

## **Your Parish Council**

Have you ever wondered what your Parish Council does ? The Parish Council has many functions, but broadly speaking is responsible for the provision and maintenance of the children's play areas and fitness equipment on the Water Meadows, the installation of play equipment on the Village Playing Field, the maintenance of the roadside verges and hedges in some parts of the parish, the production and distribution of the village newsletter, the creation and maintenance of the village website, the maintenance of the church clock and the upkeep of bus shelters in the parish.

The Parish Council also undertakes projects throughout the course of the year. This year, for instance, the Council installed six items of Outdoor Fitness Equipment on the Water Meadows, an innovative scheme that made Scarning the first village in Norfolk to have such equipment. It also made a substantial contribution toward the rebuilding of the pavilion on the Village Playing Field, erected a new Youth Shelter on the Water Meadows play area and paid for the reprint of a history of the village, all copies of which were sold within a matter of months.

The Parish Council consists of nine unpaid members who all live in Scarning and represent the village on various matters. All meetings are open to the public and all villagers are warmly invited to attend. Meetings are held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on alternate months starting in January, with an additional meeting in April at which the Chairman delivers his annual report alongside reports from representatives of various village bodies.

Agendas for the meetings can be found on the parish notice boards, on the village website ([www.scarning.info](http://www.scarning.info)) or by contacting the parish clerk on 687492.

At each meeting there is a Public Participation Period at which any member of the public can air their concerns about any issue affecting the parish. Alternatively, for those who cannot attend the meetings letters can be addressed to the parish clerk at Oakleigh House, Shipdham Lane, Scarning, NR19 2LB.

If you are interested in the village why not come along to one of our meetings. The next meeting will be on January 18 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

The Parish Council has kept its precept ( the money available to it ) at £30,000 for the forthcoming financial year and will be seeking to use those funds to serve the village in the best way possible. Let us know how you think we are doing and where you think we can improve. Remember, the Parish Council is run on your behalf and your suggestions will be greatly appreciated. If you would like to comment, please write to the parish clerk at the above address.

## **It's your Village Hall**

Scarning Village Hall is a thriving and well used building. It hosts Tai Chi classes, yoga classes, meetings of the Women's Institute and the Parish Council, pre school music and movement classes and two Art Groups.

The hall is also used as a venue for children's birthday parties, christening parties, wedding receptions and other private functions.

The hall is equipped with the most modern facilities throughout and includes a fully modernised kitchen, At the back of the hall is an enclosed garden that is large enough to hold a bouncy castle or marquee.

The cost to hire the hall is £5 per hour on weekdays up to 7pm and £7.50 an hour after 7pm. On weekends and Bank Holidays the cost is £1.50 up to 1pm and £10 an hour thereafter.

If you would like more information - or to make a booking - please call 687492.

### **The Hockney Connection**

Did you know that artist David Hockney can trace his roots to Seaming ? The artist's grandfather, Charles Thompson, was born in the village in around 1862 and was the son of an agricultural labourer, Robert, who lived in Podmore. Hockney's mother, Laura, was Charles Thompson's daughter. At the end of the Victorian era Charles Thompson moved to Leeds and then Bradford where his daughter was born on December 10, 1900. A new biography of David Hockney is to be published in January 2012 to coincide with a major exhibition of the artist's work at the Royal Academy.

### **Women's Institute**

Meetings of the Women's Institute are held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. New members are always welcome. The programme of talks for this year is as follows:-

February 24. St Withburga Handbells

March 31. Tea ( with tasting session)

April 28. Crystals for Health & Well Being

May 26. To be arranged

June 30. A Garden Meeting

July 28. Hats on Head from making to wearing

August 25. Food from the Wild

September 29. Being a midwife in Calcutta

October 27. Tales of Mystery and Tales of Long Ago

November 24. Annual Meeting

December 8. Christmas Party

For more information, please contact Rosemary Hutson on 687538.

### **Recycle**

In order to keep as much as possible out of landfill, have you thought about taking your unwanted items to a charity shop, a local jumble sale, a furniture reuse centre or to individuals? Alternatively, you can quickly find a home for almost anything (and have it collected) by offering it online using Freegle [www.norfolk-freegle.org.uk](http://www.norfolk-freegle.org.uk) (norfolk's locally run version of Freecycle).

If you have an article relating to the parish of Seaming or would like to advertise an event relating to the parish in this newsletter, please send to Nick Hartley at Oakleigh House, Shipdham Lane, Seaming, NR19 2LB.