEED NHW?

We can't get away from the fact that we live in a world where crime and anti-social behaviour happens. It is just not possible to have a police officer or a PCSO standing on the corner of every street, so by setting up schemes such as NHW we not only help cut crime, but also help to reduce the fear of crime, which is a major issue for a lot of people especially the more vulnerable members of our communities.

There are a lot of benefits to being a member of a pro-active scheme. These include stopping or reducing opportunities for the criminals, making our families and our homes and the community in which we live that bit safer. Also helping to improve the social atmosphere and community spirit by bringing everyone together in a shared goal. NHW is not only about reducing crime it can also help to combat loneliness and improve people's health and wellbeing.

For further information or if you would like to be part of a Parish Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, please contact –

Cllr Donna Ramsden – email – [pc.dramsdan@aol.com](mailto:pc.dramsdan@aol.com)

Or contact the Clerk on – **07827 932022**

Visit 'Our Watch' (National) Website – [www.ourwatch.org.uk](http://www.ourwatch.org.uk)





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Please come along, join in the fun & support a great cause

We would be great full for any donations of cakes to sell and tombola/raffle prizes

For more information please call Mandy on 07598715417



## Join Our Churchyard Champions

Throughout 2022 we will  
gather again once a month on  
the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday from 10am

We made fabulous progress in 2021, but there is still much to do!

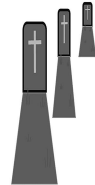
So join us on: 19<sup>th</sup> February 16<sup>th</sup> July

19<sup>th</sup> March 20<sup>th</sup> August

16<sup>th</sup> April 17<sup>th</sup> September

21<sup>st</sup> May 15<sup>th</sup> October

18<sup>th</sup> June 19<sup>th</sup> November



For more information contact Adrian on 07941 353 415 or [idleandsands@gmail.com](mailto:idleandsands@gmail.com)

All are welcome and we hope to provide refreshments!

## The Friends of St Peter's Gamston

Following the successful launch event in early December we are keen to keep the interest and momentum moving forward. Therefore we are looking to hear from residents in our villages who are interested in being involved in the next stage in the life of this building.

### What is a Friends Group

The Churches Conservation Trust rely on volunteers to keep our buildings open and accessible to all. A Friends Group is a group of a few people who can share out routine jobs such as key holder duties, cleaning and who can encourage the use of the church building and run small fund raising events.

### How you can Help

We are keen to hear from people in the village and wider community who are interested in being part of this group. There will be a number of different roles and the level of commitment will be gauged by whatever you are able to offer.

If you are interested please email or telephone Adrian on [idleandsands@gmail.com](mailto:idleandsands@gmail.com) or **07941 353415**

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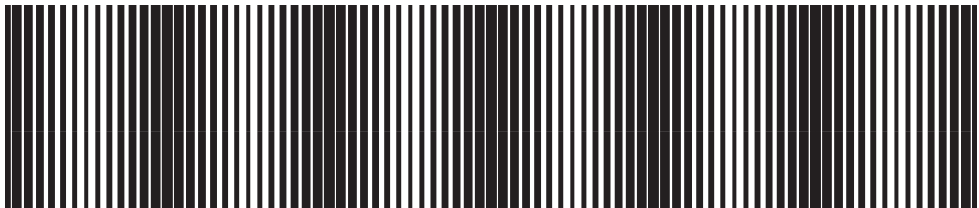
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I have visited many European countries, most of the Far East, China, America and most recently, a holiday of a lifetime in Costa Rica, including the most glamorous glamping you can imagine!

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Travel Counsellor

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