

Woodton Parish Council

Spring 2023 Newsletter



Here is Woodton Parish Council's second Newsletter edition, which we hope you'll enjoy. Lots to report again! This edition is also going to all houses in Bedingham particularly as they will be involved with the Coronation Tea – read below for details:-



King Charles' Coronation Celebrations, Monday 8th May

Plans are afoot for a simple, informal and fun tea, coffee and cake afternoon on Monday, 8th May from 2.30pm – 5.00pm in Woodton Village Hall to celebrate King Charles' Coronation. Details are on the attached slip - please would you complete this if you wish to attend returning it no later than Monday 23rd April. All are VERY welcome, so do come along – a Coronation is a rare event, after all!



Woodton Village Hall

Comprising a large main hall complete with stage, a smaller meeting room, kitchen and toilet facilities this is a perfect space for parties, celebrations, community events, clubs, societies and business meetings – something for all ages. After many years of invaluable service, several members are retiring this year and the Village Hall is looking for enthusiastic people to join the committee. If you are keen to help raise funds, organise community events or feel you can help in any way, however small, please email woodtonvillagehallcharity@gmail.com. The committee meets 4-5 times a year and volunteers are needed to help run and maintain this great village amenity. For hall booking enquiries please call 07770 794053 and details of costs of hire are available on the Parish Council website.

Please don't hesitate to come forward and help!



Easter in Woodton Community Wood

Spring is upon us – and that means Easter. And, of course, the wood will be decorated by the children in their own creative way. There will also be clues scattered around the wood leading to eggs at the end of the Easter Trail, so look out for these as you walk around.



The Forest School

The new tarpaulin added in the autumn is proving a valuable addition and the children have been having a great time making use of the binoculars enabling them to spot lots of wonderful birds. The huge buzzard is a regular visitor!

Extra Land at Community Wood

Work is progressing on this piece of land following clearance and installation of raised beds ready for planting this Spring and Summer as part of the community planting scheme. Also a resident has kindly planted a beautiful tree in memory of a family member on the entrance to the Wood. Thank you for this.



Kings Head Pub

The current tenancy of the Kings Head expires this spring and we are uncertain as to what comes next. We would like to thank Tracey and Bob for all their time and commitment to the village over the last seven years – a very valuable asset to Woodton and many surrounding villages. None of us want this to disappear.....



Stepping Stones Nursery

Sadly the nursery that has been running in Woodton for 13 years, and 33 years in total, will be closing in July this year. As a privately run organisation it was no longer financially viable and they have not been able to find a suitable new premises, but huge thanks go to those involved for providing valuable early learning to so many local children in a caring and nurturing environment.

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Local Elections – 4th May 2023

From 4th May 2023 voters will need to show photo ID when voting at polling stations for Local, Police & Crime Commissioner and UK Parliamentary by-elections. In October 2023 this will also apply to General Elections. This does **NOT** apply to those who use the Postal Vote system. Passports, Driving Licence, Blue Badge and Bus Passes are all acceptable forms of ID. Those without a photo ID can apply for a free voter ID document, or Voter Authority Certificate. Full details under 'Elections' on the PC website.

Nursery Development, The Street

The 23 house development continues towards completion later this summer. The variety of size and design of properties looks appealing and we look forward to welcoming new residents and their families to the village.

Future Village Development

Following the agreed South Norfolk Village Cluster Plan of 2021, this has now been revised under Reg 19. There is now a proposed development of 50 houses to be built over the next few years on land behind Woodton Primary School and running along the back of the properties on The Street. The Parish Council are working hard behind the scenes to address the concerns and questions raised by residents and we will keep you informed of further developments.



Dog Bins

This is a plea to all dog owners to please pick up after your dogs. Certain areas of both villages are again being left very messy, so please use the many dog bins situation around the villages or take your poo bags home. Thank you



Bedingham Bird Boxes

The Parish Piece in Bedingham now has the 5 nest boxes, beautifully made by Clinks Care Farm, installed in discrete locations.

One of many small steps towards encouraging more biodiversity on our small area of Parish land.

A patient person could lean on the gate on School Road to see the resident Kingfishers flash past!

Parish Council Meetings

Just a reminder that these take place on several Tuesdays throughout the year at the Village Hall. The next two are on 16th May (Annual Parish & Annual Parish Council meeting at 7.00pm) and 27th June at the usual time of 7.30pm. These are open to all residents so please do come along to hear what is happening in the village and to meet the councillors.

All comments and suggestions for future Newsletters are always welcome so please give us your ideas – our details are on the Parish Council website

<https://woodtonpc.wixsite.com/woodtonpc>