

Note from the Chair of the Parish Council

A Parish Council has very little *real* power and often very small budgets. It can, however, provide a voice for a community. It matters that we have a voice for Princethorpe, to get our concerns heard in those places where real decision-making and power reside – the Borough and County Councils. Over the last few months our voice has been heard. In response to our challenge to RBC Local Plan and under questioning by the Inspector appointed by Government, County officials accepted that they had to undertake studies of the traffic flow across our central junction, model the impact a 5,000 new home development at Cawston would have on our junction and, if necessary, fund improvements to the junction through developers' contributions at planning stage. We have also developed conversations with and had visits from County highways officers that have resulted in a number of repair works finally being undertaken this year.

Princethorpe Parish Council risks losing its voice. The term of office of all five parish councillors expires in May 2019. None of the present councillors are standing for re-election. If we do not have sufficient candidates to pick up the conversations and speak for Princethorpe it is likely that either we will be absorbed into Stretton Parish Council or we would be taken under the control of Rugby Borough Council. On both scenarios, the Princethorpe voice is, at best, diluted, if not lost. We are a small village.

The challenge of keeping a viable parish council for such a small community is one we share with many other villages. If we lose our Parish Council, we lose our voice. As a community we need members willing to take up the challenge of keeping those conversations about our village going. If you are at all interested in serving as a parish councillor, contact the Chair of Council Michael Luntley (michael.luntley@gmail.com), the Clerk of Council Helen Stewart (princethorpeclerk@gmail.com) or any of the councillors – details in Pendulum and on the website www.princethorpevillage.co.uk



***On the 11th hour, of the 11th day of the 11th month
We shall remember them.***

You are invited to three linked events to mark this major anniversary....

Following research by Paul Waddoups (Princethorpe History Group), the Parish Council has commissioned a new memorial plaque to honour the fallen from WWI. The current plaque has two names; there are eleven more names to be honoured. In keeping with recent practice the Council will lay a wreath at the new plaque in **High Town at 11:00am on November 11th 2018**. You are most welcome to attend this simple ceremony.

The memorial in the graveyard located at the entrance to Princethorpe College is being restored and will be re-dedicated at approx 11:10am, after Mass concludes in the College Chapel. All are welcome to join the congregation for this, after which you are invited to proceed to the Sixth Form Centre.

The histories of the fallen eleven men on the village plaque will be commemorated at a short event kindly hosted by Princethorpe College from approximately 11:30am. This will sketch briefly the histories of the local men lost in that conflict and celebrate some of their stories in music, song and poetry, including new poetry from Princethorpe's own national award-winning poet, Olga Dermott-Bond. We are grateful to the College for hosting this and providing refreshments. The event will last approx. 30-45 minutes. There are some compelling and poignant stories concerning the sacrifices made by families in our village a century ago. We look forward to welcoming many of you there. Please notify the Parish Council clerk, Helen Stewart, if it is your intention to come to this event so that the College can arrange catering.

Thankyou!

A massive thank you to everyone who contributed to providing an opportunity for the village to get together at the fun day on September 9th and to those who came and supported us. The weather was much kinder to us this year and being able to hold the event somewhere with all the necessary facilities made everything far less stressful.

It was a great opportunity to meet newcomers to Princethorpe and we have received some lovely feedback.

We will be holding the fun day around the same time next year and, as always, welcome your suggestions and donations. westerns@hotmail.co.uk

Princethorpe Parish Council would like to invite its residents to come along to a more relaxed public meeting in December, where mince pies will be served after the meeting has been held.

**Thursday 13th December 2018 7.30pm in
St Cuthberts.**

Contact the Parish Council

Helen Stewart
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