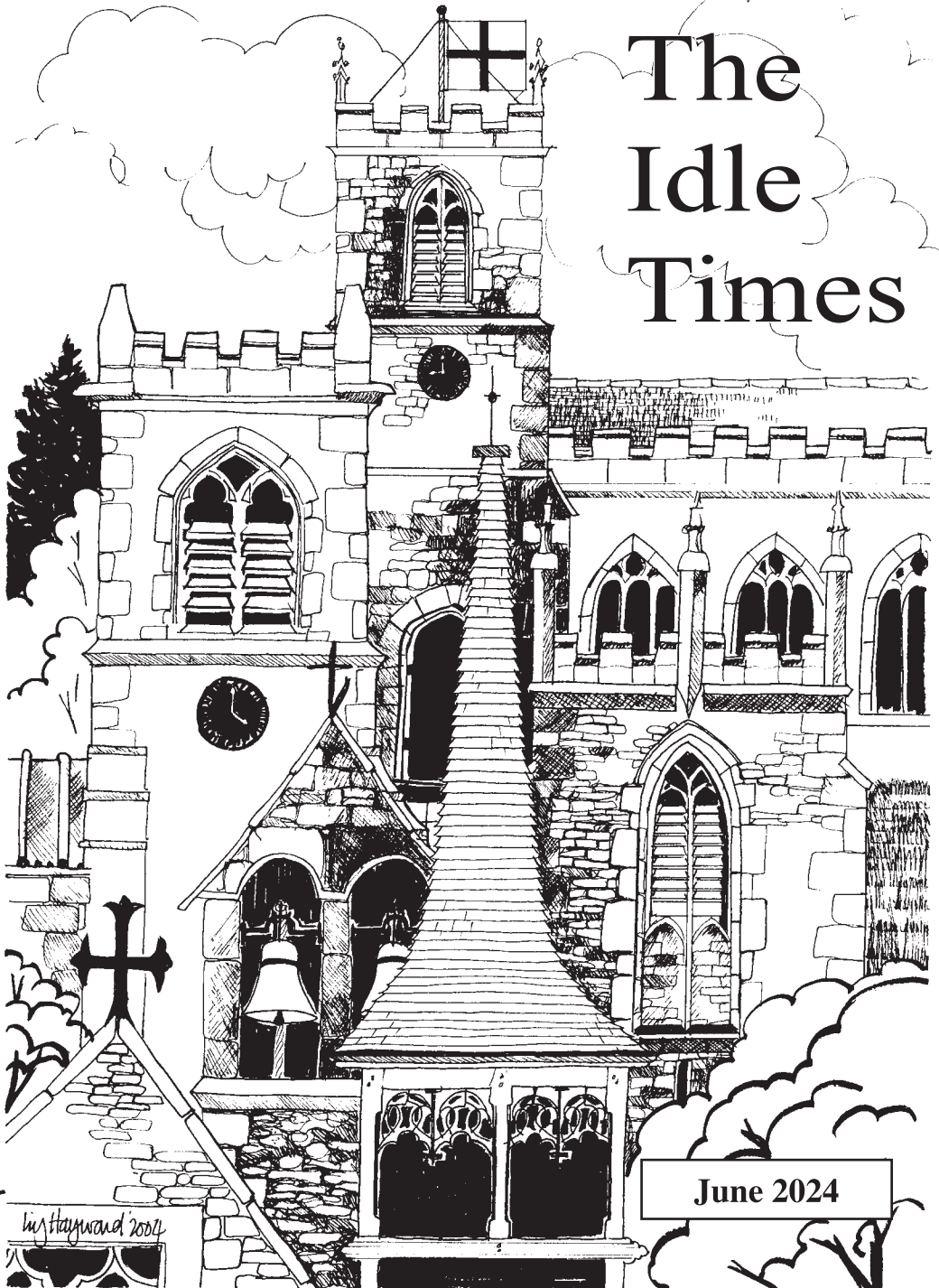


The Idle Times



June 2024



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Church Diary for June

<i>June</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Service</i>	<i>Venue</i>
Sunday 2	9.00am	Holy Communion	Scofton
	9.30am	Family Service	Sutton-cum-Lound
Sunday 9	9.15am	Holy Communion	West Drayton
	9.30am	Songs of Praise	Sutton-cum-Lound
	11.00am	Matins	Babworth
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	Eaton & Gamston
Sunday 16	9.30am	Worship for All	Sutton-cum-Lound
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Babworth
	11.00am	Family Service	Elkesley
Sunday 23	9.15am	Holy Communion	Bothamsall
	10.30am	Morning Worship	West Drayton
Sunday 30	6.30pm	Hymns and Pimms	Eaton & Gamston

Prospect Hill Post Office Workshop (01909 472033)

Renew:

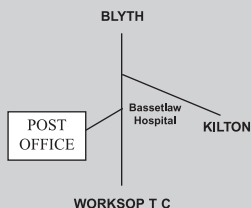
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- Your Packets, Parcels and Letters



Idle Times Copy Date

Please will you send any articles for the July 2024 edition of *The Idle Times* to **Francis Waite**, preferably by email to fagrouting@tiscali.co.uk by 21st June 2024.

The postal address for Francis and Alison Waite is:

**6 Main Street, Bothamsall, Retford,
DN22 8DT**

Telephone: **01623 861579**

Gamston/Eaton/West Drayton Annual Parish Meeting

The annual Parish meeting was held with the usual formalities.

Then the Parish Council 2023/4 report was read by the Chairman which is summarised below:

This year the Parish Council has experienced a period of stability with our new Parish Clerk Julie Tisi joining a year ago and no Councillors stepping down. There has been a mix of villages represented by councillors who live within four of the five village ensuring that there has been a balanced approach to local issues.

We have a new District Councillor, Gary Dinsdale who is developing a better understanding of local issues. He is becoming more proactive assisting the Parish Council with matters involving Bassetlaw District Council.

County Councillor John Ogle's new responsibilities as Chairman of Nottinghamshire County Council have focused his attention away from local concerns. However, we do thank him for freeing up a number of items that had been delayed within the County Council.

Better communication with people within the parish has been achieved through improvements to the Parish Council website and through detailed reports in the Idle Times which we believe it to be a very import asset.

We would like to thank Julie, our Parish Clerk for improving the day to day running of the council and also Glen Rutherford, our Lengthsman, who has made such an improvement to many areas of the whole parish.

We understand that this year has been full of challenges from climatic conditions to deterioration of the roads. The council has continued to find solutions including controversial planning applications, Anti- Social behaviour, effects of storms, effects on some properties, roads within the Parish and access via footpaths.

This was then followed by a financial report on the Five Villages Trust read by the clerk and finally a report from Gamston C of E Primary School saying how delighted the head, staff, pupils and wider support staff were to receive a "Good" from the recent Ofsted inspection. The full Ofsted report can be found on the school website.

Meeting Closed.

Gamston with West Drayton and Eaton Parish Council

Notes from the meeting held on Thursday 9th May 2024 at Gamston School. With the usual formalities, the minutes from the previous meeting were agreed as being correct.

There were 3 members of the public present.

Appointments of Representatives of other bodies

The following Councillors were appointed to various bodies:

School Management Committee	Cllrs Adams & Moakes
Parish Website	Cllr Ramsden
BDC - Notts Police Rural priority setting group	Cllr Worthington
South East Parish Forum	Cllr Chandler
Noticeboards	Cllr Harding
Finance	Cllrs Argent & Vernon

Matters arising from the minutes

Action plan update and approval amendments

The action plan appears to be working well and will be incorporated as an agenda item for future PC meetings.

Council Vacancy

Heather Salmon attended the meeting as a member of the public with a view to joining the PC.

Fly tipping

Covert action may be taken by the DC to detect fly tipping. It was noted that the DC is quick to remove rubbish once reported.

Eaton Resident Group Reply

The siting of CCTV close to the bridge in Eaton to monitor ASB is still an issue. A site visit is expected from Richard Blagg of BDC to confirm a suitable position is found. It was proposed that District Councillor Dinsdale should contact the ERG direct to discuss and understand the situation.

Community Playing Field Reply from School

Residents have reported the Community Playing Field is routinely closed by the school during school holidays, usually because building or improvement works are being carried out. The PC will request that the school report directly to local residents opening and closing times of the Community Playing Fields before school holidays start.

District Council matters

District Councillor Dinsdale attended the meeting and gave a short briefing on Boundary Commission changes to PC areas stating that his 5 PCs may be increased to 9.

The mosquito problem, particularly in Gamston, will be monitored by the DC with treatment carried out as required.

Highways and Footpaths***Footpath Rockley to Markham Moor***

Is to be cleared by the Lengthsman but is also on the DC list for a complete clearance.

Church Lane, Eaton

The resident who requested the road to be named is now dealing directly with BDC.

Report from County Councillor John Ogle

County Councillor Ogle outlined the East Midlands Combined County Council and the devolution deal between the Notts and Derbyshire CCs. He explained that strategic decisions, for example, upgrade of the A1, would now be made at the local level rather than by Civil Servants in Whitehall.

Eaton and Muttonshire Hill, Gamston start dates - a start date for the roadworks in Eaton had been set towards the end of 2024 but a date for the work on Muttonshire Hill to start has yet to be decided although it remains on the schedule of works.

Speeding Interactive Signs

The interactive speed sign for Eaton is on the rota of villages in the area and should re-appear later in the year. Sites for the sign in our other villages needs to be investigated by a CC officer. The clerk will contact Aidan Turner to arrange this. Meanwhile Councillors from West Drayton and Rockley will investigate suitable sites and the clerk will pass this information to Cllr Ogle.

Flooding on B6387 adjacent to Dover Lodge

A fatal RTA occurred near Dover Lodge 2 weeks ago and it is possible that flooding was a contributory factor. Poor drainage pipes under the road causes the flooding and a problem is that legal permission is required before the pipe can be repaired. The road can be controlled by traffic lights when flooding occurs but it often takes 3 to 4 days to get the lights in position. The clerk was requested to send details of this problem to Cllr Ogle in order for him to expedite a solution.

Footpath Rockley to West Drayton

The footbridge at Rockley is awaiting an inspection by BDC once water levels are back to normal. As they are now back to normal, the CC has been requested complete the inspection.

Church Lane, West Drayton - road repairs

Cllr Ogle stated that this remains on the District Council's list of urgent repairs and will be scheduled as soon as possible.

River Dredging

Cllr Ogle could add nothing to the Environmental Agency's answer that dredging was no longer a preferred option. However, a member of the public and riverbank owner, present at the meeting, was able to give a useful update on the latest flooding situation between West Drayton and Rockley.

Flooding***Community Flood Signage Scheme***

There are still some items to be reviewed regarding trigger points for the erection of flood warning signs on affected roads. Cllrs Vernon & Davies will attempt to resolve these problems.

Environment Agency Storm Babet Update

The Environment Agency have now provided an update and are in the process of preparing contingency plans for the heavy rain next Autumn.

Sandbags

BDC will provide a supply of sandbags once a resilience store has been established. It was suggested for Eaton that this should be the garage of the property which is flooded most frequently.

Finance

Payments were approved and income receipts and bank account balance were agreed.

Planning

Two new planning applications had been received and the PC had no objections.

Matters raised by residents

The replacement southbound bus shelter at Markham Moore is still on order.

Five Villages Trust

Parish Councillors are trustees of The Five Villages Trust which has a small rental income from Gamston School. Small grants may be payable from the trust to benefit local resident activities. It is recommended that a working group be established within the PC with the discretion to provide such grants. This will be an agenda item at the next PC meeting and all Cllrs are requested to consider by then, the composition and terms of reference of such a group.

As these are notes from the meeting, please visit our website at www.gamstonwestdraytoneatonparishcouncil.co.uk where the minutes of the meeting provide more detail, or alternatively speak to one of the Parish Councillors.

The next meeting will be held at 6.30pm on Thursday 13 June 2024 at Gamston School.

Please contact the Clerk with any matters you wish to raise at:

clerk.gamston@outlook.com



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Gamston St Peter's CofE Primary School News

It is my pleasure to share with you the latest updates and accomplishments from our school. First and foremost, let me extend a warm welcome to Emma Trotter, our new receptionist. Her friendly demeanour and efficient approach have already made a positive impact on our school community.

I am thrilled to announce that our Year 6 children have recently completed their SATs, and we eagerly await the results. Their hard work and dedication throughout the academic year have been truly commendable, and we are confident that their efforts will be reflected in their achievements.

Our PFA Golden Ticket winners had the opportunity to join Mr Edwards for a special treat at McDonald's. It was a delightful occasion, and Mr Edwards enjoyed spending time with these exceptional children.

We were honoured to receive a visit from Nigel Frith, the Director of Education for the Diocese. His presence and guidance have been invaluable in shaping the educational journey of our students and ensuring that we uphold the values and principles of our church school.

Speaking of accomplishments, we are bursting with pride as we share the remarkable achievements of our sports teams. Our Girls' Football Team has emerged victorious, claiming the league championship. Their teamwork, sportsmanship, and unwavering determination have been truly inspiring.

Not to be outdone, our Boys' Football Team has also secured the league title, adding another feather to our school's cap. Their success is a testament to their dedication and the exceptional coaching they receive from our talented staff.

Our Boys' Football Team has also advanced to the semi-finals of the cup competition. We are eagerly awaiting the outcome, but regardless of the result, we are immensely proud of their efforts and the spirit they have displayed throughout the season.

These accomplishments would not have been possible without the unwavering support of our entire school community – children, parents, staff, and stakeholders. Together, we have fostered an environment that nurtures growth, celebrates diversity, and encourages excellence in all endeavours.

As we look ahead, I am filled with excitement and anticipation for the opportunities that await us. Our commitment to providing a well-rounded education that nurtures the head, heart, and hand remains unwavering.

As always, please do (continue to) follow the school's much-loved and well-followed X (Twitter) account @GamstonStPeters to see what is happening within the school. You can also visit our school website – www.gamstonprimary.co.uk – for the latest news and information.

Elkesley Parish Council Chair's Annual Report 2023-24

The Parish Council now has three new Councillors which recently joined us, I would like to thank them for their commitment they have shown to elect to give up a little spare time to support their village, and for what they have done so far.

Firstly, as it is the annual meeting I will be reporting on things over the last twelve months and the position we are now in, from where we have been.

Also, during tonight's council meeting, we will be discussing "Councillors Responsibilities", and I do not want this to put people off or pressure anyone into anything, so I thought it more appropriate to raise it prior to this meeting and then again now so there are no surprises.

In essence, Councillors responsibilities are activities or things for the village that Councillors may wish to take ownership of or things they may have an interest in, such as sorting out a walking route, looking how to make the village entrance, sorting where benches need to go, conducting the safety inspections at the park, arranging the Christmas lights switch on etc.

As a Councillor, you are not obliged to do any of these things, just to attend the meetings and assist and help with the voting process and to aid discussions. It is always nice if we get willing participants however to pick something they may be able to offer a little time to.

It is not all about you doing it yourself, it is equally about trying to bring other people together to try and make the village better.

Lastly, I normally give a Chairs report at every council meeting, the last few months there has been nothing to report as we have not been quorate, should I have been there tonight I would have done one, we will save it for next time.

As you all know, I like to put the hours collectively we have done into my report along with a brief overview of what we've been doing, I just think it's nice to tell people, especially you guys in the public arena who attend, help and support what we do.

This month we have done collectively 26 or more hours, including:

- Grass cutting
- Highways faults and reports
- Liaison with other departments and agencies.
- Clerical bits
- Bin emptying

Idle Times - June 2024

9

Over the past 12 months, your Parish Councillors have selflessly donated no less than 250 hours into the above areas plus other areas also.

Back in May 2023, we had discussions around the large BMX track and how we could make better use. Especially considering how it had deteriorated and was going to cost too much to maintain it. We also suffered a spate of off-road motorbikes using it which did not help or assist our position.

During the middle to back end of last year, we suffered damage to Council property inclusive of fencing, bins, the bus shelter, and benches including theft which were all reported to the Police and naturally this ate into some of the funds we had to improve what we had.

We played our part in the village fete which was a success and jointly help and assist the hall where possible, we have built a great working relationship with several members of the hall committee also being on the Parish Council.

We have built good relationships with the District and County Councillors and jointly aim to assist and deliver what is needed for the village.

Christmas was a success, one of the best turns outs I recall since I landed in the village in 2012 and we hope to replicate that this year, so look out!!

For the last six months or so, we have not had many people on board the Parish Council, so we have not really been able to do much in terms of physical activities and we have not been quorate to make decisions.

We have also had Mick on long term sick, but thankfully he is back with us and on the mend.

I am excited to see what the Parish Council can achieve with some new faces on board and look to build on what we've discussed and planned over the next 12 months including re-instating some of the benches and signing a contract with the football club which may open up some further funds and revenue streams.

Thank you, as always for everyone's attention and participation, onwards and upwards.

*Cllr John Skelton
Chair of the Parish Council*

ELKESLEY SCHOOL NEWS

We are very proud of all of our year 6 children for the commitment demonstrated during the Key Stage 2 SATS; They displayed true resilience as they have faced each paper and tried their best from start to finish. They are all superstars!

This year's Sports day was a fun day for all – with a range of track and athletics events; we were proud of the effort and enthusiasm shown by all. Thank you to of our colleagues who worked tirelessly to accomplish a fantastic day – you are all amazing. Thank you to the parent volunteers at the finish line, handing out stickers to the children at the end of each race - We could not do it without you!

We ended last half term with some other amazing activities and extra-curricular days including an outdoor learning session for our Key Stage 2 children; and a trip to Sherwood pines for the Gruffalo trail for EYFS. We have also had balance bike training for EYFS and KS1 and next half term have bikeability for Year 6!

We have a fantastic nursery provision and take children from the first term after they turn 3. We can offer mornings or full days along with the option of breakfast and after school clubs. 15-hour and 30-hour codes can be used. You can put a child's name down for future places at any age which we recommend doing so to ensure a place is secure. If you are interested, please feel free to phone **01777838615** or email office@elkesley.notts.sch.uk for more information. Our Early Year's lead is Mrs Griffiths who would love to show you around our setting!

Children's safety and welfare is our number one priority. If you ever have any concerns about children whom attend the school, or children who do not, please know that anyone is welcome to contact the school to talk to the designated safeguarding lead, C Marsh. If you believe a child is at risk of harm, contact the MASH, Multi Academy Safeguarding Hub, on **0300 500 80 90** or visit: <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/care/safeguarding/childrens-mash/report-a-new-concern-about-a-child>.

Please be sure to head over to our website, www.elkesley.notts.sch.uk for regular updates on school life and a more detailed look into what each class is learning. Find us on Instagram and Facebook for pictures and news about what is happening in school.

Elkesley Memorial Hall

Are hosting a

Summer Craft Fair

**We have lots of local,
beautifully hand crafted items just
waiting for you.**

**Please come along, have some fun and
support the hall**



**Sunday 30th June
10am until 3pm at
Elkesley Memorial
Hall DN22 8AJ**



**There will be food and drinks available from the kitchen
and a licenced bar too!**

For more information or if you would like a stall
please call Mandy on 07598715417

Bothamsall Churchyard

Thanks to the small group of volunteers who tidied the churchyard on Saturday 18 May. We made great progress tackling weeds and ivy but there is still some work to do! The churchyard is a prominent feature in the village and it is a benefit to all residents if it is kept neat and tidy. If anyone can spare a couple of hours to help, we will be 'at it again' on Saturday 20 July from 10am. Meanwhile thanks to Peter Eaglen and Lorraine Barnes for their long-term contribution to the upkeep of the churchyard.



D-Day 80 in Eaton

All Saints church in Eaton will be marking the 80th anniversary of the Normandy Landings by showing a screening of the D-Day 80 Remembrance Service taking place at the National Memorial Arboretum on Thursday 6th June at 2pm. Everyone is invited to watch the service on a big screen then to stay afterwards for cream teas. The church will be open from 1pm.

NEW RUBBISH BIN LOCATION in BOTHAMSALL

The bin has been moved from the bus stop shelter to the junction of Red Hill Lane & Church Lane. The bin can be used for all rubbish including dog poo bags.



Hymns & Pimms in Eaton

Everyone is welcome at Eaton church for a return of its special Songs of Praise service on Sunday 30th June from 6.30pm. Come along to sing your favourite hymns, then stay afterwards for Pimms and other refreshments.

Hymns & PIMM'S



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