

# GLAPTHORN PARISH COUNCIL

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## **Glapthorn Annual Parish Meeting Thursday 19 April 2018**

### **REPORTS**

#### **County Council**

The past 12 months have yet again been hugely challenging for the County Council. Continuing reductions in funding whilst at the same time having to cope with increasing demands for social care services finally came to a head early in 2018 when it became apparent that the Council could not balance its budget for 2017/18 without using all reserves and/or selling and leasing back the replacement HQ building Angel Square. The sale has now taken place and the receipt far exceeded the build costs but this is only a sticking plaster so Government has decided that Northamptonshire should move from 8 councils to just 2 new unitary councils. The aim is for that to happen for May 2020 with new elections taking place that year. It currently looks as though East Northants Corby, Kettering and Wellingborough will form 1 new unitary council taking on responsibility for all the Countywide services. This means all existing District, Borough and County councils will disappear.

There are stiff spending controls in place for the County Council until this happens so there will be no empowering councillor fund available from the County Council during this financial year.

There are implications locally of reduced spending and in particular grants to support the Call Connect bus service are being withdrawn at the end of July. I am currently working with the Thrapston and area County Councillor to try to find other funding solutions. Some councils have already made provision to give support but this does not apply to all and some villages do not have a parish council so have no means of funding a supported bus service.

I will be doing my best to try to achieve the continuation of some level of rural bus service for this area. Currently the library in Oundle is not on the closure list but that could change in the future.

The County Council is also consulting on a 3-tonne weight limit for Oundle North bridge as an inspection has shown that it cannot continue to carry weights in excess of that limit.

Hopefully road closures on the A605 will soon be over as improvement works near completion. This has been an investment of around 7 million with the Government covering £5 million

**Cllr Heather Smith**  
**Oundle Division councillor.**

#### **District Council**

Firstly, apologies that I cannot be with you tonight. Unfortunately, the date clashes with another Parish Council AGM, to whom I had made a previous commitment.

It is now over a year since I was elected as your District Councillor. It's been a busy one, and I've thoroughly enjoyed the challenges - and also meeting and working with many new people, including quite a number of Glapthorn residents.

I'm excited to see the progress of the Neighbourhood plan. You have worked so incredibly hard to produce this and I'm confident that it will give a much-needed structure and direction to the village for years to come.

In terms of current issues, I was delighted to attend the recent meeting to discuss the proposals for the new recreational facilities behind the school. As I mentioned at the time, I am in full support of this and look forward to working with the village to try and secure funding - to allow the project to come to fruition.

I operate an open-door policy. Always happy to meet with any of you to discuss any issues, or concerns. If you email or phone me, I will always respond. Whilst I may not have answers to your questions immediately, I will always endeavour to guide you in the right direction, or to assist with finding someone who can help.

I am very much Looking forward to another year of getting to know more of you, and to working with you.

**Cllr. Annabel de Capell Brooke**  
**Prebendal Ward**

## **Police**

### Force restructure

There is at the moment a restructure of Northants Police, this does not mean we are losing officers they are being redeployed on other departments that are being restructured to cater for the current threat harm risk that has been identified within the force. On East Northants we have the same amount of PCSO's and you have 4 dedicated officers that are ring fenced to deal with long term issues within our Neighbourhood. There are still response officers and many other departments/ officers that attend and patrol the area. Our main priority is protecting people from harm.

### Area crime

In Glapthorn you have had 2 Burglary dwellings reported and 1 safeguarding crime. In relation to the burglaries there are no suspects at this stage but both properties were empty and did not have CCTV.

### Speeding

I am trying to encourage communities to set up their own Community speed watch, the rules have been relaxed and a number of villages have set this scheme up with some success.

### Op Galileo

We have joined up with Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire Police to tackle the issue of hare coursing, this is linked to organised crime groups. We have seized more than 30 vehicles, 15 dogs and are prosecuting a large number of offenders from all over the country. This will continue next year due to the success we have had.

### Cross Border Team

The Cross-Border Team has achieved the following:

- Involved in over 200 arrests.
- Over 500 criminal disruption visits conducted.
- In excess of 51 warrants executed.
- Involved in over 150 Planned Police/partnership operations.
- Supported police response teams at 200 crimes in progress/incidents.
- In excess of 400 offenses detected against the fatal four, no insurance, mobile phone etc.
- In excess of 25 drink/drug wipe procedures conducted 3 arrests.
- In Excess of 10000 hours of targeted patrols covering our key target areas.
- Both Covert and overt ANPR reads for intelligence via ANPR car's (data to follow)
- Excellent feedback from FIB's including local communities and partner agencies.
- Very strong social media following 3060 people/organizations following us on Twitter @XborderCops.

We have had a small increase of ASB on our area which has been targeted, we have made arrests and the offenders are awaiting court attendance.

As a team we have executed a number of drug warrants on East Northants with some excellent results, a large number of drugs seized and offenders disrupted.

**Paul Mitchinson**  
**Pc 745 Lead Constable**

## **Parish Council**

This is a summary of some of the issues/topics than came before the members of The Parish Council, during the 12 months ending 31st March 2018:

Neighbourhood Plan - The work of the NP will be reported separately by the Group's Clerk, Alan Barnish.  
Recreational area for the village– developments of the Recreational Land Procurement Project will be reported separately.

Budget for 2018-19 - The Parish Council agreed to precept for the sum of £9,700. Due to the increase in housing numbers in the village, there was no increase in the Glapthorn element of Council Tax.

Diversion of Footpaths south of Glapthorn Manor and Manor Farm - The formal diversion of the footpaths, to follow the line of the brook, is expected to be concluded during the next few days,  
New Parish Councillors - In July, the council thanked retiring councillors, Bob Stone and Nerissa Buchanan (formerly Nerissa Belcher) for their service to the community and welcomed Mike Newton and Ian Hood to the council.

Street Lights - The council placed an order for replacing the street lights with LED lamps. The major benefit will be the significant saving in energy and maintenance bills. Work was completed during October with minimum disruption. The council used some capital reserve, set aside for the project, and an interest free government loan, which will be repaid entirely from the reduction in energy bills.

Traffic and speeding - The council was encouraged by a Highways report, received as part of the Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 14 consultation, which highlighted a number of traffic danger points with suggested solutions. It is envisaged future property developers will be asked to fund traffic calming measures in the vicinity of their building site. It is also hoped this will include sites further afield, which will impact on Glapthorn roads, such as Tresham Village. The Parish Council has taken the first steps to seek a qualified design for traffic calming measures for the village that will be acceptable to the highways design authority.

Support for the Village Hall - As the Parish Council does not provide or manage the village hall, it has wide powers to help the Village Hall Committee in doing so. The Parish Council agreed to support the Glapthorn Village Hall in a number of ways:

- To accept an offer from Gigaclear for the free installation of broadband in the Village Hall, on the understanding that after 12 months, if it is determined the service is worthy of continuation, the Parish Council will take responsibility future rental costs.

- The council also agreed to support the new kitchen project with the purchase of catering equipment, as well as provide an annual grant to the Village Hall towards their running costs.

Flooding – the village was successfully awarded a grant for the Pathfinder II Flooding Resilience Project, run by Northamptonshire County Council. A presentation was made to the community in March by the NCC team and we await formal copy of the full report. Nonetheless, we have been promised funds to assist with our on-going battle to alleviate the flooding on Main Street by Brookside.

**Malcolm Moss**  
**Chairman Glapthorn Parish Council**

**Glapthorn Allotment Gardener's Association**

Once again, we have had a very successful year on the allotments with all plots taken. We are all looking forward to some sunshine and warmer weather.

Chris Crosby continues to supply us with well-rotted manure which is being used to great effect.

There were several successful entries in the Southwick and Glapthorn Show.

Our annual water costs have again been low thanks to the water harvested from the roof of the communal shed.

Our accounts have been professionally audited by Bulley Davey on a charitable basis for which we are very grateful.

The allotments are truly an asset to Glapthorn Village and Glapthorn residents are most welcome to come and walk around our village allotments and to see how productive our site is. The site is in good order thanks to our volunteers.

To conclude, GAGA continues to be a great success. For more information about GAGA please contact the Secretary as below or visit the village website.

**Heather Ball**  
**Secretary of Glapthorn Allotment Gardeners' Association**

**Glapthorn WI**

Glapthorn WI is thriving with 30 members and an excellent committee. We are in a financially sound position thanks to all the support we receive from our members.

Our aim is to have fun and learn something new at our meetings – last month we had an excellent talk on The Women's Land Army in the First World War and are looking forward to hearing from our speakers for the rest of the year. The talks are followed by a competition and raffle and conclude with tea and biscuits taken with chatter and laughter.

We are currently in discussion with Glapthorn Village Hall Committee as we would like to donate two planters to commemorate the centenary of the Suffragette Movement. Our intention is to fill the pots with the colours of the Suffragettes – yellow, purple and white.

Our Knit and Natter Group usually meet once a month and are currently knitting blankets for the residents of Abbott House and Polebrook Nursing Home. We understand that the residents who are most appreciative of our efforts. In addition, we are knitting baby blankets for the Premature Baby Unit at Peterborough Hospital and Beanie hats for the Samaritan's Purse Charity. We would welcome any offers of knitting wool that are surplus to your needs!

We will be providing teas on Sunday 6th May 2018 for the Open Weekend in Short Wood and again hope to supply refreshment to many hungry and thirsty walkers.

To summarise, we have an excellent WI with very supportive members.

If you would like to know more about Glapthorn WI please contact The President, Cherrill Sands on 01832 226025.

**Heather Ball**  
**Treasurer/Joint Secretary**

### **Royal Oak Club**

The Royal Oak has now been running for 15 years, we recently had our AGM and the present committee is: -

Monica Crosby	Chairman
Rosie Bliss	Secretary
Allen Brown	Treasurer
Ann Chapple	Catering Manager
Ian Hood	Bar Manager
Steve Grossman	Flyers
Jo Wilkinson	Membership Secretary
Mike Scofield	Member

Ann Chapple and Ian Hood are new onto our Committee, we welcome them, its always good to keep having new blood.

We are very fortunate that our committee's Husbands/Wives also help out as much as they do they are a huge support to our committee, our un-sung heroes.

We continue to open on Friday Nights from 7.30pm – 11pm with a well-stocked Bar and a meal served, the evenings are very relaxed and friendly. A committee member always runs the Bar, meals are cooked by Committee members and members alike. We are very fortunate that members volunteer to cook. A flyer is delivered to every house in the parish of Glapthorn approx. 4 – 5 per year, giving details of forth coming Fridays.

Last year 2017 we had a number of special nights which included; -

Paella, Morris Dancing, Hungarian Evening, Steak Night, Conker Night, Quiz, Wine Tasting, Christmas Lunch, and Carols & Canapes.

This coming year we are cooking a meal early ahead of the Male Voice Choir who will be singing in the Church, that is on 1st June, we look forward to holding a Tropical Evening on the 15th June, a 60's Night in September and marking 100 years since the end of World War 1 on Friday November 9th.

During last year we donated £1,000 to the Village Hall. The Club is run for the benefit of its members.

**Monica Crosby.**

### **Southwick & Glapthorn Village Show**

On the 16th July Glapthorn Village Hall was a lovely backdrop for all the produce, handicrafts, cookery and children's entries for the 53rd Annual Show. It was a bumper year for entries with a number of people taking part for the first time. Glapthorn schoolchildren's artwork was keenly admired and their petunias were flowering profusely.

The standard of entries was high and judges had to make difficult decisions when awarding 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes. We are particularly grateful to Nicholas Warliker who celebrated his 80th birthday in 2016 and has been one of our Show judges for more years than we can remember.

At the Show's Annual Meeting in September we were pleased to welcome two more Glapthorn residents to the committee: Steve Grossman and Paul Grandige. The committee is now making plans for this year's Show which is on 15th July in Southwick Village Hall. Leading up to that we are holding a coffee morning and plant sale on Saturday 13th May in Glapthorn Village Hall. Please come along and help us raise funds for the Show.

Finally, thank you to everyone who helps in any way, ensuring the continued viability and success of the Show.

**Pauline Davidson**

### **St Leonard's Church**

The church in Glapthorn is flourishing. That is due to the tremendous support we receive from so many people and in so many ways. The churchyard is kept tidy and the inside of the church looks clean and cared for. To all we want to express our heartfelt gratitude. Of course, money is vital but contributions of time, energy and ideas are just as important and just as appreciated.

The church has strong links with Glapthorn school, with the pupils regularly visiting the church and taking part in family services. We have recently made the children's area more welcoming with new furniture and toys.

We are constantly thinking about ways we could do better, meeting contemporary needs and expectations, while keeping what is best about how we worship and the welcoming dignity of the church building. As part of our Growth Action Plan, we are actively exploring improvements to seating, lighting and audio/visual equipment. This year we began a revised pattern of services. This month we will have the first of our new '5th Sunday' events: a very short service, followed by a discussion in a relaxed atmosphere, to discuss aspects of faith and explore the bible. This is intended to be lively and informative and everyone is welcome to come along.

The Annual Church Meeting is in church on Thursday, 7pm, 26th April and everyone is welcome to attend.

**Brigitte Hilton**  
**Church Warden**

### **Glapthorn Village Hall**

It has been another very successful year for the village hall with completion of a number of big projects such as the replacement of the double fire doors, the installation of the new kitchen & new equipment, with special thanks Roger and Shindo for helping achieve this.

Also, the introduction of the combination lock on the front door and combined with the completion of our 1st year of the On-line booking system, I'm pleased to report both have working well and we can report an increase in the number of bookings for the hall with no more double bookings been reported.

Also, we have moved further into the 21st century with the introduction of Wi-Fi. This was achieved by the village hall providing free hire for Gigaclear promotional evenings in exchange for 1-year free Wi-Fi and free installation.

We have also had a very successful collaboration with the PC this year with annual donation to support the fabric of the building, installed their overhead projector and just this week an electrically powered projector screen purchased and installed by the GVH (source and fitted by Roger once again big thanks to him) A big thank you must go out to Gill Johnson for her donation of the village map which I am sure everyone can agree looks great and is very interesting.

We have had some sad news however with the retirement of John Melhuish who served on the committee for 22 years and Tracey Kerr who has moved onto to become a Glapthorn school governor their gain to our loss. Big thanks to them both.

Some good news to balance the bad, Liz and Alan Banish have joined the committee as secretary and treasurer and we welcome into the fold.

Future project under consideration by GVH our replacing the heater in the hall, maybe new curtains and general maintenance on the front door and there is a planned fund raiser for the heaters replacement a 'chairman fun night' on the 2nd June 2018, 7.30pm start £15 ahead includes an evening of entertainment and food, cheap bar. There are limited tables so book early. – A very popular event.

Finally, a massive thankyou to the old and new committee Jeff Knowles, Jo Hood, Roger and Shindo Bettley, Alan and Liz Banish, John Melhuish and Tracey Kerr for all their hard work over the past year. Here's to another successful year with lots of fun while looking after this beautiful village hall.

**Nicholas Knowles**  
**Chairman**

### **Neighbourhood Plan (NP)**

The Glapthorn Neighbourhood Plan is now reaching the final stage of preparation prior to a Referendum. The Plan was submitted to East Northamptonshire Council in December 2017 and that Council held a final stage of consultation prior to examination of the Plan by an Independent Examiner.

The Examiner has completed his work and will publish his report on 23rd April 2018. Unfortunately, the Report will remain embargoed until then, so it not yet available for publication. However, it will be made available on the Parish Council web-site on that day.

The next step in the process is to amend as necessary the Neighbourhood Plan to incorporate any changes contained in the Examiner's Report. These are the only changes permissible. It is intended that the Plan will then be considered for approval by the Parish Council on 17th May 2018. The updated Plan has to be cleared with the Examiner and ENC to confirm compliance with the Examiner's Report. ENC has the responsibility of formally deciding whether or not the NP should proceed to referendum.

East Northamptonshire Council has set the date for the Referendum as Thursday 5th July. All persons in Glapthorn Parish who are on the electoral register are entitled to vote; the referendum will be conducted by ENC using the same procedures as for general and local elections.

The Neighbourhood Planning Group is meeting on 26th April to receive the Examiner's Report. This is a normal Group meeting but, as always, the public can attend. The NP Group intends to

- circulate an information leaflet in week commencing 30th April highlighting the key content in the Examiner's Report and any implications arising thereon;
- Hold a public forum on Thursday 24th May to discuss the Examiner's Report and the re-draft of the Neighbourhood Plan incorporating the changes needed;
- Circulate a further information leaflet in June prior to the referendum to encourage the maximum possible participation.

A copy of the amended Neighbourhood Plan will be circulated to every household in Glapthorn Parish in late May / early June. It is interesting to note the status of the Plan prior to referendum and post referendum (if supported):

*Once a neighbourhood plan has been independently examined, and the decision taken to put the plan to a referendum, it must be taken into account when determining a planning application, in so far as the policies in the plan are material to the application.*

*Should the Neighbourhood Plan proceed to local referendum and achieve more than half of votes cast in favour, then the Neighbourhood Plan will be 'made' by East Northamptonshire Council. If 'made' the Neighbourhood Plan will come into force as part of the Development Plan for the neighbourhood area, and subsequently be used in the determination of planning applications and decisions on planning appeals in the plan area. The Housing and Planning Act requires any conflict with a neighbourhood plan to be set out in the committee report, that will inform any planning committee decision, where that report recommends granting planning permission for development that conflicts with a made neighbourhood plan. The Framework is very clear that where a planning application conflicts with a neighbourhood plan that has been brought into force, planning permission should not normally be granted.*

**Alan Barnish**  
**Clerk to the GNPG**

## **Glaphorn Playing Field Association (GPFA)**

After a successful Public Meeting on the 8th March attended by 44 people, some 10 residents came forward to volunteer to make up the Glaphorn Playing Field Association (at present a committee of the Parish Council), which will take the project forward. At the meeting 94% of attendees completed a questionnaire supporting the project and since then a further 24 people have indicated their support. In January the Head of the school wrote to parents encouraging them to show their support for the project by posting their comments on the village website and to date we have had 27 positive posts. The Glaphorn Playing Field Association held its first meeting on Thursday the 29th March and decided to form itself into 3 sub-groups. One group to process the applications for grant money; the second to form a local fund-raising committee; and third a group who will progress the construction and development phases of the project. One application for grant funding has already been made - to the Mick George Community Fund who will announce their results in mid-June. A second application will go to the Augean Community Fund (deadline 1st June) - announcement end of August, and the third will go to East Northants Council's Community Facilities Fund with no deadline but we will be advised as to whether we have cleared the first hurdle by the autumn. All these funders will finance the purchase of land and the maximum grant from each is £50,000. All three funders will require 11% of "matched " funding and although this may be raised through other grants, if this fails in the timescale then the Parish Council has to be prepared to raise the money itself to complete the deal. Many funders will only make grants to registered charities so the Association is researching the pros and cons of registering itself as a Charity. Again, many funders will not make grants if i) the land is not owned, or ii) there is no planning permission. Buying the land is the priority but obtaining planning permission is a close second. Discussions have already taken place with solicitors to accomplish the first and with architects to make a sound application for the second. The Parish Council will be meeting soon to examine, discuss and determine the way forward on all these issues and the financial implications which will involve the expenditure of money before grants or donations are received. The Playing Field Association is not a closed shop and if anyone would like to sign up they will be more than welcome.

**Malcolm Moss**

## **ACRE Best Village Competition**

Towards the end of January, I received, as Secretary of the Village Hall Committee, an email from Northants C.C. inviting us to enter the best Northants Village competition 2018. This is an annual competition with a small financial prize for the category winners.

We are required to complete a proforma that will build a profile of life in the village based on the activities, services and facilities currently available, business opportunities, the local environment, sustainability and the use of I.T.

The project should be viewed as a "community audit" and, as such, should assist in considering the future development of the village. Judges are looking for evidence of community involvement, pride and initiative and it is recommended that as many people as possible from the village become involved.

Both the Village Hall Committee and the Parish Council are 100% in favour of moving forward with the project. The lead time for submission was deemed too short for 2018 but it was decided that we should move ahead with the project as an audit/planning exercise and, if sufficient progress has been made by the end of the year, we would consider an entry in 2019.

I have invited a wide cross-section of the community to an informal first meeting in the village hall on Monday 30th April. Representatives of the church, the school, other existing clubs and groups along with residents of all ages will be attending. In the first instance I intend to compile a comprehensive list of all our

existing facilities and services. Following that I am looking to attendees to give their thoughts and ideas on what could be provided to further enhance and improve life in our village in the future.

If anyone here tonight who has not been invited would like to attend the meeting, please see me at the end and I will take their details. I will then forward them a copy of the proforma so that they can have a better understanding of what is required.

This promises to be an important and very interesting project so please let me know if you would like further information or clarification.

**Elizabeth Barnish**  
**Secretary Village Hall Committee**

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