



Cottingham and Middleton News

June/July 2006

Available online at www.cottinghamnews.co.uk and www.middletonnews.co.uk



Welcome to the June/July edition of the village newsletter.

There are lots of things happening in the villages during June and July, with many events being hosted at the newly refurbished Village Hall Annexe. Read Graham Ley's article on page 3 for the low down on the new facilities.

It's also great to see that the village shop and post office is back on the market, so we can hopefully look forward to this valuable village resource re-opening in the not too distant future.

Finally, I'd like to say good luck to former Cottingham residents Colin and Sharon Harding who've recently taken over the shop and post office in Wilbarston. Do let them know if there's any services or products you'd like them to provide, especially while our own shop remains closed.

All the best,

Jane Smith, Editor
3 Corby Road, tel: 770821
Email:
jane@cottinghamnews.co.uk

Next Issue
Aug/Sep 2006

Issue date:
11 August 2006

Deadline for stories:
4 August 2006

Planning and Development

Housing Development - Land to Rear of Cottingham Hall

The outline planning application for the proposed development of 90 homes on land to the rear of Cottingham Hall (formerly Bury House) has been refused by Corby Borough Council. The decision to refuse was taken for a range of reasons including:

- that the application was contrary to planning policies that express a presumption against new housing development in the countryside outside the confines of villages such as Cottingham and Middleton
- that the proposed development, including the proposal to build a shop 'of unspecified size', would have been in an unsustainable location on the edge of the villages
- that local services are not adequate to meet needs that will arise from the proposed development, and the majority of journeys to and from places of employment, services and facilities, would need to be undertaken by car
- that the impact of the development on the highway network was unacceptable with regard to safety and its suitability to accommodate the significant increase in traffic

Contact **Gordon Smith** at Corby Council on **01536 464158** for more information.

Installation of Mobile Home - Corby Road

An appeal has been lodged with the Government's Planning Inspectorate against the refusal of planning permission for the installation of a mobile home on land at the top of Corby Road. The Borough Council is also expecting to receive an appeal against the enforcement notice to remove the tarmac and reinstate the land to pasture.

The procedure now is that the Borough Council will send their written representations to the Inspectorate, along with any letters of support or objection that they received about the planning application whilst considering it. If you did not write in first time around, or would like to make further representations, you should write to the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol BS1 6PN.

We are currently awaiting confirmation of timescales, the name of case officer at the Planning Inspectorate and a reference number. If you wrote in about the planning application first time around, the Borough Council will be contacting you directly. Keep your eye on the village websites and the 'Down Your Way' column in Saturday's Evening Telegraph for the latest news.

For further information contact **Diane Foster** at Corby Borough Council on **01536 464186**.

Village Shop Up For Sale



The village shop and post office is now up for sale with commercial estate agents Humberstones.

The agents report that there's been lots of interest in the business and they're confident that a buyer will soon be found.

However, they advise that the process for taking on a post office is a lengthy one with business plans, interviews and accreditations taking up to five months to complete. So, we need to be patient!

For more information, you can contact Humberstones on **0121 678 7788** or email them at midlands@humberstones.co.uk quoting ref P1190.

Parish Councils

Cottingham

Clerk: Peter Taylor
01536 262984 or 761752
5 Headlands, Desborough
NN14 2QA

Councillors

Phil Dyne (Chairman)
Clive Ashworth (Vice Chairman)
Mrs Pat Buckby
Owen Davison
John Muir
Pam Moore
George Sear
Dave Sims

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month (except August) starting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Annexe. Villagers are welcome to attend and share their views.

More information can be found on the Parish Council notice board on the corner of Rockingham Road and School Lane.

Next meetings:

Wed 5 July, 7.30pm
August: No meeting

Middleton

Clerk: Justina Medwell
01536 771234
Middleton House, Middleton,
LE16 8YU

Councillors

Keith Allsop (Chairman)
Dryden Phillipson (Vice Chair)
Raymond Ainge
Mark Brumby
David Curtis
Kay Dickens

Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month (except August) starting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Annexe. Villagers are welcome to attend and share their views.

More information can be found on the Parish Council notice board on Main Street, opposite No.34.

Next meetings:

Wed 21 June, 7.30pm
Wed 19 July, 7.30pm

Fundraising for Africa Meeting: 27 June, 7.30pm, Methodist Hall



Money collected during last Christmas Eve's walk through the villages to the Nativity scene at Medwell's Farm in Middleton is to be used to buy livestock to help an African community become self sufficient.

Donna Winch, Bethany Colby, Rachel Hudson, Neil Sturman and Linda Bosworth are now looking for support and ideas to raise more money, with Wendy and Michael Curtis advising on the practicalities of the project. If you'd like to help in any way, come along to the meeting on Tuesday 27 June or call **Linda Bosworth** on **203065**.

Volunteers Sought to Save Youth Club From Closure

Volunteers are being sought to take over the running of the village youth club following the current committee's decision that they are unfortunately no longer able to continue to run the club. Although none of the current committee members have children attending the club any more, they have said that they would be willing to remain as helpers on a rota basis.

If you'd like to volunteer, please contact **Diane Cooksley** on **771545** by the end of July. Unfortunately, if no volunteers come forward by this date, the youth club will cease to run and any funds held will be transferred into a trust on the understanding that it is only to be used for the youth of the village.

Parish Councils - Casual Vacancies

There are currently casual vacancies on both Cottingham and Middleton Parish Councils due to the recent resignation of Eric Lawson (Cottingham) and Charles Freestone (Middleton).

If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor, please contact Parish Clerks Peter Taylor (Cottingham) or Justina Medwell (Middleton). Their contact details are on the left.

For Cottingham, a notice will shortly be displayed on the Parish Council notice board advertising the casual vacancy. If 10 or more villagers on the electoral roll wish to see an election take place to fill the vacancy, they have 14 working days from the day the notice is placed to contact Corby Borough Council to ask for an election. If an election is not requested, the existing Parish Councillors will choose and co-opt a new member.

Middleton Traffic Calming

Since Middleton's Parish Plan revealed widespread concern about traffic in certain parts of the village, particularly Main Street, the Parish Council has been investigating funding for traffic calming measures, with the favoured method being road narrowing (chicanes). However, as Northants County Council allocates funding depends on pedestrian casualties, it would appear that Middleton is very unlikely to attract any funding.

This means that if the village seriously wants traffic calming, it will need to raise the funds itself. Middleton Parish Council is currently investigating a scheme whereby funds can be borrowed from the Public Works Loan Board over a long period with repayments being drawn from the precept. This way the outlay need not be entirely funded by the present residents, but shared with future generations.

Valley View B&B



Following our recent article about the village guest houses, Kathleen and Jon Randle have been in touch to let us know about Valley View B&B. Located on Camsdale Walk, Middleton, Valley View has panoramic views of the Welland Valley and is Tourist Board recommended with three diamonds.

There are two rooms - one twin and one double - and prices are £25 per person per night. For more information, contact **Kathleen** or **Jon Randle** on **770874**.

Annexe Open for Business!

By Graham Ley



The transformation of the Cottingham and Middleton Village Hall Annexe is almost complete. Once a tired-looking room, smelling faintly of last night's beer and essence of football socks, now a bright, airy, spacious hall for any occasion.

At the recent quiz run by Ant Licquorish (see article below), nearly 100 people were seated comfortably and we had a great night. Sadly,

my team faded at the finish – I knew I should have watched more Camberwick Green and Popeye in my youth!

In a quieter moment Clive Ashworth, Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC), showed me round the new facilities. The main work is now complete, giving a meeting room, kitchen, disabled toilet and cloakroom facilities in addition to the expanded main hall.

The project has been fully funded through a combination of grants, fundraising and an existing reserve fund (fundraising will go on to replenish the latter). And, thanks to the generosity of the Middleton and Cottingham Parish Councils and the Cottingham and Middleton Pantomime Group, there are new tables, chairs, blinds and kitchen fittings. There are still one or two finishing touches to do but the completion of the work will be celebrated with an official reopening party on **Friday 30 June**.

Now that we have a splendid new Annexe, the VHMC is anxious that we should use it! It's obviously a great venue for a dance – the Blue Moon disco, which appears more regularly than its name might suggest, is touching down on 24 June. On Thursdays, from 7.30 to 9.30 pm, there are now ballroom dancing evenings, all abilities welcome. There are also regular 'Kick Fit' classes (Mondays 7.30 to 8pm and Wednesdays 6.30 to 7.30pm), and on the first Saturday of each month there is a whist drive (contact **Pam Moore** on **770022**). The Village Fun Day on 2 July will also make good use of the facilities.

The cost of hiring the Annexe is currently £6 an hour, although this is under review. The process to licence the premises for 12 events a year is also underway. To book the Annexe, contact **Mick and Fran Innes** on **770294** (mobile **07913 552531**).

Ant Licquorish's last quiz night (29 April) raised £207 for Help the Aged.



Emerging triumphant from the 19 teams that took part was 'We claim the reward for Blackpool's missing deckchair', a team name alleged to have been in tribute to the question master's stripy shirt!

Ant's next quiz takes place in September/October in aid of the RNLI.

In the meantime, if you'd like Ant to run a charity quiz for you, give him a call on **771062** or email **quiz-man@tiscali.co.uk**

Middleton Village Hall

Progress with the proposed Middleton Village Hall at Glover Court has been frozen due to the Section 106 funding for the project not yet materialising. This is despite a number of approaches to the Glover Court developers from Corby Borough Council.

Meanwhile, in the light of the renewed focus on sustainability within the two villages, the Middleton Village Hall Trust believes there is a strong case for rethinking the facilities that the villages may need going forward - for example, a shop, doctor's surgery, farmers' market etc in addition to the conventional village hall concept.

Dryden Phillipson, Chairman of Middleton Village Hall Trust, is currently in liaison with Cottingham Parish Council regarding the project and has invited them to sit on the board of trustees.

In the draft Cottingham Parish Plan, 73% of villagers said that they would like to see a joint facility for the two villages so it would be great to see the two Parish Councils working together on this.

Plastics Recycling Bins



The plastics recycling bins located at the school are a highly used

resource and it's great to see so many people taking the trouble to recycle their plastics.

However, the newsletter has received a plea for more responsible use of these bins to make sure that they do not overflow and cause a nuisance to nearby residents.

To make best use of the space in the bins, please take your rubbish out of plastic bags before you throw it in, and crush your bottles.

Many thanks!

Middleton Neighbourhood Watch



Neighbourhood Watch schemes are now up and running in

Ashley Road and The Hill, Middleton. Almost all the residents have signed up and it is hoped to arrange a meeting for all concerned to meet the Liaison Officer and the officers assigned to the area.

Details will be circulated as soon as they are available. In the meantime, if you have any queries, please contact the Middleton co-ordinator, **Ray Ainge**, on **770125**.

Car Boot Sale

The car boot sale held on 20 May raised around £400 for the school. Thanks to everyone who came along to support the event.

What's On

Fri 23 to Sun 25 June

Welland Valley Beer Festival

The **Royal George** and **Red Lion** are among the eight pubs taking part in the fourth Welland Valley Beer Festival this month.



They'll join the Blue Bell and Hatton Arms (Gretton), The Castle (Caldecott), The George (Ashley), Sondes Arms (Rockingham) and Wheel and Compass (Weston by Welland) to offer over 80 real ales and ciders, with many new to the Welland Valley. A special Festival Ale will also be brewed to commemorate this year's event.

The festival, organised by CAMRA, will also feature live entertainment and food. A special vintage bus service will be available on the Saturday to whisk you around the participating pubs. Festival programmes will be on sale a week before the event for £1.

Sat 24 June

Village Dance, Village Hall Annexe

Ballroom and sequence dancing to the Blue Moon Disco.

Tickets £4 from **Audrey Ashworth** on **771084**. Bring your own refreshments (including alcohol).

Fri 30 June, 7.30pm

Official Opening Party - Village Hall Annexe

Come along and join in the celebrations for the newly refurbished Village Hall Annexe (see article on page 3). Fully licensed bar available on the night. For more information, contact **Clive Ashworth** on **771084**.

Sat 1 July, 7.30pm

Whist Drive - Village Hall Annexe

The regular village whist drives have now moved to Saturday nights to give more people the chance to join in.

All are welcome. Contact **Pam Moore** on **770022**.

**Sun 2 July, 1pm to 5pm,
Recreation Field**

Cottingham Fun Day and It's a Knockout!

Come along for an afternoon of fun including an 'It's a Knockout' competition, bouncy castle, barbecue and bar plus cake stall and tombola. There'll also be a raffle with cash prizes and tickets will be on sale very soon.

If you'd like to take part in 'It's a Knockout', are willing to help out on the day or would like to run a stall, please contact **Diane Cooksley** on **01536 771545**.

Sun 2 July, 1pm

Dog Show Rockingham Village Hall

Bring your pooch for a fun day out with many pedigree class and novelty prizes on offer.

Entries (£1.50 each) from 1pm, with judging commencing at 2pm.

For more information, contact **Mike Reilly** on **770717**.

Sun 19 Nov, all day

Wicksteed Park Party

The WRVS is organising a coach trip to a party at Wicksteed Park leaving on the morning of Sunday 19 November, which includes Wurlitzer organ entertainment, lunch and afternoon tea.

Tickets are £20 and there are 50 places available.

If you'd like to join in, call **Judy Evans** on **770799** to book a ticket with a £5 deposit.

**The latest What's On information
can be found on the village
websites and in the 'Down Your
Way' column in Saturday's
Evening Telegraph**

Useful Contacts

Northants Police: **08453 700700**

Neighbourhood Watch
Luisa Jepson, **444697**
luisa.jepson@northants.police.uk

Corby BC Noise Officer
Paul Craddock, **400088**

Street Doctor (Northants CC)
0845 601 1113

Cllr Robert Rutt
Corby Borough Council
07801 945948

Cllr Stan Heggs
Northants County Council
01536 202918

Northants ACRE
Carolyn Turner, **01604 825889**
Carolyn.turner@northantsacre.org.uk

Down Your Way correspondent
for Evening Telegraph
Pete Bowman, **770821**
pete@cottinghamnews.co.uk
3 Corby Road, LE16 8XH

Village Hall Annexe
Frances Innes, **770574**

Methodist Hall
Joan Jarman, **771193**

Clubs and Groups

Over 60s Club
Audrey Ashworth, **771084**

Minerva Group & Whist Drives
Pam Moore, **770022**

WRVS
Judy Evans, **770799**

Youth Club
Diane Cooksley, **771545**

Mums and Tots
Sandra Battersby, **770184**

Wesley Guild
Cyril Liqueurish, **771401**

Sunday Clubs - St Mary's
Ruth Colby, **770178**

Breast Cancer Support Network
Judy Evans, **770799**

Rockingham Forest Wheelers
Norman Needham, **771356**

Cottingham Youth Football Club
Albert Hussain, **772189**

East Carlton Cricket Club
Nick Sumpter, **771203**

Royal George Golf Society
Norman Golding, **771081**

Spread Eagle Pool Team
George Barker, **07904 954040**