

Newsletter No 4 April 2018

Who's who on Rothley Parish Council

Rothley Parish Councillors are as follows: -

**Percy Hartshorn, (Chair),
Roger Gross (Vice Chair),
Andy Brettle, Claire Cole, Mike Ferguson,
Graham Hall, Steve Mitchell, Barry Simons,
Doug Sutherland.**

Administration

Rothley Parish Council staff include: -

Parish Clerk	- Gail Newcombe
Deputy Clerk	- Pamela Campbell-Armstrong
Admin Assistant	- Bev Eldridge
Caretaker	- Jennifer Cornish
Caretaker	- Bernadeta Skubala
Caretaker	- Andrew Hodgson

Remembrance Day

Rothley Parish Council bought 15 large poppies and put them on posts around Cross Green to highlight Remembrance Day 11th November. These seemed to be very popular with local residents and so Rothley Parish Council will put many more up in 2018 as part of the special events surrounding the 100 years commemoration of the ending of World War 1 hostilities in 1918.



Anthony Street by Dutchman's Wall

This land has had a problem with lack of maintenance over many years and because there was no prospect of any action due to the County Council's funding crisis R.P.C. asked the LCC Highways Department if we could make some temporary repairs to fill in the deep pot holes that have developed causing inconvenience to people parking.

Tarmac of Mountsorrel kindly donated and delivered 9.5 tonnes of scalping material in mid-October and a group of local volunteers (including two parish councillors) worked hard to barrow and rake it out over the affected areas. We were fortunate in that we hailed down a passing JCB heavy roller driver to help flatten it out.



Illegal Parking

The Parish Council has been receiving many complaints from residents about motorists parking on pavements, particularly on Town Green Street (in front of the gates to the field) and Babington Road and thereby blocking or restricting access.

If a vehicle is parked wholly or partially on a pavement and this prevents access by motorised scooters, wheelchairs, child's pushchairs and pedestrians, the issue is one of obstruction of the footway and is therefore is an offence. This is a police matter and the advice the parish council would give residents is to contact Leicestershire Police on 101 to report the incident. RPC will be doing the same if they are aware of such incidents.

Cemetery News

We have had a kind donation of two large granite blocks from Tarmac Ltd, Mountsorrel and so have completed the garden of remembrance sites for those families who wish to spread ashes at the Parish Council Cemetery.



The edging of both areas was completed using granite cobbles from a nearby agricultural barn demolished by developers William Davis, who kindly gave them to the Parish Council. All the work to make these improvements was carried out by local volunteers including John, the cemetery gardener and parish councillors, Steve and Graham and his son Josh.



Following an experiment to leave the cemetery gates open from 9.00am to 4.30 during the Winter months the Parish Council have decided to continue with this arrangement with closing time extended in the summer to 7.30 pm. We have had many positive comments from adults with motorized scooters, parents with prams and buggies who previously could not access the site.

Did you know?

In Bunny's Field over the past couple of years an orchard has been re-established by volunteers along the small drainage dyke.

In addition to some mature Bramley apple trees, damsons and pears which have been in place for years, a range of younger trees have been donated by members of the public. These include a Syston plum, walnut, James Grieve and other varieties of eating apples, mulberry, cherry trees, pear trees, greengage, crab apple and Mountain Ash (red berries being a favourite with birds).

In late November 2017 a generous donation of 6 cider apple trees (Michelin, Kingston Black) came from Goscote Nurseries at Cossington. The orchard now has over 30 trees, the fruits of which are available for the community to access in the autumn.



Tree survey

Following a survey of all trees on Parish Council land by a qualified arboriculturalist there will be a programme of work carried out in the spring. The work will include: -

- reduction in height and reshaping,
- lifting the crowns
- removal of ivy
- felling of a number of trees where there is pathogen decay, cankered wounds, root decay or storm damage.

Over 200 trees were surveyed and only 14 trees will be receiving some form of treatment. Of the 6 4 are on Fowke Street playing fields (one of which has collapsed already due to storm damage). Tree surgery will not interfere with nesting birds.

A programme of tree planting will occur in the late autumn to replace trees which have been felled.