

PRIMARY POWER!



When newly adopted bunny, Lucky, seemed unwell, and on inspection had rotting teeth, Anita Gee's prognosis was that he had a tumour and would have to be put down.

The local veterinary surgeon was contacted and a date for the following Monday was arranged to have poor Lucky put to sleep.

Since taking in the unfortunate Lucky, named Lucky because he'd been found safe and sound wandering the streets, Anita's five-year-old son Luke and next door neighbours Maddie Mowbray (10) and sister Scarlet Lewis (4) had grown really fond of their rabbit.

On hearing the news of his impending execution (apologies for the dramatic description) the children were so distraught that Maddie wrote an RIP letter saying how much they loved Lucky and Luke finished it with a drawing of Lucky which they fixed to his hutch.

Maddie was "devastated" (her words) and her mother Jody was worried for her because she was so upset when she went to school on the Monday.

Anita was moved by the note but took Lucky to the vets in any case. It was the humane thing to do. But Lucky was lucky after all. He didn't have a tumour and the troubled teeth were treatable. Okay, so the treatment was more than double the cost of putting him to sleep but Jody agreed to share the vet's bill and Lucky is back home and glad of the hugs from his new friends. A feel-good story to lead with this month!

Left to right: Luke Gee, Maddie Mowbray and Scarlet Lewis.

THANKS FOR SPONSORSHIP

Barbara Rayner would like to thank everyone who sponsored her granddaughter, Rhonda McCartney, with her tandem parachute jump for the Boston and South Holland MS Society in memory of her mum, Janet McCartney (nee Limb). She raised an amazing £1,300!

... BUT NOT EVERYTHING COMES UP SMELLING OF ROSES



Onion waste being spread over fields on the outskirts of Fosdyke

EDITOR'S COMMENT

I'm guessing there's going to be more than a few of you interested in the outcome of the Parish Council meeting I was invited to attend ... a newsworthy item as it's a reflection on *Fosdyke Newsletter* itself. So I'm going to give you a little report from my own perspective. There's an unbiased view from Nicky Furnell on Page 4. You'll be able to read the council's version too ... in three month's time!

You may be surprised that I even accepted the invitation. After all, the Parish Council has no more of a say in what the Newsletter publishes than anyone else. But they'd felt, according to the Clerk's letter of invite, "particularly insulted by comments in Rachel's Rant" in the June and July issues of the Newsletter, but of more concern to them, was our comment "regarding apathy". This latter remark gave me cause to accept the invite yet it wasn't discussed in any detail during the meeting.

Ironically, the report that I was to attend the meeting, caused an influx of comments that showed that the Newsletter is highly regarded and that the silent majority

are more than happy with what the Newsletter brings them each month. So, the council's and my own concerns, for that matter, about apathy in the village were unfounded, at least by the time of the meeting.

The Clerk's letter had gone on to say, "The continuing success, relevance and viability of a Newsletter for the village is something the Council wishes to continue to help and support." I was pleased to hear that but it didn't particularly feel that way at the meeting.

I was pleasantly surprised when Martyn Hayes and Nicky Furnell attended the meeting, as it transpired, to give the Newsletter their support.

The council felt the Newsletter had become like the national tabloids (failing to recognise that the three most popular newspapers in the UK are all tabloids) and had become political. Now, to me, anything that causes discussion and debate and demands an opinion is political and without opinion what is a Newsletter other than a dumbwaiter going up and down empty? In other words pointless. Everyone has a right to reply but the Clerk's letter says, "A response [to Rachel's Rant] was considered but we felt that this would lead to a 'tit for tat' battle which would lead nowhere."

I can understand a committee (in this case the Parish Council) having difficulty in coming up with a response that they all agree upon but it just seems to me that they

have a hidden agenda to have an overriding say in what gets published in the Newsletter. If that is the case then it's no different from me, or anyone else having the final veto on what's published ... just that it's someone else's viewpoint and therefore going to upset a different section of Fosdyke. I will fight against censorship of any kind, but let me know if you'd prefer a puppet to edit the Newsletter. Anyone can volunteer.

FOSDYKE PARISH COUNCIL

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THE NIGHT OF THE LONG WEASEL AND THE BIONIC CAT

This story is not so much an observation but an actual incident that happened recently. There will be a lot of families in the village who have cats and they will also be aware of the little presents that are brought in through the cat flaps for our approval and delight. On this occasion it was slightly different.

To set the scene, in our kitchen we have a cat flap set into the wall with the flap on the outside face giving a one-foot long tunnel on which the cats sit to view the surroundings when going out or coming in. There is a television to the right of the flap so that when the cats come in they can be seen. (They come and go so much now that we very rarely notice them.)

This particular evening I was watching the TV and my wife was attempting to cook a meal with only the cooker hood light on so that the rest of the room was poorly lit, when I became aware that something was in the tunnel. Straining my eyes, I realised that it was one of the cats with a Weasel in its mouth. Now whilst my reaction was to think, "Oh, that's different," and not do anything, the reaction of both my wife and the weasel was to give out a terrifying scream. At this point I suddenly realised that the tone and pitch of both screams was the same, the weasels scream can be assumed to be of fear but my wife's was one that had only been heard during our more intimate moments which has now lead me to reevaluate our relationship of nearly forty years.

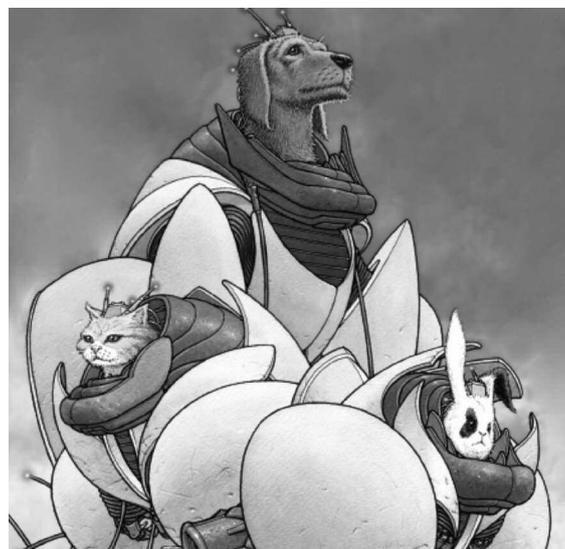
The reaction of the cat on hearing the screams was to drop the weasel. At this juncture it is worthwhile mentioning the cat's condition: It has no teeth! Some years

earlier she caught flu and lost her teeth. We ask not only how did she catch the weasel but how could she hold it long enough to get it into the house and what was she going to do with it when she got there. There is a long held suspicion that some vets are part of a secret military organisation that modifies the jaws of animals that have lost



their teeth then microchip them and at the appropriate moment activate them behind enemy lines in case of an invasion. (Fanciful, do you know what the chip in your cat can do?) {Editor: Reminds me of Vertigo's graphic novel We3 where a cat, a dog and a rabbit are turned into machines of mass destruction. Well worth getting hold of a copy!}

The next part is a warning to all. Most of us these days have fitted kitchens and some like ours will have the odd small hole in a base unit or plinth where a pipe or cable comes through. Our particular hole



was for a radiator pipe and the space that was left measured fifteen by twenty millimetres between the pipe and the wall. Under normal circumstances I would not have believed that a weasel could get through, but it did. Once again my view was, out of sight out of mind. There was no way that the animal could be reached. If I started to remove the plinths the thing would only run further into the house's nooks and crannies. Also, have any of you tried to catch a weasel? And how would you hold it if you caught it.

Unfortunately my wife once again had a different viewpoint to me. She stated, in no uncertain terms, that a choice had to be made between my dinner or the weasel. She did not care if all the base units had to be ripped out but she would not come back into the kitchen until that ... thing was out of her life. Her delightedness then disappeared into the toilet next to the kitchen.

After some period sitting there contemplating the situation with the said cat now sitting on my lap looking up at me with a stupid toothless grin on its face, a thought came to my mind that filled me with horror. I now realised that the weasel probably knew what I knew in that the pipes serving the kitchen came through the toilet from the utility. There would be a hole, there was a hole, and worse was that the only available escape for the weasel was the hole in the boxing at the back of the basin pedestal. The only thought on my mind now was the image of my wife sitting on the toilet seat waiting for me to take action and the weasel popping up to sit beside her. I sat there waiting, just staring at the cat with its stupid toothless grin.

Next month the cat the mat and the bat.

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

We've been asking for minutes of the Parish Council meetings for some time and following the recent meeting they agreed to send the signed-off minutes which aren't signed off until the following meeting two months later. So the minutes are going to be three months out of date when we publish them!

Alternatively we could report on the meetings (any volunteers?) - after all, from 6 August this year you are allowed to video all council meetings. A council needs to take legal proceedings to stop you. They can ask you to leave only in certain exceptional circumstance. Anyway, here's the most recent signed-off minutes from July:-

Minutes of a Meeting of Fosdyke Parish Council held on

Tuesday July 1st 2014 at 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall, Committee Room.

Present: Cllr's Cropley, Pitt & Ulyatt; Cllr. Mrs. Yates; Mrs. Depear (Clerk).

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Glenn and Brookes.

The Minutes of the previous meeting (May 6th 2014) were read, agreed and signed as being a true record.

There were no **Matters Arising**.

Matters for the Police:

The Police were not in attendance, and the Clerk has not received a report, but it has been brought to the attention of the meeting that 'youngsters' are riding around the village on scooters.

Correspondence

There were eleven items of

correspondence (which the Clerk has asked us not to publish any details of).

Any Other Business

Cllr's Ulyatt, Cropley & Mrs. Yates have all received complaints about the village Newsletter regarding its negativity to life in Fosdyke.

After debating it was decided to write to Mr. Martin and ask him to attend the next meeting on September 2nd.

There being no further business the meeting closed at approximately 8 pm. The next meeting will be on Tuesday September 2nd 2014.

[Editor's note: I would compare the complaints councillors received about the Newsletter to the complaints the Newsletter received about the Parish Council council. Nuff said.]

FOSDYKE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MY PERSONAL TAKE ON IT by Nicky Furnell

I saw in the last *Fosdyke Newsletter* that the editor, Terry, had been invited to appear before our Parish Council, so I contacted him to ask the reason why. He told me that some complaints had been made to the Parish Council about the Newsletter and he was being called along to address these, as well as being given a chance to put his views across. Having attended a Parish Council meeting a few years ago (about a matter that I happened to be interested in), I decided that I'd go along to give some support to Terry - from my previous experience I felt that he might be in need of it!

I arrived at the meeting about five or six minutes late as I had

been held up by tractors (no gripes about them) and two sets of roadworks (don't get me started!) after dashing away from having a meal with some friends who live just outside Holbeach. I entered the Village Hall via the car park door, thus interrupting the people who were training their dogs - they were all people that I know - and waved aside my apologies for disturbing them.

FROSTY ATMOSPHERE

I then rushed into the meeting room, via the kitchen, and made my apologies to the (rather stoney faced) PC committee members. I have to say that I felt like a naughty schoolgirl who'd been summoned by the headteacher for breaking the rules - the atmosphere was distinctly frosty!

I gave my name to Wendy, the Clerk, and one of the gentlemen very kindly fetched me a chair, so I sat down, trying to blend into the background - no such luck! Martin, the Chairman, asked me what was my reason for being at the meeting, which surprised me somewhat as I thought it was open for anyone to attend, whenever they wanted.

I explained my interest and once

more tried to pretend that I was part of the furniture. Martin explained to the few people present that the reason they had asked (I felt that it was more like "summoned" at that point!) Terry to attend the meeting was because they had received complaints from a few villagers about some of the articles in the Newsletter and said that the Committee felt aggrieved that they hadn't been asked for their views on any contentious items before they were published. They were also unhappy that the authors of some letters preferred to remain anonymous - Terry said that it's their prerogative if they don't wish to give their names.

Terry responded by saying that he had, on more than one occasion, asked for copies of the minutes of the PC meetings, but that he had never received them. Wendy said that the PC only met every two months and the minutes had to be approved at the next meeting before they could be released for public perusal.

She agreed to let Terry have future copies for insertion in the Newsletter but didn't really see the need as they were always put on the notice board outside the village

hall after approval for anyone to look at.

NOT HAPPY

I felt that I really had to comment that I wouldn't know what was happening locally without the Newsletter as I live just outside the village, and don't often pass through in the daylight. Before I could finish, Wendy had "jumped down my throat" and virtually said that it didn't matter what I was saying as there were some villagers who were NOT happy with the Newsletter. (Please note, this may have happened at a different point in the meeting - it's been a while, I didn't take minutes, my memory may not be what it was, BUT it did happen!) I consequently resumed my efforts to sink into my chair, determined that I wasn't going to get involved in any arguments.

Eventually, after discussion, it was agreed that Wendy would let Terry have the minutes for the Newsletter as soon as they'd been approved. One of the local Councillors (sorry, I've forgotten his name) said that he would keep Terry informed of any Council decisions that may affect our community whenever he heard of them. It was also agreed that Terry could attend meetings and take his own minutes for publication, if he so desired.

A few comments were made about what the PC had achieved for the benefit of the villagers - the Christmas "Dole", Christmas tree lights, village notice board, etc: when it was remarked upon that some of us hadn't known this. Martin stated that the PC didn't boast about the good deeds that they'd done. (Perhaps they should. The people in the village may appreciate them more if they knew about their good works. If they were to let Terry know the details, he could broadcast it to the villagers via the Newsletter!)

I learned that there was a board, detailing quite a bit of local history, by the bridge. The Councillor gentleman said that it was, unfortunately, in rather a sorry state

of repair, so the PC decided to take steps to renew/rejuvenate it. Another gentleman on the committee regaled us with several anecdotes of village life as it used to be - VERY informative, thank you most sincerely.

Martyn (with a "Y", not the Chairman) said that he'd been brought up in Fosdyke and lived opposite the Village Hall and hadn't known any of the history or any of the workings of the PC, and that he would make more of an effort to keep up to date with things in future. He agreed to keep Terry informed about the leisure events happening in the community - he also commented that he found the Newsletter both helpful and informative.

PC OPEN TO IDEAS

Martin (with an "i") said that the PC were always open to ideas and would welcome any comments. I know that I shouldn't have said it, I tried not to (really I did) BUT I had to comment that I'd felt that the PC had presented a very hostile front and they were certainly not welcoming - after all, look at what had happened when I'd tried to make a point. I hadn't even been allowed to finish what I was trying to say! Wendy apologised for her actions. She said that the committee had felt rather defensive (almost as if the Newsletter was against them and was trying to show them in a bad light). I completely understood and thanked her for her apology. It was suggested that Terry and Dennis should meet up and discuss how the Newsletter could, perhaps, have more input from the PC in future. (It sounded to me as if the PC were trying to control what was published - I trust that I misunderstood!)

Please excuse me if I have offended anyone with my comments - my version of the meeting is far from perfect. I'm just recalling events from memory; next time, I'll take minutes! Yes, that's right, I hope to attend the PC meetings whenever I'm able to -

they're only held every other month and don't usually last long. I learnt a lot at the meeting and think it would be good if a few more folk attended and gave the Committee some support - it could make for better community spirit, who knows?!

The PC are there for our benefit. Let's get a bit more involved and volunteer assistance where needed, instead of leaving it up to the same few people to do it all! Details of PC meetings may be found in the Newsletter. By the way, if you are unhappy with any item why not write to your Editor, don't waste the PC's time with minor grievances - surely it's good to share your opinions with others? (Completely my own take on things!)

TOO POLITICAL

To finish (it's OK, feel free to say "About time"!), I felt that the meeting had gone some way to smoothing out the differences between the PC and Terry, and any mutterings about the Newsletter being "Political" had been laid to rest - a fairly good conclusion. Not so! As I made my exit (via the dog club), I paused to say "Sorry" to Wendy for making my comments about her behaviour in front of everyone instead of privately. We both agreed that it had been a difficult meeting, with both sides feeling under pressure and that neither of us harboured any bad feeling towards the other.

[Editor: I'm going to interrupt Nicky's report here and take out her original text while everyone is friends, although by the time she left the Village Hall her good feelings about the outcome of the meeting had been ruined by a snippet of conversation that she happened to overhear. Not exactly censorship. Just using my editor's prerogative.]

Hope to see a few of you at the meeting in November - I'll be the one pretending to blend into the wall, wearing a rather large zip on my mouth!!

FOSDYKE FC

VICTORS

Victory! 2-1 to the Tangerine Dream as they beat new side Sleaford Colts at home with a great first half performance. The second half was not so good though.

Fosdyke opened their season with some fine possession play and the slick passing they have become accustomed to had the visitors chasing shadows.

Finding a breakthrough was difficult however and the guests looked lively on the break, especially their target man striker who was causing problems in the air and on the ground. Fortunately it was Fosdyke who found the back of the net when quick feet all round lead to a cool finish from Dan Sam who rifled the ball in to the far corner.

Fosdyke's lead was doubled in fine style when Martyn Patterson got in front of his man to volley home a superb second from Adam Poole's pin-point cross.

The Sleaford side were not out of the game however and goal keeper Ian Jack Smith was on hand to send a free kick around the post in spectacular fashion. The first half continued in similar fashion and although Fosdyke lost Dancing

Dave Reid to injury, Marv Jolly was on hand to hold it all together prompting the Sleaford manager to comment: "He's about fifty-five and he's sat there pulling the strings making you lot look like idiots,"

The second half saw Fosdyke sit deep defending the lead and for some reason they were unable to control the game as they had in the first half and when Sleaford's striker notched with a cute header from a corner it looked like Fosdyke were in for a wobble. More pressure was to come and although Fosdyke felt a third goal was coming it never materialised.

Sensing a point, Colts pushed hard for an equaliser and although they struck the post in the final minutes, the men in orange held out for three points which saw them, as they were the only Division One teams to play in this opening week, go top of the league!

Man of the Match? A sterling performance on the left from Tom Scott in both an attacking and defending capacity saw him take the honours.

OH DEAR!

The Tangerine Dream descended in to a nightmare out at Heckington with a dismal 5-0 defeat against the Millers.

Right from the off their hosts bombarded them with long balls to their target man and tricky wingers and Fosdyke struggled to keep up all over the pitch. It wasn't long before they were trailing ... A ball broke on the edge of the box and the Heckington midfielder sent Fosdyke all the wrong way and rifled home a clean strike.

Minutes later an almost carbon copy saw Fosdyke trail even further when a Millers' player rode a couple of challenges and fired home. Sam Reeson lead a sort of fight back with an attempt from distance but half time came as a relief.

The second forty-five started brighter and a much more assertive performance from the visitors forced a corner and the pressing tactics they were trying to employ seemed to be paying dividends. That is until Fosdyke pressed the self destruct button and a goalkeeping blunder saw them trail 3-0.

Every time it looked like Fosdyke were playing with a bit more composure things broke down and Heckington put them straight on the back foot and made a chance to add to their tally. A fourth was scored and as if that wasn't bad enough a huge goal kick bounced on the edge of our box and to complete the misery the smallest player on the pitch nipped in front of the Fosdyke keeper and headed a fifth.

Ouch. It doesn't get any easier - the next week they welcomed Heckington to Fosdyke.



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IFS AND BUTS

Well, to look at the score you'd think oh dear, another defeat for Fosdyke, and on paper, 5-2 doesn't look great, but ... and Football is full of "ifs and buts", it could have been so much different and doesn't tell half the story

Fosdyke set out with a real sense of purpose and a strong determination to give a better showing than the previous week's debacle with a home game against Heckington Millers. The game was evenly balanced and a change in formation and tactics was paying dividends as Fosdyke frustrated the visitors by applying pressure high up the pitch.

Disaster struck early, however, when ten minutes in Sam Reeson was fouled and rolled his ankle, signalling a sad end to his game. Undeterred Fosdyke pressed and Martyn Patterson was proving to be a real thorn in the side of the Millers' defence and it was Patterson who gave Fosdyke the lead with a real poachers instinct in the twentieth minute turning and striking the ball home from close range.

Heckington were certainly not having things their own way and then, as the cliché goes, the game "turned on a moment". Patterson was sent through one on one with the visiting custodian and when the striker nudged the ball past the on running keeper he was sent sprawling by a dreadful foul that bizarrely, and to our disbelief, saw the official wave play on! To add insult to injury Patterson then had to be subbed with a shoulder injury as a result.

Reeling from a topsy turvy opening twenty-five minutes Fosdyke conceded an equaliser and then a second in quick succession. A lapse in defence saw a third

fortuitously converted before a Heckington midfielder completed the misery with a great strike.

Half time and Fosdyke were wondering what had hit them. A great team effort offset by two injuries, a sense of injustice (the Heckington keeper was lucky not to be sent off) and at least two calamitous goals given away ...

The second half, however, was a different story and although Fosdyke conceded midway through, they matched the Millers in every department. The back four were rock solid and keeper Ian Jack Smith's handling was faultless. Dancing Dave Reid was as dynamic as ever and Michael Beauchamp got through more tackles than a Rugby League team.

Fosdyke were finally rewarded for their efforts when Beauchamp

remained calm and collected in front of goal to roll home an assured finish with minutes left ... leaving Fosdyke wondering how they could play so well but still be on the receiving end of a seemingly heavy defeat. Football. It's a funny old game.

Man of the Match? Jordan Inglis was excellent at left back, as was Michael Biceps Beauchamp in the middle but the plaudits today go to the young winger Nathan Smith who is growing in confidence with every game.

FORTHCOMING FIXTURES

Saturday, 4 October, at home to Westside Rangers in the cup. Saturday, 11 October, away to Swineshead Institute Reserves in the League.



NEW LOCAL VENTURE

Sanderson's Butchery opened on Monday 1 September with loads of people taking advantage of the Open Day special offers.

Owner Ben Sanderson, who lives in Bell Lane, Fosdyke, was pleased how the first day's trading went and recorded several Christmas orders and people starting a savings card.

If you've not yet tried his

sausages then that's the least you can do! But he also has a special "Meat for the Week" offer with a variety of seven pieces of meat for a mere £10. Amazing! You'll find his independent shop at the back of the Thatched Cottage in Sutterton

THE TRANSPORT SAGA

For those interested to hear what Brylaine had to say about the complaint our intrepid senior citizen made to local MP Mark Simmonds a response was eventually received.

Brylaine claim to have had no knowledge of the matter until they received the letter from Mark Simmonds despite our senior citizen stating that the lady driver in question had phoned her head office at the time for guidelines on what to do. They were disappointed as the alleged incident took place more than a week after the bus's CCTV was overwritten. They therefore had nothing conclusive to either corroborate or deny our senior citizen's allegations in regards to the driver and her conduct, which they felt left the company and her open to subjective, unfair criticism.

Brylaine, like any good company, will support its staff, after all, it's the frontline

workers who give a company its good or bad reputation. *Fosdyke Newsletter* also has the right to believe its readers, bearing in mind that both people in this incident are going to have memories clouded by their feelings.

When Brylaine interviewed their driver she stated quite clearly that the incident was in regards to an out of date pass. Now, I've seen the pass, and it's valid until August 2017. However, passes were updated earlier this year and users had to reapply. It's possible that our senior citizen's current pass isn't the most up-to-date design. Giving the driver the benefit of the doubt, I'm assuming she did not make it clear from the outset the reasons for refusing the pass. Just saying it's out of date without giving a valid reason, when the pass appears to have another three years to run, isn't going to generate a friendly response. She may be a driver with

twelve year's exemplary experience but a good customer relations course might be a reminder that diplomacy can go a long way towards avoiding conflict.

Our senior citizen felt humiliated at the time yet Brylaine have made no attempt to contact him to apologise. Conversely, of course, our senior citizen didn't contact them in the first place. Our senior citizen doesn't feel that a satisfactory conclusion has been reached and is still in search of closure, but it seems there is little else he can do. The lesson to be learnt here is to ring the company

that you wish to complain against immediately making a note of times and names and then use

alternative means of complaint to follow it up if a response is either unsatisfactory or not forthcoming. Hindsight is such a wonderful thing.

Brylaine have gone on to say: "We completely agree with the issues raised surrounding rural transport and we do our very best with limited to no support from local and regional government - we have for thirty-five years been a supporter of better transport for Lincolnshire communities. We are a small independent covering a huge rural footprint where we've created a model that enables us to supply services where undoubtedly if we were not here - there would be none.

"The reason for this is rural services just aren't commercially viable and in most cases can't compete against the car (Diesel is too expensive. Most buses do between six-twelve miles to the

"We will handle complaints with tact and consideration and never take them personally. We know that customers want to be taken seriously more than anything else." - Extract from Brylaine's Passenger Charter.

gallon. Too many fields and not enough houses to leverage enough passengers.) but that doesn't mean to say they shouldn't run ... They absolutely should. It genuinely saddens us when communities believe we don't go into villages because 'it's better for us', it's not that simple. What is simple is the maths. Add the number of days to the actual mileage, to the actual hours, to the number of passengers picked up on a daily/ weekly basis. They are poles apart in most areas. So we have to, where we can, stick to the primary routes in and out to be able to provide any service at all to some communities.

"We also carry a lot of senior citizens and what most people don't realise is that we aren't paid the full fare by the government but a percentage of it and the overall funding is capped. It should also be noted that Brylaine do carry senior citizen's on Lincolnshire senior citizen resident passes before 9.30 am. If however a pass is presented that is out of county, we can't accept them until after 9.30 am because of contractual agreements. That doesn't mean to say we are happy about it, but it's the way national contracts are devised (because they are created for urban environments and peak period traffic).

"More people need to press local government and also at a national level, as the disparity of funding allocated per head of population on urban verses rural transport against the footprint is appalling, not least the vast chasm between London and everywhere else. Plus in 2015, there is talk of removing BSOG altogether which means we will have no funding in any shape at all - to support rural communities."

Fosdyke Social Club

Saturday, 4 October

WHIST DRIVE

8 pm



Thursday, 9 October

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Second Thursday of every month



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GO WILD!

You may think that pests are something not to be encouraged in the garden. However, you may be wrong, indeed some “pests” should be persuaded to stay. The most important part of good gardening is to encourage all forms of life in the soil and environment. The more wildlife there is in the garden, the more plant life it can support. More plant diversity encourages more wildlife, which then eats the pests for you. The greater the range of plants the more cycles of life we can squeeze in.

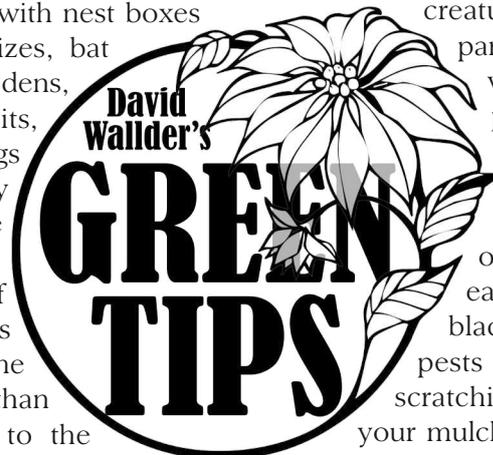
If there is little life in the soil there will be fewer forms of wildlife in the garden. Why would they stay there if there were nothing to eat? The multitude of insect and scurrying life forms are increased by growing many diverse plants providing food, water, shelter, nesting and wintering sites.

However, a well planned garden is not just filled with plants that benefit wildlife, but every nook and cranny is packed with nest boxes for birds of all sizes, bat roosts, hedgehog dens, frog and toad pits, piles of rotting logs in the shady corners, beetle zones and ladybird nests. Of course more pests are supported in the average garden than in the wild due to the range of food sources, the balance that they reach is not one that necessarily suits us, so we have to tip it in our favour by encouraging the beneficial creatures. In a well set up garden there should be larger populations of predators and parasites to keep them all in check.

Although we may recognise a legal boundary at the end of our garden, nature does not. So, unless we hermetically seal our property we cannot control which forms of life we have in them. But we can encourage the beneficial kinds by offering the habitats they prefer. This contradicts the conventional view that almost every creature

requires instant annihilation. The mix of inhabitants in a healthy garden is amazingly varied, from larger creatures to countless varieties of bacteria, fungi and other microscopic life, most of which are beneficial, especially the nitrogen fixing bacteria.

We can categorise all these forms of life as pests and predators etc., but in the end they are all part of nature’s cycle of life. Each creature plays many parts in interacting with the other parts of the cycle. For example, butterflies were once caterpillars eating leaves, blackbirds may be pests when they are scratching around in your mulch and flicking it onto the lawn or eating fruit, but they are predators when they are eating wireworm or leatherjackets. Such creatures are continually recycling living and dead material. The value of all this fertility is easily the equivalent of several handfuls of fertiliser, distributed unnoticed in a healthy garden where the material is quickly incorporated by the soil life. Our aim, as gardeners, is to get as many of these cycles of life going in our garden as possible, attracting wildlife of all forms to our garden for the hidden fertility they bring with them and the checks and balances from building up the natural populations.



LADIES EVENING

The Tuesday Bonmarché event at the Social Club was



enjoyed by the ladies of Fosdyke and neighbouring villages.

It was a relaxed affair with three Fosdyke ladies strutting their stuff while showing off the collection on the catwalk. A thoroughly enjoyable evening had by everyone.

With it being such a success it was agreed to hold another. So if you missed it the first time there will be another chance to go on Tuesday October 28, when Bonmarché will be showing their Christmas collection.



Local catwalkers Jane Bristow, Liz Martin and Margaret Johnson sandwiched between Diane and Eileen from Bonmarché.

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Could those who have yet to pay for their second year's advert please make payment as soon as possible. Many thanks!

Happenings @

Fosdyke Social Club

HARVEST SUPPER

The Fosdyke Sports and Social club Harvest Supper evening was very well attended. Fifty plus people took their places for a generous ham supper and choice of pudding for the excellent price of just £5 (£5.50 non-members).

An auction of fresh vegetables, cakes and other various goodies donated by local farmers, members and neighbouring villagers followed. A light hearted and jovial time was had by all. If you missed it you are probably kicking yourself, so keep your eyes peeled for next year's event which generally take place during September.

QUIZ NIGHT

One of the Social Club's most popular event and August's evening was packed with brains (of varying quality!).

Taking her turn for the first time as questionmaster was Tammie Walls with a hint of blarney in the questions.

Tuesday, 28 October

LADIES EVENING

RETURNS BY POPULAR DEMAND

7.30 pm

BONMARCHÉ CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

Size range from 10-24

LAST CHANCE OF 20% OFF EVERYTHING!

Plus raffle
CASH ONLY



Alan, Tim and Matthew would like to thank everyone

for the sympathy that they have received around the village for the loss of

Sylvia, wife and mother.

Sylvia's life was dedicated to helping others and the community. A really true Christian.

BE ENTERTAINED

The Open Mic Night at Fosdyke Social Club continues to be the place to be to enjoy live music on the second Thursday of the month.

Two youngsters from the band

The Vigilantes who played the Hammer and Pincer in Boston the previous weekend came along for their second appearance, joining the regulars in a thoroughly enjoyable evening.



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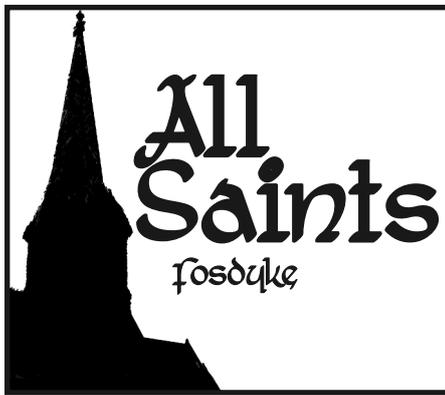
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Sunday, 5 October
at 9.30 am

Harvest Festival Celebration

Come along and join in all the
old traditional favourite
hymns of harvest.
Everyone welcome
followed by
Harvest Lunch
at the Village Hall

LADIES' INDULGENCE & PAMPER EVENING

Friday 24th October
at

Algarkirk Village Hall

7-9.30pm

£3 A ticket

includes a welcome drink
and goody bag for the
first 50 through the door.

Come and join us at
this event dedicated
to women of all ages,

Enjoy our delicious
refreshments whilst you
sample a wonderful array
of products and treatments.

For tickets and further
details contact:

Jayne 07989787971

Christine 01205 460638

Proceeds to Algarkirk Church

Harvest Lunch

Go on, treat yourself to a great
lunch, some fun company and
indulge in a little bit of traditional
England. Our harvest lunch this
year is in Fosdyke Village Hall at
12 for 12.30, followed by the
annual auction of produce under
the hammer of the inimitable Mr
Jim Gott. It's a great afternoon, so
why not book yourself a lunch and
save the washing up – its all in a
good cause (ticket only).

Christmas Fayre

Advance notice that this years
Christmas Fayre will be bigger and
better than ever. Its on Saturday 29
November – so make sure to make
a note in the calendar.

Sunday, 19 October
at 6 pm

Sung Evensong

YOU ARE A CHOSEN PEOPLE

First impressions, it is said, are
important, so what are my
first impressions of the Diocese
of Lincoln - after actually being
here in post, as I write, all of one
week!

Well the welcome has been all
we could have hoped for, and we
have met some wonderfully warm,
affirming and incredibly helpful
people. The sun has so far shone,
and I have seen the county at what
I suspect is its glorious best - and
we have discovered a church full of
heart and positively wanting to
move forward.

It is a contrast to how we are
often seen by the world at large -
and yet I love the description of the
Church in 1 Peter 'but you' he says,
'are a chosen people, a royal

Harvest Lunch

Sunday, 5th October

in

Village Hall 12

for 12.30 pm

Home-made Autumn
Vegetable Soup

Baked stuffed Gammon Ham,
with cider gravy &
roasted winter roots

Fruit Tart

Followed by the
**ANNUAL AUCTION
OF PRODUCE**

Special Diet Options available.
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or PCC members



priesthood, a Holy nation, a people
belonging to God'.

That, despite all our flaws, is
how God sees us. It is what we are
called to live out - and I am looking
forward to working with you to
build 'faithful, confident, joyful
communities' in the years that now
lay ahead.

Bishop David Grimsby

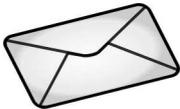
LETTERS

We are fairly recent incomers to Fosdyke, having moved to Whitecross Gate just over a couple of years ago. Having lived and worked in Lincolnshire for over twelve years we wanted a more rural home; more garden, open views, less traffic and friendly neighbours.

I would like to say that overlooking towards the church, a narrow lane to the front and fields around, people that nod and smile as they pass, walking, cycling, etc, then Fosdyke ticks these boxes.

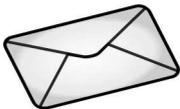
Anywhere we choose to live there will always be some issues, but at the end of the day surely it is about finding a balance. I would like to think Fosdyke and its residents go a long way on this one.

Martin Goodman



Fosdyke Newsletter is like a friend dropping in for a local chat about the village goings on. Keep it up! Thanks.

J, name and address supplied



I received my Newsletter today and have just seen that you are to be hauled before the Parish Council in the very near future to discuss the future of the Newsletter.

I just wanted to say that I eagerly anticipate each issue - I live just outside the village itself and find that the Newsletter is an excellent way to keep abreast of what's happening locally; I also enjoy the articles, both serious & entertaining.

I am sorry that I have never contributed anything to the Newsletter myself, maybe one day?!

Please pass on my thanks to the kind folk who now deliver the Newsletter - I have lived here for almost sixteen years and it's only been in the last year or so I've received frequent copies. I am really grateful to them for going that wee bit further to ensure that it arrives through my letterbox so regularly. (I did leave you a phone message to this effect some time ago, but would just like to reiterate my feelings.)

Finally, may I just say a huge "Thank you" to yourself and to all the regular contributors for all the time and effort that you put in each month to bring the inhabitants of Fosdyke (well, the majority of them - you can never please every!!) so much pleasure.

Nicky (Furnell)

Hilton's Lane



Thank you for your good work with the newsletter we receive on a regular basis thanks to Shirley and John for delivering it.

My wife and I have lived in Fosdyke for seventeen years, and our road has only been swept once during that time I had to complain to the Council to get that done.

I have in the last three to four weeks complained again as yet no response and no road sweeping has been done, it's a shame that you have to complain to get anything done in 2014.

Lincolnshire being known for growing fruit and veg you would think that the council would know you need dirt to grow things (No dirt, no weeds to grow in the kerbs). No weed killer to kill the weeds so much cheaper to sweep the roads.

I was also told by the council that our road is swept at six in the morning so would not have seen it

done, but my eyes still work so I'm sure I would have seen a clean kerb or two, it would be great to see the kerbs.

The Parish council should be aware that Fosdyke is not just the village. Main Road is also part of Fosdyke and should be treated as such. For those who don't know where Main Road is, it runs parallel to the A17 on the right hand side going towards Fosdyke Bridge starting by The Moorings Cafe and going up to the bridge.

James Stutchbury

Main Road

Editor: While road cleaning isn't the responsibility of the Parish Council I sent the above email (without the sender's name) to the chairman in the hope he would be able to help with a response, which was, "The sweeper was in the village last week. I will ask if it is on their sweeping list. If you have her email I can update her when I find out." I explained I was merely asking for a response. (I wanted everyone in the village to know what was going on with the road cleaning, not just the person who had made the complaint.) To which he replied, "I took a look this morning and looks fairly tidy no more weeds than on some of the other roads and short. Take a look maybe it has been already tidied up." I looked. And while it doesn't seem any worse than the other roads in the rest of the village I would have complained had I been directly responsible for paying for it. It's not what I'd call an adequate job. What do YOU think? Let me know at terry@fosdyke.co.uk or message me at:

<https://www.facebook.com/Lucifal>



After reading your latest issue I find it extremely disturbing that the local parish council should have any power over the newsletter.

They are supposed to be an elected body to deal with certain

matters laid down by the local borough council (Boston) and I don't think the newsletter comes under their remit so why do they think they have the right to decide what is written in it. I have lived in Fosdyke for two years and in that time have not heard of any parish elections. Do these ever happen or do they just co-opt who they want on it.

Mick Kilburn

Editor: As I understand it the next parish council elections are in 2015. It seems that the positions are rarely challenged by new volunteers but I believe there may be a vacancy next year.

While the parish Council do have powers their obligations are minimal, though looking after the interests of the village and the people whose rates they can play with (the precept that's levied) seems of paramount importance.

If you want to know more about the powers of the Parish Council or wish to stand for election there's some good information at <http://www.cpalc.org.uk/> or <http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/>.



I'd like to bring up a few points that others in Fosdyke may have experienced:

1. The one that causes me most concerned, is the number of cats and dogs I have lost since moving here in 2006 i.e five cats and four dogs all diagnosed with having "tumours ". I have taken this up with DEFRA who assured me that random checks were made on what chemicals are used on fields used for growing vegetables etc. None of these animals were old, and all had previously been in good health. I wondered if other people living in the village have also had animals diagnosed with these tumours.

2. Where have all the hares, barn owls, skylarks and other species which seemed to be fairly abundant in 2006 disappeared to? I have been

told that from time to time, a lone muntjac deer has been spotted, also that there are badgers on the river bank. I have never seen these, nor any fox here. When it snowed heavily, there were no tracks of animals crossing my paddocks, just one lone rat trail. There were always so many different species when I lived in Bedfordshire. Why not here?

3. The swallows. Usually, I have eight or ten pairs nesting in my stables, that were always successful in raising their chicks. This year I had one pair arriving very late in May, who had three chicks all of which fell from the nest and I found them dead. The pair then successfully raised a further chick. As soon as this one fledged, and could fly competently, all three left and have not been seen again. I assume they have gone to warmer shores, but it does seem a bit early.

G, name and address supplied

So, has anyone similar experiences to G?



Apologies to Rosemary Cameron for not having included a letter she wrote to Lincolnshire County Council in regards the recent road closures on the A17 between Algikirk and Holbeach.

She wrote: " We live in Fosdyke, half way between Holbeach and Sutterton where the road has been, and still is closed, at 8pm until morning. When doing my cleaning job last week I could not access my home from Holbeach so followed divert sign via Spalding then onto the A16. Having done all this I could not access my home at Sutterton roundabout. There were no signs for access to Fosdyke anywhere! Our village is in the middle of your road works and no access to Fosdyke. I had to leave my car and walk to find workmen to explain. Not being local workmen and not knowing the area they were no help, telling me I

must go back via Spalding to access Fosdyke from Holbeach. I explained this was not possible! In the end they opened the road to let me get access to my home. Other Fosdyke residents were trying to explain to them also.

"Last night not finding any work men to let me by I had to go to Kirton to pick up a back road to get to my home. A road I would not use in the daytime let alone night.

"How can this happen? We need access to our home and further signs to let people know how to get to Fosdyke.

I await your reply."

LCC replied: "Thank you for your email regarding the recent surface dressing works A17, Fosdyke to Holbeach. I apologise for any inconvenience this has caused.

"Lincolnshire County Council had arranged for both advanced warnings signs to be erected either side of the area of works warning of the delays along with a letter- drop of the residents within the works warning of the proposed road works.

"I have spoken with the contractors and reiterated the importance of dealing with the public correctly and ensuring that access is maintained for all residents or visitors within the road closures, at all times. The gatemen on site should be visible at both ends of the closure to assist with vehicular access in and out of the road closure.

"For information there will be two impending road closures at this location between 8pm - 6am between Thursday 17th July and Friday 18th July - this will include an additional road sweep, installation of road markings and road studs.

Rosemary spoke to all around Mill Lane, where she lives, but no-one had received any letter from the council or contractors as stated in the email. It would be interesting to hear from anyone who did. So, let us know.

NEGATIVE STUFF (MOSTLY)

We all spoke too soon. Often the school holidays leave parts of the village damaged by bored or over-excited children. This summer we seemed to have gotten off lightly, but no sooner had school started again than ...



The rotting fence panels around the recycling centre that many of us have been bombarding Boston Council to rectify have finally been demolished by nimble hands and, since taking this picture, have been thrown into the nearby dyke.

It would appear that the council are now intending to take action. But what that action is has yet to be established. Taking away the fence panels will be the first job. So, perhaps we will have a positive outcome. Let's hope some good comes out of it.



For some unknown reason children in the village decided that strewing small lumps of concrete across the football pitch would be a great pastime - no thought for other people playing there or the consequences of potential damage to the grass cutting machinery.

Thanks go to Ray Hoey who rolled up his sleeves and wheelbarrowed the lot to a safe location. Doubly lucky as next day the man came to cut the grass!



When Liz and Terry Martin went along to the Adventure Playground on Sunday 14 September to tidy up and clear the weeds they were shocked to see the Social Club fire door open. On closer inspection they realised the club had been broken into. CCTV showed that children had been playing around there in the early hours of the morning and at approximately 1.45 am one of them (we have you on camera) smashed in a door panel and entered the premises. A screwdriver had also been used on the door and windows causing a cracked pane.

The Social Club works hard to raise money for the Playing Field committee to maintain the field and equipment for the villagers, including the children. That's what the new swings were erected for. Feels like a kick in the teeth when a few children spoil it for the rest. One must also be concerned for the safety of children playing out at that time of night. Whatever were their parents doing?



This time: Damage to the fencing at the back of the Bowling Club. Definitely older children or some exceedingly strong youngsters! Club funds are limited so putting this right is going to dent the coffers. All good parents will be saying, "It's not my children." But it is someone's children and it seems likely the same children are responsible for all the damage on this page.

SHAME ON THEM!

READ

When I was younger - I'm talking fifty years ago - Saturday morning was always reserved for a visit to the local library.

I dare say there were many of us then who couldn't afford books so, if you loved reading, the library was the only option. These days e-readers have become the norm and cost doesn't seem to be an issue - just use the credit card or PayPal - and download your choice. Borrowing books for free has got to be worth considering if you enjoy a good story or need to do a bit of research that the internet can't always provide

Those of us lucky enough to work from home or have other reasons for not leaving the village too often have the once-a-month chance of choosing some worthwhile reading when the mobile library visits.

The times are on the village noticeboard but in case you don't read the noticeboard here are the dates up until next March. All the days are Monday between 12 and 1 pm, so you only have an hour to browse and choose.

We're lucky to have the library visit us, so make sure we make the most of it!

27 October, 24, November, 22 December, 19 January, 16 February, 16 March.

discover libraries
information learning & entertainment

Copy Deadline

News that means nothing to you might be interesting to someone else so don't be afraid to contact Terry - preferably via email: terry@fosdyke.org.uk or phone: 260275 or knock on the door or post your info through the letter box 6 Whitecross Gate

no later than 15 October

BINGO

Saturday, 18 October

Doors open 1 pm for eyes down at 2 pm

In memory of
Sylvia White
Fosdyke
Village Hall



Cash Prizes - Raffle

All profits to be donated to Sutterton Surgery

Fosdyke Village Hall Lottery 250 Draw - Latest Winners

2	Mrs Y Crawford	Sutterton	£10
162	Mr T Wickson	Fosdyke	£10
242	Mrs S Riches	Algarkirk	£10
4	Mrs G Jackson	c/o Sutterton	£10
204	Mrs L Prior	Fosdyke	£15
45	Mrs B Rylott	Algarkirk	£20
23	Mr M Peak	Fosdyke	£25

Next draw: Monday 13 October 2014 at the Bingo

The Ship Inn, Main Road Fosdyke Bridge Opening Times

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Friday and Saturday
11.30 am - 11 pm

Monday to Saturday

Bar snacks served
from 12 noon until 5.30 pm.

Full evening menu
from 5.30 pm until 9 pm.

Sunday

Lunch Carvery sittings from
12 noon & 1.45 pm.

Main menu 3 pm - 8 pm.

Please book to avoid disappointment.



The Ship Inn

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The Boat has a maximum capacity of 60 passengers & is MCA licensed and insured.

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CARRY ON CRUISING

