

SKERNE & WANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Every Little Helps

Every year the parish council asks the local authority (LA) for what is called a precept; this is an amount of money to enable the parish council to carry out its statutory duties. The amount requested directly impacts the amount we all pay in council tax. This year the SWPC has not only managed to prevent an increase but have reduced the amount each resident will pay towards the precept by over 25%.

Wansford Bridge

A decision has yet to be made by the LA about whether repairs to the bridge will go ahead. A recent update indicated

that all of the options currently being considered for the repair of the bridge would be very costly and that there is the possibility that the weight restriction will become permanent or even the demolition of the bridge. A permanent weight restriction is more likely to be the outcome if further damage is caused through the continued use of the bridge by agricultural vehicles and HGVs, that are over the weight limit, visiting local farms. The SWPC have written to the LA expressing the need for the bridge to be repaired and made safe for farm vehicles to use because a permanent enforced weight restriction would be detrimental to local agricultural businesses. Not

using the bridge until repairs can be carried out would be a small price to pay in comparison to losing the bridge altogether.

Car Parking

Several residents in Wansford have raised the issue of cars parking on the pavements. This makes it very difficult for those with small children and push-chairs and visually impaired and disabled residents to navigate their way safely through the village. Please can residents ask visitors to their premises to park their vehicles on the road. The village hall committee has kindly agreed to ask anyone booking the hall not to park on the pavement.

Skerne & Wansford Community Fund Consultation

The SWPC would like your suggestions on how the fund should be spent. Harmony Energy has entered similar agreements in other parishes and projects have included the installation of renewable energy in local schools and establishing a children's education centre. The parish council is also looking for residents with project management and procurement experience who would be willing to give up a little bit of their time to help their ideas come to fruition.

The next meeting of the SWPC will be held in Wansford Village Hall on Tuesday 15th March at 7pm. On the agenda will be the opportunity for members of the public to have their say so please come along and get involved.

If you are unable to make the meeting, please contact the parish clerk at River View, Wansford, Driffield, YO25 8NX or alternatively email your ideas/information to sandwpcclerk@yahoo.co.uk.

For agendas and minutes of the parish council meetings please go to www.skerneandwansfordparishcouncil.co.uk

E-mail items for the newsletter to sandwpcclerk@yahoo.co.uk

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S&W NEWS

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SKERNE & WANSFORD COMMUNITY FUND

Harmony Energy have made the first of the agreed annual contributions of £10,000 to the Skerne & Wansford Community Fund. Harmony Energy CEO Peter Kavanagh has said that he is looking forward to seeing what projects the residents will choose and the benefits they bring to the community. He has also suggested that should the community identify a project costing more than £10,000 that funding ring fenced for future years could be released earlier to allow for such projects to go ahead sooner rather than later. The Skerne & Wansford Parish Council will be responsible for consulting with residents of the parish to identify suitable projects and for administering the fund. Harmony Energy is particularly keen that councillors ensure that the projects chosen are those that will benefit the majority of the community. Money from the fund can be used for match funding to access other grants that are available locally and nationally so to get the ball rolling Harmony Energy have agreed that £500 of the fund can be used as match funding for an application to the Local Authority's Queen's Platinum Jubilee Community Fund so that everyone can enjoy events that will take place in the parish over the Queen's jubilee weekend in June.

Inside the Spring Edition.....

Skerne & Wansford Parish Council cut the cost of council tax for residents—See Back Page



GET INVOLVED - Join the team planning the celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee— p3



Get Creative

Competition time for younger residents p3



News from the villages

Festive celebrations at St Leonard's

A Christingle Service and the 'Skerne Bash' were both held at St Leonard's church. The children from the village took part in the Christingle celebration, they dressed up and performed the nativity. Meanwhile the 'grown ups' let their hair down at the Skerne Bash. The event was very well attended and everyone enjoyed a casse-rolle, jacket potatoes and mince pies. There was a Christmas quiz and lots of dancing with music and singing from Dave. A good night was enjoyed by all.



Dave the singer.

Skerne residents enjoying themselves at Christmas. *Photos provided by Michael Nagasaka*



Wansford Village Hall

The village hall committee held their AGM in February. It was agreed that the cost to hire the hall would remain the same at £5 per hour. It was also reported that the committee was currently in the process of sourcing a suitable cabinet to be used to display various village sporting trophies that had previously been housed at the Trout Inn. In addition to the weekly clubs held at the village hall that include; Crafty Fingers on a Monday 1.30pm to 3pm, Makara Morris Dancing, Mondays at 7pm and the Wednesday Coffee Mornings

10am to 11am, there will be a Bingo Night on Friday 8th April at 7pm.

Parish Churches

A reminder to everyone that church services are being held regularly again and everyone is invited.

St Mary's annual parochial church meeting will be held at the church on Monday April 4th at 7pm, all are welcome.

The Easter services are; **St Mary's**— Palm Sunday April 10th at 10.45am, Easter Eve Saturday 16th April at 6pm.

St Leonards—Easter Day Sunday 17th April at 10.45am.

Skerne Reading Group

The group will be meeting again on Wednesday 9th March when the theme will be autobiographies and then on the 6th April when the group will be discussing novels set in foreign countries. New members are always welcome, if you would like to join contact Audrey Bjorndal on 07791 760220.



Jubilee Celebrations 2nd—5th June 2022

As you are probably already aware plans have been made to celebrate the jubilee across the country and members of the Skerne and Wansford community have already volunteered to help make them happen. The Wansford Village Hall committee has offered free use of the hall for events and meetings associated with the celebrations and the parish vicar is planning an event at St Mary's. Warrendale Farms have offered the use of their land should plans be made to join in with the jubilee beacons on Thursday 2nd June with the Fireworkers of Wansford hopefully putting on a firework display. If you want to get involved please come along to a meeting at the **Wansford Village Hall on Tuesday 8th March at 7pm.**

Competition Time

Calling all budding artists and designers



The parish council is looking for a new logo that they can use when it posts news and information about the Harmony Energy Community Fund and is asking for your help to design one. You can enter if you are under 18 and live in the parish or you have a parent, carer or grandparent who is resident in the parish.

Your designs can be drawn, painted or created digitally, the choice is yours. Entries should be posted to the parish clerk at River View, Wansford, Drifffield, YO25 8NX or emailed to sandwpcclerk@yahoo.co.uk.



Skerne Neighbourhood Watch

by John Warden

After several crime-free years there has sadly been a spate of thefts and attempted thefts in Skerne over recent weeks. The latest incident was the attempted theft of a pick-up truck. Two men were challenged and ran away through the village; they were then seen in a silver BMW car which drove off towards Wansford at high speed. I would like to remind everyone to be on the alert, keep property safe and secure, lock all outbuildings and vehicles and if possible get high value items security marked. Could I also ask that Skerne residents sign up to the Skerne Neighbourhood Watch email group at skernewatch@gmail.com or join the new Skerne Neighbourhood Watch group on Facebook to receive regular updates.

Oil Price The February ex-VAT oil price achieved by the Humber & Wolds bulk buying cooperative was 54.95 per litre. For joining details please contact Billy Waites at william.waites@btinternet.com