

# pigeon.post@fulking.net

WINTER DECEMBER 2021–FEBRUARY 2022

Edited by Jen Green [jengreenuk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jengreenuk@yahoo.co.uk)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Meeting about Fulking Village Hall** Saturday Dec 4, 10am chaired by Mark Hind, to discuss the future of the hall. See article below.

**Fulking Outdoor Xmas Party** Saturday Dec 11, 5-7pm North Town Field. Or Sunday same time if poor weather on Saturday. This replaces Xmas party in the hall, cancelled due to Covid regs.

**Carol singing around Fulking** Monday Dec 20, meet outside Tricia's house Skylarks, Clappers Lane 6pm for mulled wine. If raining Tues 21.

**Midnight in Bethlehem** Carol Service, Dec 24 9.30pm St Andrew's, Edburton. For other Church services see Church newsletter and article below.

## REGULAR EVENTS

Events take place in Fulking Village Hall unless otherwise stated.

**Yoga - continuing online** Mondays 9.30-10.30. also 18.30-19.30. Both classes drop in, mixed ability. Contact Tricia Robinson 255

**Quotations** Mondays 10.45. Discussion group reflecting on quotes from the world's faiths. Contact Samantha Leader 07479 458323.

**Craft and chat** Second and fourth Thursday in the month, 2-4pm. Contact Tricia Robinson

**Toddlers / family coffee mornings** Wednesdays 10.00-11.30 during school terms. A friendly group for toddlers, older children and carers. Toys, activities, singing, refreshments. £1 donation. Tricia Robinson

**Table tennis** Twice a month on Fridays from 7.30 pm. Contact Jen Green [jengreenuk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jengreenuk@yahoo.co.uk) or tel 552

**Book Nook, Fulking Chapel.** 2nd Sunday in the month 11-4pm, or by arrangement with **jane warne** <[lkhenfield@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lkhenfield@yahoo.co.uk)>

## Fulking Parish Council News by Mark Hind, Chair of Fulking PC

We have moved forward with some initiatives recently: new RAM Pump sign installed by the Shepherd and Dog; replacement Finger Post sign at the top of Clappers Lane; replacement of some equipment in the North Town Field playground and water pipe repairs on Clappers Lane. West Sussex County Council (WSCC) have also recently approved our request for a grant for

water runoff improvements on Edburton Road and Clappers Lane. Unfortunately, we are still waiting for UK Power Networks to connect the new Lamppost installed on Clappers Lane!

## New 30 mph speed limit in Clappers Lane

A number of people living in the village have raised concerns about the danger caused by the excessive speed of some vehicles travelling along Clappers Lane. We are going to apply to WSCC to reduce the speed limit in the Lane, which is currently 60mph to the minimum possible, 30 mph. We need your support for the application so we can show evidence that this change has the backing of local residents. If you haven't submitted a response yet, please email [parishclerk@fulking.net](mailto:parishclerk@fulking.net) to confirm your support. Include the full names of the people in your household who support this change and your address. We will be discussing this request and your feedback at the next Parish Council meeting on January 13 2022 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Please do attend this important meeting with our County and District Councillors who will be present to hear and represent your views.

## Please help save our Village Hall

You are all invited to attend a meeting being held in the hall at **10am Saturday December 4** to discuss the future of this important community asset. As you may be aware, the hall is owned by the Church but is currently managed under an informal arrangement by the Village Hall Action Group (VHAG). The Parish Council is keen to formalise an arrangement with the Church to secure the hall for use by the community.

Earlier this year the Church was considering the future of the hall and following close dialogue between the Church, the Parish Council and representatives of VHAG, all parties are keen that we protect this asset for use by the community and secure it for future generations. At the meeting we will share and discuss more details of our plan which is to create a Fulking Village Hall Trust to purchase the land and hall from the Church.

## Bobson No 87 December 2021 Changing Times of Fulking & Edburton Volume 2 2007 to 2015 by Tony Brooks

Tony's son Trevor has 25 copies of this remarkable history to be sold for a donation to the Alzheimers Society. I do highly recommend this to villagers for a donation of £5 cash. Contact me on 271 or email me if you would like

a copy. If you know someone who has Vol 1 this would make a very nice stocking filler!

### **National Governance**

Believe me this is an apolitical opinion. Over the course of my long life I have at various times supported and voted Conservative, Green, Labour, Liberal and Social Democrat. I just feel so aggrieved at the attitude and performance of the current Government that I had to express my thoughts. I have seen countries governed by political clowns such as Mussolini, Berlusconi, Trump and Bolsonaro, and it saddens me to see my own country falling into the same political cesspit. The awarding of peerages for personal favours and to chums has reached a ludicrous level and greatly diminished the standing of the House of Lords, not that it was ever very high! I do hope that the electorate will take on board the criticisms by John Major about the appalling Owen Paterson scandal. As villagers we take part in the first rung of the ladder of democracy in appointing Parish Councillors, District and County Councillors and lastly Members of Parliament to represent us at the highest level. I do beg you, when the appropriate time comes, to cast your vote thoughtfully and with consideration for the immediate past. It is correct that Governments and Councils should be held to account for their performance while in office.

### **Green Energy for Villages** by Samantha Leader and Chris Gildersleeve

Inspired by the climate change conference, several Poynings and Fulking villagers recently went to see a film about green energy made by Brighton and Hove Energy Services Company. This is a not for profit company whose purpose is to help communities to move away from oil and LPG gas to renewables. As most of us are either dependent on oil or LPG, we felt it was very relevant to our villages. Kayla, one of the BHESCO team, came to give the Quotations Group information about possibilities for producing heat and light using renewable energy. We walked round the village and up the hill for a preliminary look at types of housing etc.

The three initial possibilities she suggested were solar panels, wind power and ground source heat pumps. Kayla has offered to put in a bid for a grant for a feasibility study to investigate what might be suitable for part or all of our village, with no commitment or cost to us at this stage. This would help us to understand the technical and other issues involved in any proposals. We feel this is an exciting possibility to create a community energy project which is good for the planet, and could save money given the rising price of oil and gas. If you are interested in finding out more or offering your knowledge, we would love to hear from you. Contact [samantha\\_habitat@yahoo.com](mailto:samantha_habitat@yahoo.com) or Chris on [gilder6646@aol.com](mailto:gilder6646@aol.com).

### **Fulking's first Outdoor Xmas Party** by

Sallyanne Brownie

Fulking Social Committee invites Fulking residents to join the Xmas festivities with family and friends on Saturday December 11, 5-7pm in the North Town Field, Fulking. Come share a glass of mulled wine and mince pie plus a lot of Christmas cheer. If you wish, bring a torch, chair, paper cup, drinks and nibbles. In the event of rain the event will be held the following evening (Dec 12 5-7pm). A message will be sent out via the Community Skill Swap WhatsApp group.

### **Funeral of Tony Brooks** (1932-2021)

Doris Brooks wishes to thank all who were kind enough to attend Tony's funeral or send cards.

### **Fulking Social Committee Chair** by Jen Green

At the end of 2021 Bob Rowland will retire as Chair of Fulking Social Committee, a position he has held since 2015. He was Soc Com Treasurer before that since the Committee's inception, 1996-2014. Sallyanne Brownie has very kindly agreed to take his place. I'm sure Sally will do a fantastic job, but Bob will be a very hard act to follow. His leadership and unflagging enthusiasm particularly for our summer fair has been vital to village life for many years.

### **Environment matters** by Pam Rowland

After COP26 it seems even more important that we all do our bit to help save the planet. Whilst in the whole scheme of things our little bit won't make much difference, add them all together, and who knows! Turn off lights, put PV panels on your roof, eat less meat and buy local. Grow food plants for bees, butterflies and birds. Let a patch of grass grow longer for insects, plant a tree, or completely rewild your garden. Download "The Wild Gardener" on BBC2 for some useful advice. I do hope most, if not all, of you have supported the proposal for a speed limit on Clappers Lane. As it stands 60 miles an hour is legal and some drivers seem to think it's a must! So dangerous.

### **Church news** by Jane Warne

Following a very successful Harvest Festival at St Andrew's and popularity of the bacon butties, we will be serving them after all our monthly services. These take place on the first Sunday in the month at 10am. All are welcome to join us after the service at approximately 11am, or join us on Zoom, <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84660338130?pwd=Y2c0eVktT1Q1dU81dStEbmY4SHZRZz09> For more details see accompanying Church newsletter or contact 07812-465-669 or [standrewsedburton@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:standrewsedburton@yahoo.co.uk).

**And finally:** The next edition of *Pigeon Post* is due out on March 1. All contributions welcome, by email please to [jengreenuk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jengreenuk@yahoo.co.uk) – deadline is one week before.