

GAYTON NEWS – AUTUMN 2022



Gayton & Tiffield Community Minibus

This update is written as our nation tries to come to terms with the loss of our amazing Monarch, Queen Elizabeth II. There can be no better example in our lifetime of such selfless dedication to Public Service than the one she has provided us with, and I believe it has been an absolute privilege for us all to have experienced this.

With the sad loss of our Queen and the earlier village celebrations to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, it has certainly been a remarkable year which will live long in our memories.

Following the highly successful Gayton Open Gardens festival held on Sunday 12 June where we provided our minibus shuttle service, we also enjoyed providing our Minibus Shuttle service for the equally successful Tiffield Open Gardens event held on August Bank Holiday Monday. Despite it being held later than usual on a Bank Holiday, it was extremely well attended, and our minibus shuttle allowed visitors, including the elderly and those with small children, to visit the more remote gardens located just outside the village areas.

Hopefully we will soon be able to plan to commence a regular Tuesday and Friday service to an extended local area to enable us to provide an increase in our passenger numbers which will provide increased future income. Sadly, our plans have again been impacted by further WNC staff shortages, but we are fortunate to have built our financial reserves to a very good level by virtue of guaranteed revenue from WNC at pre-Covid levels, which continues until March 2023.

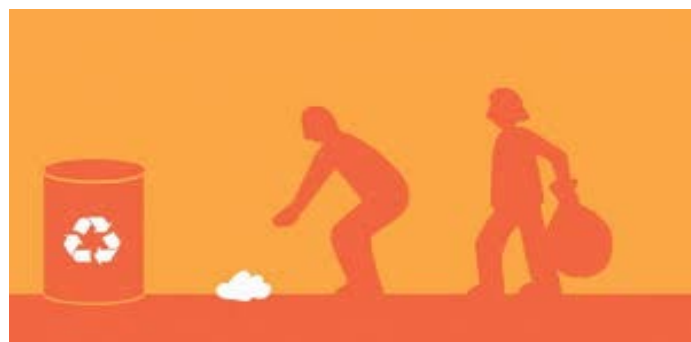
We will be arranging and publicising a date in October for our AGM to be held at Gayton Village Hall to approve our accounts and to elect a new team of Officers and Trustees to re-invigorate and extend our current passenger base to ensure we can continue to meet the needs of our local and nearby village communities.

Cate Gardner has continued to provide a superb service as our Treasurer. Steve Jowers from Tiffield and David Coppock, Jens and Manja from Gayton have as ever provided excellent support in sustaining our services through recent very challenging times and of course our thanks to all our volunteer drivers for their unstinting support and assistance in providing our much-valued Community Minibus Service.

Rae Spencer - Chairman - rae.spencer@btopenworld.com
01327-353352 – 07784 561268

Litter Pick The autumn litter pick will take place over the week of Saturday 15 to Sunday 23 October.

If you can support our litter pick please contact me. I can provide litter pickers, hiz viz tabards and black sacks. Your own gloves are needed. Please do support the litter pick and help keep our village clean. Thank you.



karencooper@mortimers.uk.com. Tel/text 07753 638180

Gayton Walkers

We continue to meet on the 2nd Sunday of the month although the numbers are depleted. I sometimes wonder if it is worth continuing as interest seems to be waning. Please let me know if you would like to be added to the mailing list. My e-mail address is at the end of this article.

Colin Simmonds organised the July walk to Rothersthorpe and was surprised to see a wonderful display of water lilies in the fishing ponds close to the village.

The August walk was to the Tiffield Country Park (the old rail cutting) as I had to find somewhere with some shade. It was during the heatwave so we started at 9a.m. and finished before The Eykyn was open, so came to my home for coffee and cheese scones. Maybe that might tempt you to join us!

In September we walked from The Kings Arms, Farthingstone to Mantles Heath and back across Farthingstone golf course on the Knightley Way. The golf course will be closing in December and, I understand that it has been bought by Soho House to convert it into a very expensive Country Club type venue with lodges etc but no golf.

Please join us on 9th October at 10a.m. I usually try to find an interesting walk that ends at a “watering hole”.

Chain Gang

I still have a few faithful workers who have been persuaded to help clear footpaths, pavements, stiles etc as well as repair the latter. If you find any of these that need attention, please let me know. If you would like to join The Gang, please also let me know.

Robin Kelso robin.kelso@btinternet.com

Gayton Village Hall Management Committee

Chairman’s Report 2022. The village hall use has now returned to that of pre-covid times, except we have a new person in charge of day to day running – details are on the village website <http://www.gayton-northants.co.uk/services/villagehall.html> .

Many thanks to all who completed the 2021 ‘Village Hall Questionnaire’. The management committee want to manage the hall wisely and we engaged a property surveyor who provide a report detailing what works need completing to keep the village hall in a sound state. The questionnaire responses revealed a majority believed our village hall was still suitable and just required modest modernisation. The property survey agreed with the questionnaire results – no major structural issues were detected and a list of recommended ‘repairs’ was compiled. The next stage is to replace windows and doors.

Table Tennis, Yoga, Pilates and Show Dog training classes have been running on a regular basis out of the village hall. We are expecting a steady increase in use with more children’s parties and fund-raising activities.

David Ayre

The re-launch of Gayton Church Heritage Trust Events

Gayton Church Heritage Trust (GCHT) was set up in 2005 as a registered charity to maintain and improve the fabric of the church and ensure it remains in use by the community. All monies raised by the Trust are solely for the upkeep of a building of historical significance, a community venue and a place of worship.

Alongside the Parochial Church Council (PCC), the Trust has raised funds from grants, donations from the community and events to fulfil this aim. The improvements to date include; making repairs to the roof, upgrading the internal lighting, installing a roof alarm, resurrecting the weather vane, and building the toilet and servery.

The support of GCHT in maintaining the fabric of the building has meant that the PCC has been able to use their income from collections at services, regular monthly giving, donations, and fees from weddings, funerals and fundraising to pay for day to day running costs such as insurance, heating, lighting, water and for their Parish Share which pays for a vicar.

Working with the PCC, the Trust wants to raise monies to further enhance the church facilities as intended in the village plan. These include New heating, Reordering of the North Aisle to create a space for events, General maintenance, Storage cupboards and Seating.

The Heating project and re-ordering of the North Aisle is estimated to be about £60,000. GCHT has already has some money from bequests and fund raising. The Trust will be able to apply for grants. However we also need support from the community. Funding bodies are very keen to know that the community is supporting the project before they will award a grant.

We are now planning regular events in the Church following the disruption caused by the pandemic.

GCHT is organising a re-launch event in the Church on Friday 7th October 2022 at 7.30pm for Wine and cheese. All are welcome to attend. Please come along and support the work of GCHT Trust and be a Guardian of Gayton Church.

Joy Ayre

Gayton Alms Charities

Gayton Alms Charities have been established for over 100 years. Today they are called the 'Gayton Relief in Need Charity' and the 'Gayton Educational Foundation'.

Gayton Relief in Need Charity. This charity exists to provide assistance to any person living in the Parish of Gayton* who for whatever reason find themselves in need, hardship or distress. Usually this assistance is financial, with money paid directly to the successful applicant. Examples of where this charity might be able to help are with the purchase of food, clothing, heating costs, and grants to assist with funeral expenses.

Gayton Educational Foundation. This charity exists to provide assistance to people living in the Parish of Gayton* who for whatever reason find themselves in need of financial help with their education.

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Money may be paid directly to the successful applicant but the trustees are able to grant money to organisations in the Parish of Gayton whose purpose is to educate or improve the lives of people through leisure-time activities.

Examples of where this charity might be able to help are in the provision of books, equipment, computer software, IT hardware, musical instruments, travelling expenses, music or dance tuition, residential educational experiences, university fees or anything else not normally provided or funded by an educational institution such as a school, college or university.

The charities receive their modest income from land rents and returns on investments. Trustees meet twice a year to review income and expenditure, and to consider application for assistance under the terms of the scheme for administering the charities.

Any villager who feels they might be eligible for help under the terms of either of the Gayton Alms Charities should contact the Chair of Trustees who will provide the appropriate application form. The Chair of Trustees is happy to offer general advice about an application and/or assist with the completion of an application form.

*In exceptional cases the Trustees may give assistance to people living outside the Parish of Gayton. These people must be able to satisfy the trustees that they ought to be treated as if they lived in the Parish. David Coppock, Chair of Trustees (01604 859645)

Gayton Evergreen Club

The members have been meeting regularly throughout the summer at the Eykyn Arms for a coffee and a chat.

The dates of the Coffee and Chat Mornings for the rest of 2022 will be:

Wednesday 12th October

Wednesday 9th November

Wednesday 14th December

All starting at 10.00am

These meetings are open to anyone who would like to join us. Currently there is no subscription, just 'pay as you go'.

Plans are being made to have an additional meeting before Christmas in the Village Hall. It is hoped to see the club 'back on its feet' with a programme of meetings with speakers, lunches and outings in the not too distant future.

Thank you to those who have already offered support to help at meetings, it is much appreciated. Other volunteers are always welcome.

Carol Coppock 01604 859645 carol.coppock14@gmail.com

Manja Ronne 01604 859243 ManjaRonne@btinternet.com



Gayton Village Hall

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 6th October 2022 – 8:00pm (Village Hall)

[Date and time to be confirmed]

AGM Agenda – 64th Annual General Meeting, Gayton Village Hall Management Committee

1. Minutes of 63rd A.G.M
2. Chairman's Report
3. Treasurer's Report
4. To adopt the Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2022
5. To note the appointment of representatives of the undermentioned organisations to serve on the management committee:
 - Gayton Evergreens
 - Gayton Parish Council
 - Gayton Parochial Church Council
 - Gayton School and 'Friends of the School'
 - Gayton Table Tennis Clubs
6. To note the appointment of Village Representatives to serve on the management committee
7. To elect a chair and vice-chair
8. General discussion – any business directly connected with the village hall that attendees wish to raise

Please have your say in the management of YOUR Village Hall!

For the next edition of the Gayton News please send me your articles, photos, updates, information etc by Friday 2 December 2022

*The next edition of the Gayton News will be distributed between the 9 – 12 December
karencooper@mortimers.uk.com Tel/text 07753 638180*



Weekly Classes at Gayton Village Hall

Wednesday 9.30am Hatha Yoga

Friday 9.30am Pilates

Classes are small & friendly, and suitable for all levels including beginners.

Please get in touch for further details and to book your place.

Tina 07749 362770

Facebook page Yoga & Pilates with Tina

Website www.yogawithtina.co.uk





The growing season is in full swing and harvesting the crops is one of most enjoyable tasks in the allotment calendar. This is the time of year I spend hours in the kitchen, cooking, bottling, making ice cream (and sampling it of course.)

Most crops did well, especially strawberries, then came the endless dry and sometimes very hot days and it was a challenge to keep everything from shrivelling up to a crisp.

It certainly became harder to sow or weed as the ground turned to either rock or dust and to cap it all the badgers, desperate for something sweet and juicy, got in and destroyed almost all the sweetcorn on the site. (But we allotmenters are a tough breed and we'll build a better cage next time!)

The Annual BBQ was held at the beginning of August. The food was fabulous and we all had a good time. Many thanks to Pete Baxter for organising and BBQing!

This summer we went for a group visit to Kelmarsh Gardens which was very informative, lots of ideas for new planting schemes and shrubs, nicely finished off with lunch at a pub on route home.

As I write this we've had some very heavy rain, thunder and lightning, which has already helped the soil to become more workable. You may notice next time you go past that the hedge on the roadside has been well and truly trimmed back. Thank you to Colin Ellis, our local tree surgeon and supplier of woodchips!

At the moment we do have one or two vacancies so if you're interested in having an allotment then please contact Carl Hamilton carlhamiltonat5@gmail.com to arrange a visit.



If you wish to join as a Gardener it costs just £5 for family membership and for that you can access the site, swop shop, and help yourself to wood chips. Garden visit and BBQ as well!
Hilary Glanville (Secretary)

GAYTON EVERGREEN CLUB Coffee Morning



We meet at the Eykyn Arms on the
second Wednesday in the month at
10.00am

More information from Manja 859235 or
Carol 859645

Solar Farm

In the year since Gayton Parish Council carried out a consultation regarding the proposed solar farm near the village, circumstances regarding energy prices and supply security have changed dramatically.

1. Supply problems, particularly for gas, have been caused by the Russian attack on Ukraine. Gas is still by far the dominating source of energy for UK electricity generation, and for domestic heating.
2. Domestic energy prices have more than doubled, even after the government intervention.
3. Higher energy prices in general have had a knock-on effect on the prices of almost all other products, leading to high inflation rates. This makes the quest for additional electricity generation capacity, not based on gas, even more urgent.
4. There was a near collapse of the electricity distribution network during the heatwave in July caused by increased demand and insufficient generation. According to a newspaper report (the "i" 26/7/2022, page 42) the wholesale spot price for electricity was higher than normal by a factor of 50 for a period.
5. If heatwaves become more frequent, substantial amounts of electricity will be required for cooling. Solar generation is perfectly correlated with the demand for cooling.
6. There is increased encouragement from our elected politicians to switch from petrol and diesel to electric cars, and from gas and oil burners to heat pumps, and this will lead to a further increase in the demand for electricity.
7. New nuclear power stations are under construction and planning, but they will take years to complete and will only replace the old ones which are already past their original design life.

Our current energy crisis cannot be solved by solar panels alone, but they can make a very significant contribution within a relatively short time. Blocking large scale deployment of solar panels will prolong the crisis unnecessarily.

I submitted a comment of support for the plan to WNC, but this was not listed in the committee report and appears not to have been taken into account, and in addition, the stated number of objections does not agree with the case file. On this basis I have submitted a formal complaint to WNC.

The planning officer at WNC recommended the planning application for the solar farm be refused by the Strategic Planning Committee at its meeting on 12th September. This decision has now been deferred.

Jens Buus
6 Baker Street

PS Several villagers have thanked me for daring to speak out in favour of the proposed solar farm, and I am very grateful for this encouragement.