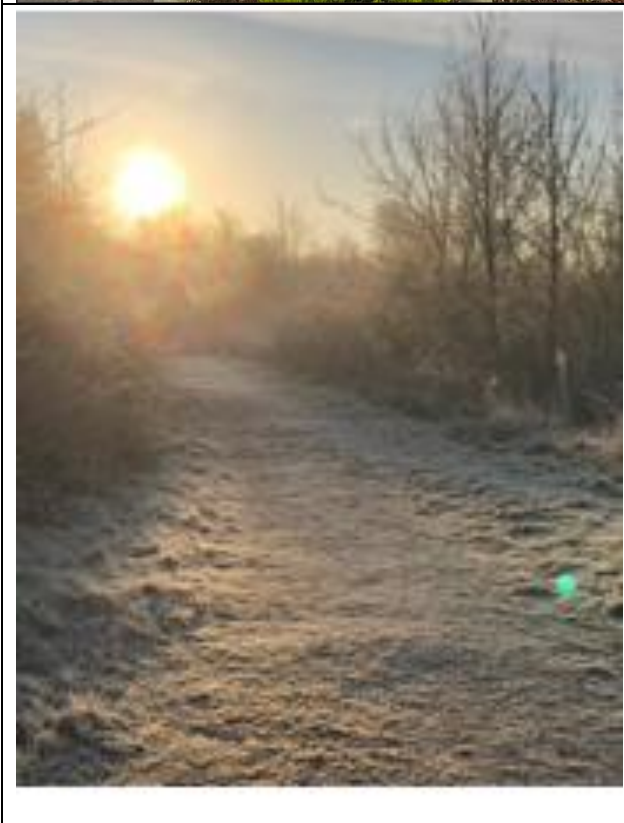


# Elsham Leader Spring 2023



## Best Kept Village Competition 2023

It's nice to see that our success in the 2022 Best Kept Village competition is now officially displayed on the Elsham signs on New Street and Barnetby Lane. The Parish Council has decided to enter the 2023 competition and planning is already underway.

Last summer was exceptionally hot and dry. We could never have kept our beautiful plants alive without the hard work of the villagers who volunteered to water tubs, planters and other areas near where they live. We hope very much that you'll all be willing to do the same this year. We need at least as many people as last year to do the watering – the more we have the easier it is for everyone. Even if you can't help with watering, if you have a tap that we can use it will save us carrying heavy water containers through the village. And of course, we need volunteers to help with planting, weeding and dead heading as it's an awful lot for just a few of us to do. Having the Best Kept Village isn't just about plants, although they are very important. It's also about keeping the village looking good. As well as villagers looking after their own gardens and hedges, it mainly includes things like sweeping, tidying and maintaining the public areas of the village. So even if you're not a gardener we could still do with your help.

**If anyone is willing to help with any of the things mentioned above, please contact either Andrew & Di Horner on 680471 or Sandra Van Oosterhout on 681899**

## Help us to make Elsham a hedgehog-friendly village

As some of you may have seen, we have been awarded £500 from the Tesco Bags of Help fund to help us make Elsham a better place for our prickly friend the hedgehog. The project will run alongside the work that is done at Elsham Hall with the hedgehog village there, which is managed by a previous resident of Elsham, Vee Harness, the nature warden at Elsham Hall and Gardens. She works with Laurie Fox, who runs Caistor Hedgehog Care, to help rehouse and rehabilitate hedgehogs that need a new site for release. We hope to make Elsham a prime spot for these hedgehogs and will hold a meeting later in the year to let people know how they can help our population of hedgehogs to move safely round the village and take care of them all year round. We can hopefully recruit people to volunteer to have a hedgehog house in their garden for the new releases and help people to make a few small changes to gardens to make them safer places for this mammal. Most of the money will be spent on buying hedgehog houses, but there will also be nature trails at Elsham Hall for Elsham residents run by Vee, which will be free of charge and funded by this grant, helping us all to benefit from spending time with the natural environment around us, and learning how to care for it and the creatures who call it home.

Sandra van Oosterhout

## Can you make a Green Pledge to help the environment?

Everyone in North Lincolnshire is being urged to do their bit for the environment and make green pledges, to help boost North Lincolnshire Council's own Green Future strategy. Can you make a green pledge to do one additional thing to protect the environment this year? It could be a simple change such as washing clothes at 30 degrees, vowing to stop using plastic bags, or buying a compost bin – or all three!

Cllr Rob Waltham, leader of North Lincolnshire Council, has said: "We started last year with an ambitious pledge to be net zero by 2030 – this is now embedded into the heart of everything we do as a council, protecting and enhancing our natural environment now and into the future. But for us to be able to make the difference we need to, so that future generations have a better environment, we all must do our bit – we are directly asking people in North Lincolnshire to get involved and make pledges to change."

It is difficult for us in Elsham to walk to facilities rather than drive, so how else can we do our bit to help achieve net zero in our area? There are simple things that we can all pledge to do; they may seem small, but they will make a big difference to the environment.

Simple pledges that can be made today include:

- Take plastic bags and film to local supermarkets for recycling.
- Use rechargeable batteries.
- Turn down your thermostat by 1 degree.
- Buy a compost bin – visit the NLC *Grow Don't Throw* webpage to see how you can exchange your brown bin for a home composter, or look into buying one.
- Walk, cycle or use electric vehicles – new charging points are being installed across the region.
- Join in the parish council's litter picks.
- Switch electrical items off at the mains when not in use.
- Buy fewer new things and donate or recycle your old gear when you upgrade – you can take everything from books to batteries to the council household recycling centres, and re-useable items are sold at auction for re-use.
- Swap your light bulbs for energy-efficient LED ones.

If you wish, you can show your commitment by making a pledge on the Green Futures Pledges page on the NLC website at: <https://www.northlincs.gov.uk/your-council/a-green-future/pledges/>. You can also agree as a household on one or more things that you could do to help make a difference.

On the subject of helping the environment, Anglian Water recently had to unblock drains on Maltkiln Lane because they were blocked with disposable wipes. Please **DO NOT PUT WIPES DOWN THE TOILET** – they do not degrade and they can block up the sewer, which can be unpleasant and expensive for yourself if it is your own drain that ends up being blocked. Thank you.

Sandra van Oosterhout

## Looking For a Village Handyman

We are very sorry to lose our village handyman, John Clayforth, whose skills are too much in demand for him to be able to continue in this role. We thank him for the excellent job that he has done.

We are therefore again looking to recruit a new handyman who would be available to do odd repair jobs around the village, generally including painting, sign repair, fence repair, tidying of verges etc. On average the jobs add up to around 30 hours in Elsham over the spring and summer, but as many of the low villages are also without a handyman, there is opportunity for there to be many more hours available. No specific skills or qualifications required, we just need someone who is generally 'handy' and has some spare time. To find out more and have a chat with us about this post, please contact Holly Hanson, the parish council clerk, on [clerk@elshamparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@elshamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

## The Stevenson and Julian Charity – an Elsham Parish Charity. Could you benefit?

Many people who are relatively new to the village may not be aware of the Stevenson and Julian Charity originally set up in 1663 by John Julian and later joined by George Stevenson in 1803, to “help the most needy in Elsham, for food fuel and other vital needs.”

The objective of the charity was “to help relieve, either generally or individually, persons resident in the Parish of Elsham who in conditions of need, hardship or distress by making grants of money or providing or paying for items, services or facilities calculated to reduce the need, hardship or distress of such persons.”

As times have changed the charity has over the last few years given small grants to senior citizens of Elsham, including a social gathering at Christmas and financial support for young people for a range of purposes, such as travel costs for study trips and educational materials, such as books.

The Parish Council have this year pledged to put £500 a year into the Stevenson and Julian Charity, as long as it has the funds to do so, and the Charity hopes that more people will come forward to ask for help. Is there an activity or club that you would like to join in with, and are not doing so because of the cost? Maybe sports equipment or travel to an exercise class? We are all aware of rising costs and the effect this can have on mental health, so if there is something that you would like financial help with, please do get in touch with the Charity Trustees, and they will let you know if it is eligible for a grant and how to apply.

The current trustees are:

**Sophie Dunn:** 07775 574396

**Lorraine Guest:** 01652 680679

## Nature Reserve

We've had some cold and frosty mornings in the nature reserve over the winter– very hard frosts which have hardly lifted all day, giving a white glow to the trees. The deer have been visiting frequently over the winter and we've had a couple of sightings of the giant rabbit!

Spring is now on its way and the wildflowers are making an early appearance. There are plenty of snowdrops and the first violets are appearing – see front page. We have also installed more bat boxes and some new owl boxes, and look forward to seeing how takes up residence.

We encourage everyone to take time to have a walk around the nature reserve at different times of year as it has so much to offer all year round. If anyone would like access with a wheelchair or mobility scooter, please contact any member of the Parish Council for the gate code.



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## EVENTS TAKING PLACE IN THE VILLAGE HALL

<b>Monday</b>	Pilates	4.30 – 5.30 p.m.
	Bowls Club	6.30 – 8.30 p.m.
<b>Tuesday</b>	New Age Kurling	10.00am – 12.00 p.m.
Parish Council	Monthly on the 3rd Tuesday, (except August and December).	6.30 – 8.00 p.m.
Wine Club	Fortnightly on a Tuesday	8.00 – 10.00 p.m.
	(Roland Guest's contact details below).	Last meeting 21 <sup>st</sup> March.
<b>Wednesday</b>	Bowls Club	7.00 – 9.00 p.m. (except May – August)
<b>Thursday</b>	Upholstery	10am – 4 p.m.
	Line Dancing	7.00 – 9.00 p.m.
<b>Friday</b>	Bowls Club	2.00 – 4 p.m. (starting 31 <sup>st</sup> March)

### Contact details re keys/booking etc. for Elsham Village Hall

**Sandra van Oosterhout**  
3 Doll Lane, Elsham  
Tel:- 01652 681899

**Roland Guest**  
5 Church Street, Elsham  
Tel:- 01652 680679

## **Play Park and Exercise Area**

Thank you very much as always to our play park volunteers.

The park is open from approximately 9am to 7pm (or dusk if earlier) every day.

The exercise equipment is all available for that pre-holiday exercise campaign!

If you'd like to help with the opening and closing of the park, please give me a call on 680827. We need two more volunteers as we have had two retirees – thanks to them both for their service! If we keep to the current numbers, everyone only has to do two weeks a year (which can be done as two separate weeks if preferred).

Thank you.

Jane Ousby

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## **Elsham Village Golf competition**

This year sees the 50th anniversary of the Elsham Village Golf competition. The big event is taking place on 2<sup>nd</sup> September starting at 12 noon. Anyone interested please contact Graham Evison at [graham.evison@btinternet.com](mailto:graham.evison@btinternet.com)

Graham Evison

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**ELSHAM**



# **KING'S CORONATION STREET PARTY**



**SUN 7TH MAY 2023**



**2PM-5PM CHAPEL LANE / VILLAGE HALL**



**FUN | GAMES | BAND | FOOD**



**TURN OVER FOR  
MORE INFO...**



## FUN AND GAMES

- BBQ (£5 PER TICKET, INCLUDES 2 SAUSAGES, 1 BURGER WITH BUNS AND SALAD).
- BOUNCY CASTLE
- RAFFLE AND TOMBOLA
- SPLAT THE RAT
- TREASURE HUNT OVER THE CORONATION WEEKEND, KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR MORE DETAILS IN THE VILLAGE NEWSPAPER & OUR FACEBOOK PAGE.



## COMPETITIONS



- BEST DRESSED ON THE DAY, ROYAL THEMED (PRIZE FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN).
- BEST DECORATED HOUSE, ROYAL THEMED.



## EVENING TIME

*FREE TO ENTER BUT MUST OBTAIN A TICKET DUE TO LIMITED PLACES. TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM ANY PARISH COUNCILLOR OR 17 CHURCH ST.*

- COMMON FAULTS BAND LIVE MUSIC
- 7PM ONWARDS
- BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS AND NIBBLES



## GUEST STALLS



- MONKS WOOD NURSERY
- PAM'S COUNTRY TEXTILES
- CROCHET CABIN
- JENNY WRENS FLOWERS

**CELEBRATE THE CORONATION  
WITH THE VILLAGE,  
TOGETHER!** 

**WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE...**





## ALL SAINTS CHURCH, ELSHAM

We are now in the Lent Season, and ultimately, we will pass to Easter – a time when we eventually meet our resurrected Christ.

The Gospels in the bible tell us the importance of the practice of three kinds of religious acts: charitable giving, praying, and fasting. The point is the same when applied to each of them: these acts are not to be done in a way that attracts attention to oneself, or God will not reward them. The message is straightforward enough, but each part presents its own challenge when applied to twenty-first century life.

To focus on fasting – here our problem is that in Western culture we have managed to almost divorce spiritual practices completely from bodily ones. We so emphasise our inner heart and state of mind, that it is hard for us see any benefit from such a thoroughly bodily action as fasting.

Every Lent, we all face the fact of having a few sins in our lives. No great surprise there then. When we are frightened, when we are upset, when we are stressed, when we are bored and we don't know what to do, some of us may go to the fridge and fill ourselves up with ice-cream. Some of us may go to the cupboard, where we will open a packet of biscuits or crisps, and some of us will not be content until they're all gone.

What should we be doing when we are frightened, and we are in despair? We should be turning to God in prayer, and faith, in those secret moments and saying, Lord, help us, give us the strength that we need. This is hard. This is really tough, and each of us will possibly think about our own lives, and what it is that we can do to improve that relationship with Jesus Christ. But when you fast no one else will know you are fasting, except your father in Heaven. This is a personal battle, a personal fight that we will wage over the next 40 days.

What remains to be seen is whether we will live before we die, whether we will claim our personal authority and take responsibility for our lives, and whether we will give ourselves permission to become ourselves, have faith and trust in the relationship we have with God. What if we believe that at this time it should be less about our ending, and more about a new beginning, less about where we've been, and more about where we are going, and less about who we've been, and more about who we are becoming?

### BLESSINGS

Dawn Enser,

**Lay Minister, Churchwarden, Treasurer & Safeguarding Officer**

**All Saints Church PCC, Elsham**

**Our Services start at 11.00am 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4th Sundays.**

*The second service of the month is a Holy Communion Service, led by Revd. Lee Gabel, and the other one is a lay-led service led by Dawn Enser (Lay Minister)*

**Tea and coffee are served at the end of each service, and EVERYONE IS WELCOME**

**Church coffee mornings are at the Village Hall on the second Wednesday of each month – please come for a chat and a cup of tea!**

## Elsham Parish Council

### Elsham Parish Council forthcoming meeting dates are:

21<sup>st</sup> March 2023      18<sup>th</sup> April 2023

From 6.30pm until 8pm.

### Your Parish Councillors are:

Sandra van Oosterhout (**Chair**) – 681899, [cldr.svanoosterhout@elshamparish.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.svanoosterhout@elshamparish.gov.uk)

Andrew Horner (**Vice Chair**) – 680471, [cldr.ahorner@elshamparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.ahorner@elshamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Jane Ousby – 680827, [cldr.jousby@elshamparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.jousby@elshamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Mark Wood – 07471 997323, [cldr.mwood@elshamparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.mwood@elshamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Steve Moir – 680568, [cldr.moir@elshamparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.moir@elshamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Sarah Burton – [cldr.sburton@elshamparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.sburton@elshamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

### **Parish Clerk – Holly Hanson**

Tel: 07393 21 30 30 Email: [clerk@elshamparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@elshamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Correspondence Address: Appledore, 26 Main Street, Horkstow, Barton-upon-Humber, DN18 6BG

Website: [www.elshamparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.elshamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

### [Andrew Percy MP](#)

Our MP (Brigg and Goole constituency) is Andrew Percy.

His constituency office contact details, should you wish to contact him about anything, are:

2 Morley's Yard, Brigg, DN20 8JD

Tel 01652 650094

[www.andrewpercy.org](http://www.andrewpercy.org)

## PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS MAY 2023

Local elections, including Town and Parish elections, will be held on 4 May 2023.

So what does that mean for Elsham Parish Council?

An election will not automatically be held, it depends on how many people apply to be on the council. A full council for us is 7 members, and if 7 or fewer people apply, all will be automatically elected. If more than 7 apply, an election will be called. At the moment, we have only 6 members, so more people would need to apply than are currently on the council for an election to happen.

*Do you want to do something positive, and like all the current councillors, make a difference by contributing to decisions that affect our community?*

*Do you have ideas for village projects that you would like to implement?*

Why not join the parish council?

### **Recent and ongoing parish council projects include:**

- Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations
- Best Kept Village competition
- Christmas tree switch-on
- Installation of bat and owl boxes
- New quarry entrance gate giving disabled access
- Free village library/book exchange
- Caring for hedgehogs
- Defibrillator training
- Litter picking
- King Charles's Coronation event
- Installation of vintage plough

We are now looking beyond these to see what else we can do in the village. If you would like to play a part in future projects and local democracy, put yourself forward to be a parish councillor. We need people from all walks of life and all ages over 18 to represent our village.

### **Note:**

If you wish to **vote** in a local election this year, please be aware that, for the first time, residents will need to show photographic ID. You can visit the North Lincs Council website to see which forms of ID you can use, and if you don't have one of those you can apply for a free ID online at the Government Voter Authority Certificate website or by completing a paper form. All details are on the NLC website.

# How we have helped to improve our village and environment – can you contribute some new ideas and join the parish council?

