

# COVENHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

*Winter Edition*



Covenham Parish Council has its own website. Visit us on  
<https://covenham.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/>  
for information about your Council Members, minutes and agenda,  
and other Council documents.

## PARISH COUNCILLORS

**Councillor Ms Gillian Pollard**

*Chair*

Langham House, Covenham St Mary LN11 0PG

E-mail: [gillian@covenham-pc.info](mailto:gillian@covenham-pc.info)

**Councillor Mr Ian Appleby**

*Vice-Chair*

Lapwings, Main Road, Covenham St Bartholomew LN11 0PF

E-mail: [ian@covenham-pc.info](mailto:ian@covenham-pc.info)

**Councillor Mrs Nicky Gulley-Brown**

Hove To, Main Road, Covenham St Bartholomew LN11 0PF

E-mail: [nicky@covenham-pc.info](mailto:nicky@covenham-pc.info)

**Councillor Mrs Anne McCready**

Stoneycroft House, Main Road, Covenham St Bartholomew LN11 0PF

Telephone: 01507 363508

E-mail: [annemcc.pccov@gmail.com](mailto:annemcc.pccov@gmail.com)

**Councillor Ms Angela Quinton**

Lapwings, Main Road, Covenham St Bartholomew LN11 0PF

E-mail: [angela@covenham-pc.info](mailto:angela@covenham-pc.info)

**Councillor Mrs Angela Aylett**

The Ash, Main Road, Covenham St Bartholomew LN11 0PF

E-mail: [angela\\_aylett@covenham-pc.info](mailto:angela_aylett@covenham-pc.info)

**Mrs Nadine Must - *Parish Clerk/RFO***

The Georgian House, Church Lane, Utterby LN11 0TH

Tel: 01472 840591

E-mail: [parishclerkcpc@gmail.com](mailto:parishclerkcpc@gmail.com)

**Council vacancies: 2 seats for St Bartholomew and 3 for St Mary. The full complement of parish councillors is 11, comprising 7 for St Bartholomew and 4 for St Mary.**

## DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

East Lindsey District Council: **Councillor Edward Mossop**, Fulstow Ward

E-mail: [Edward.Mossop@e-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto:Edward.Mossop@e-lindsey.gov.uk)

Lincolnshire County Council: **Councillor Alex Martin Hall**, Louth North Ward

E-mail: [Cllra.hall@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:Cllra.hall@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

## *Letter from The Chair*

Hello All,

By now I expect all your Christmas and New Year's celebrations are well and truly behind you, however I would still like to take this opportunity to send you all Very Best Wishes for 2023 from myself and the rest of the Parish Council.

As a group of councillors we have not been working together very long but I feel we have now joined together with the one aim and that is that we all want to make the villages of Covenham St. Bartholomew and St. Mary a pleasant and happy place to live.

We are well aware of the predicted hardships with everything rising in price and to that end we too are looking at how to tighten our belts and make the Parish Council more efficient and working better for the people we represent.

Over the last few years the council has spent money on refurbishing the Parish Rooms in the hopes that this will become a meeting point, a place to get together and also a place fit to hire out for those times you may need a bigger space for your gathering or party. It now hosts a number of events so please look out for them and join in when you can. If you have any ideas of things you would like held in the hall or would like to hire the hall and arrange an event yourself then please let us know.

I do hope that this year will be kind to you all but if you have any problems or worries that you feel the Council can help with please get in touch. Or if you have any ideas or thoughts for enhancing village life then do let us know.

With Best Wishes to You All

*Gillian Pollard*  
Chair

Further issues of the newsletter are being considered and the decision will be published in the forthcoming minutes of the Parish Council.



## *Parish Council News*

- *Welcome.* Angela Aylett was unanimously voted in as a newly co-opted parish councillor at the meeting held last November. Angela moved to Covenham St Bartholomew in June 2021 from Herefordshire. She has set up her garden services and also serves as a committee member of Covenham Village Volunteers.
- *Farewell.* The Parish Council gave their thanks to Alyson Wiltshire who resigned from the Parish Council in late September due to work commitments.
- All parish, town and district council seats are up for election on 4th May 2023. The publication of election notices will be issued by the District Council election teams for display in all parishes by Monday 27th March 2023 (at the latest) and nomination papers for all candidates will need to be submitted by 4th April 2023. All those voting at polling stations are now required to show a photo ID to cast their vote.
- The Parish Council continues to share the Mobile Speed Sign equipment with three other neighbouring parishes. Covenham has the equipment for January and February 2023 and again for September and October 2023.
- The Parish Council has agreed its budget for Financial Year 2023/24. A Precept requirement of £8,934 has been submitted to East Lindsey District Council. Breakdown of the budget is available to view on the website under the November 2022 Parish Council minutes. The table below shows the precept per property band for the full year as well as the weekly equivalent.

<b>2023</b>	<b>Band 'D' Equivalent Figure =</b>				<b>158.0</b>				
<b>Precept Amount</b>	<b>Band A</b>	<b>Band B</b>	<b>Band C</b>	<b>Band D</b>	<b>Band E</b>	<b>Band F</b>	<b>Band G</b>	<b>Band H</b>	
£8,934.00	£37.70	£43.98	£50.26	£56.54	£69.11	£81.68	£94.24	£113.09	
weekly	£0.72	£0.85	£0.97	£1.09	£1.33	£1.57	£1.81	£2.17	

- Spaces are still available to advertise in the newsletter. The current annual rate is for four issues which is a real bargain. Please contact the parish clerk to advertise in the next issue.

Full page - £100.00 pa	Half page - £50.00 pa	Quarter page - £25.00 pa
---------------------------	--------------------------	-----------------------------

## *The Parish Rooms*

Further refurbishments have been done to improve the Parish Rooms.

- New LED lighting panels have been installed which has remarkably brightened the Main Hall.
- The kitchen is now equipped with new glasses, cutlery and crockery which will cater for 40 guests.

The Parish Council thanked ELDC Ward Member Cllr Edward Mossop for the £250 from his Councillors' Community Grant which will be used to buy black-out curtains for the two big windows in the Main Hall which will block any draughts coming through, make the room warmer and allow the heating to be more efficient and effective.

With the ELDC headquarters move from Manby to Horncastle, the Parish Council managed to acquire some furniture no longer required. It is hoped that the Parish Council will also secure chairs previously used in the council chambers which are more comfortable than the plastic chairs currently in use.

Further grant funding opportunities continue to be pursued. The Parish Clerk has submitted an application to fund a new front door and a back door. The Council will also be looking for other funding to address penetrating dampness on the wall caused by rain penetration.

The Parish Rooms are now getting regular bookings and it is hoped that more people and groups will use the facilities for both private and commercial functions.

Booking forms, terms of conditions of hire and checklist for hirers can be downloaded online from the parish council website on [Parish Rooms documents](#) or email the parish clerk on [parishclerkcpc@gmail.com](mailto:parishclerkcpc@gmail.com)

*Nadine Must*  
*Parish Clerk*

## *From your District Councillor.....*

The cold still mornings of mid-January have brought stunning early sunrises across The Marsh. The description of weather and its impact on the landscape bring to mind a book that I was given for Christmas by my son which I am reading at the moment. Edge of England – Landfall in Lincolnshire is written by Derek Turner, born in Ireland now resident in Theddlethorpe. It is a fascinating and wonderfully researched study of our much neglected county. It draws out the rich history, its famous people, folklore and all that is distinctive about Lincolnshire. It's a must read for all Yellowbellies and those 'outeners' who now live in our community. I thoroughly recommend it.

A major milestone in the history of East Lindsey District Council begins this year with the opening of its new headquarters in Horncastle, imaginatively called 'The Hub'. This brings to a close over fifty years of occupancy at Tedder Hall, Manby. The former RAF College has been sold to part-fund the new building. I and a number of colleagues were dismayed to see skips containing equipment that could be re-purposed and given to Parish Councils and voluntary groups and so we arranged for contact to be made and a number of organisations, including the Parish Room at Covenham have benefitted from this. The new offices are open-plan and shared with Boston College who will be running courses from part of the building bringing in revenue to the Council. The Council's Customer Contact phone number is unchanged: 01507 601111 and the address is The Hub, Mareham Road, Horncastle, LN9 6PH. All council meetings will now take place there.

Some of my Council work in the past few months has been to chair a review group of Councillors from across the three District Councils of East Lindsey, Boston and South Holland. All three now share the same Chief Executive and Senior Management Team. The main driver for this partnership is to save money and to be able to lobby central Government more effectively as a group of three Councils. One of the key pressures that is common to all three partners is the way in which money is raised to fund our Inland Drainage Boards. We all are geographically low-lying and under threat from flooding were it not for the sterling work of the Drainage Board. Whether we achieve success at Whitehall on this remains to be seen but never has it been more urgent to safeguard our communities from the misery of flooded homes.

Lindsey Marsh Drainage Board (LMDB) is the local board responsible for maintenance of some of the waterways to the east of Covenham. The responsibility is shared with The Environment Agency who manage and maintain the larger ones such as Louth Canal and Poulton Drain which runs through the village. LMDB are also responsible for the small pumping station behind St Mary's that takes surplus water from the village pumping it into Poulton Drain. Last year, a new electrical control panel and two new pumps were installed and commissioned in September. Good news for Covenham but as a board member on LMDB, I will continually ask that the Environment Agency step up to their responsibilities in properly maintaining and clearing their waterways.

Finally, a reminder that there are Parish and District Council elections this year (4<sup>th</sup> May 2023). If you intend to vote in person, then you will be required to produce Photo ID such as a Passport or Driving Licence in order to cast your vote.

Well, that's enough 'wodds an' doggerybaw' from me! All the best,

*Edward Mossop*

[Edward.Mossop@e-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto:Edward.Mossop@e-lindsey.gov.uk)

07502 111030

## *Lincolnshire County Council News*

The County Council have set up the Louth Transport Board. This board includes local county councillors, East Lindsey District councillors and the Mayor of Louth town council. The Active Travel Scheme continues to be the main issue being discussed. Many residents living in Covenham have contacted me about this. I will continue to make sure that views of residents are represented on the transport board.

There's going to be a new Louth Children's home that will be located behind the Riverhead Theatre, on the site of the former Pilgrim School. The home is expected to be completed in late summer 2023, with the first residents arriving in autumn 2023. This new home will provide high-quality facilities for children in care and will mean that fewer children will need to be placed in homes outside the county. This will ensure that these children remain close to their local community and existing support networks, leading to better outcomes for them. Further information about this can be found on the County Council website. If anyone has any questions or queries, please do email me at [ClrA.hall@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:ClrA.hall@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

*Clr Alex Hall  
Louth North*

**Qualified, registered and experienced heating engineer for all your boiler needs  
Servicing and Repairs.**

# **CG Boiler Services**

07776 450 452

[colin@cgboilerservices.co.uk](mailto:colin@cgboilerservices.co.uk)



***C G Boiler Services – Looking after your boiler like no other!***



## *Covenham Village Volunteers*

### **Looking back at 2022 and ahead at our goals for 2023**

2022 saw us focus on developing community-based events that would bring our villages together and raise funds for the various charities that we support. These included:

- **Covenham Café**, open every Friday 10am to 12 noon. Everyone welcome, even the dog
- A new **Winter Games Club**, every Friday until Easter, proving to be great fun for all.
- The **Platinum Jubilee** was certainly a highlight of last year and we thoroughly enjoyed working with the churches in organising a wonderful celebratory event.
- The **Gardening Club** had a launch event, lots to come in 2023!
- The **October and December** social evenings were a huge success and between them raised £928.

The charities we supported last year include: St. Barts Trust, Cancer Research, Helping Hands and Macmillan, collectively receiving £345.

### **For 2023:**

We start the year waiting to hear about our application to be a registered charity, we are confident we will be awarded a charity status. This would open huge opportunities for us to support our community and chosen charities. Other exciting news, we are looking to have a green space for the villages. Final legalities are being confirmed, so fingers crossed. We envisage developing this as a community garden and an outdoor space for everyone to enjoy. Watch this space for more information.

In 2023 we plan to build a more regular social calendar. You will shortly receive a survey and I urge you to complete this. We have a super team of volunteers who give a huge amount of time to organise and run events and your feedback will be vital in helping us focus on what you want.

In closing, I would like to thank the committee, who worked tirelessly last year, and all those who have supported the events by helping to organise, loaning us equipment, attending, providing raffle prizes and other kinds of support.

We look forward to supporting the Covenham Villages in 2023.

*Nicky Gulley-Brown*  
Chair



## *St. Mary's Church*

Many thanks to all who joined with us for our Carol Service and Christmas Morning Holy Communion. It was good to see the church so full on both occasions.



Our next service is on **Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> February at 9.30a.m.** and will be Holy Communion led by Rev. Ian Chisholm.

Our charity Bingo night at the end of October raised £130 for ECHO East Coast Homeless. We also sent the non-perishable items from the Harvest to this charity. The perishable goods went to Fotherby House. The Christmas Fair was also well attended and raised much needed funds for the church.

We are currently organising our programme of events for 2023. Hopefully there will be the usual events of Christmas Fair, Carol Service, Harvest Supper and after last year's event a repeat of Open Gardens plus others yet to be decided upon. **So watch this space!**

Details of all events will be advertised on the village noticeboards nearer the time and also on the CVV flier as well as on the [achurchnearyou.com](http://achurchnearyou.com) website and Facebook.

*Anne McCready*  
Church Warden

---

## *Eleemosynary Charity*

Just a reminder that if you are having difficulties with heating costs or the cost of living, regardless of age, we may be able to help. Please contact one of the Trustees **Gillian Pollard 07947421137** or **Ernest McCready 01507 363508** or pop a note, in a sealed envelope addressed to the Charity, into the letter box outside the Parish Rooms.

We are unable to accept third party applications due to the confidential nature of the charity, but if you know of someone in need please encourage them to apply. **All communications are dealt with in the strictest confidence.**

*Ernest McCready*  
Charity Trustee

## *Monthly Lunches*

The monthly lunch held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month is a year old in February. When we first started these lunches with the idea of giving the people of Covenham a place to get together, eat and chat we hoped it would work but to say we were slightly nervous is an understatement. However it has turned out to be a great success and it is so good to see everyone chatting over a bowl of home made soup.

On our first birthday Anne and I would like to thank all who have come along over the year and a special thank you to those who help with the washing up, we could not do it without you.

We did have a break in January but the first lunch of the year will be held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February and on the first Wednesday of every month thereafter. We hold it in St Mary's church, doors open 12.15 ready to serve up at 12.30. There is no charge for the meal but are grateful for any donations we receive, as we do not aim to make a profit but just hope to cover our costs.

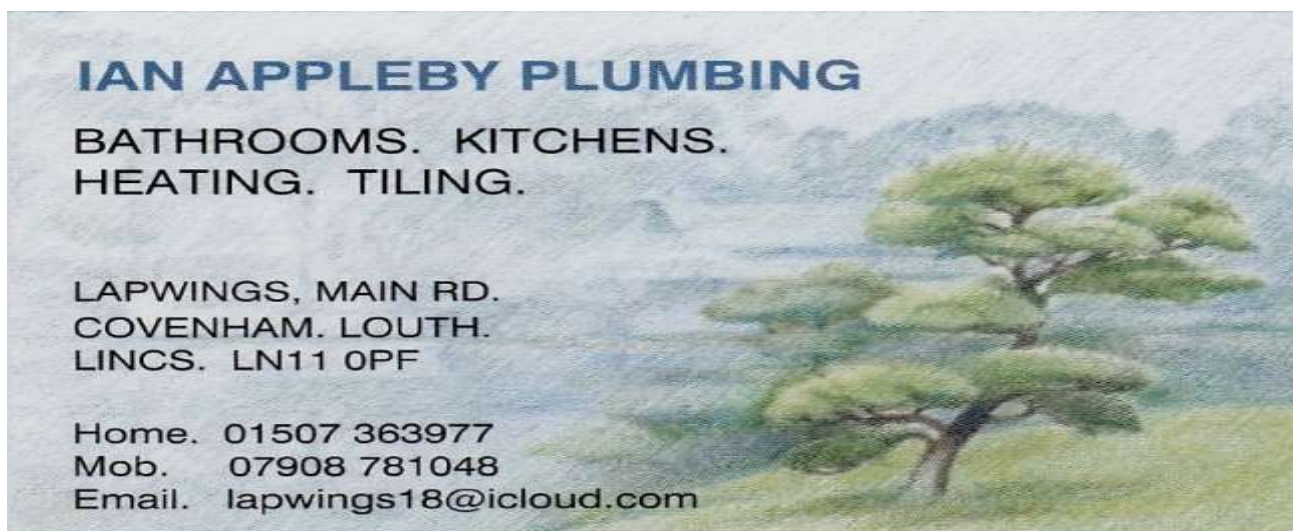
Please do come along and join us this year everyone is always welcome, but if you could just let us know by the Sunday before the meal it would help us to know how many to cater for.

To book or find out more please ring...

Anne        01507 363508  
or Gillian    07947 421137

Looking forward to seeing you all again this year.

*Gillian Pollard*



**IAN APPLEBY PLUMBING**  
BATHROOMS. KITCHENS.  
HEATING. TILING.

LAPWINGS, MAIN RD.  
COVENHAM. LOUTH.  
LINCS. LN11 0PF

Home. 01507 363977  
Mob. 07908 781048  
Email. lapwings18@icloud.com

## *The Covenham St Bartholomew Heritage Trust*

Some really good news, Historic England, under the Repair Grants for Heritage at Risk scheme have offered us £25,750 for us to take St. Bartholomew's to the next stage of refurbishment as the result of a successful application. We are extremely pleased (to say the least) and extremely grateful to all that have helped to reach this next step.

This funding is to complete a detailed survey with the intention of rolling out to further conservation work. We will now start looking to appoint a Lead Professional, a suitably qualified and experienced structural engineer. Their role will be the management and delivery of a report upon the condition and make conservative recommendations for the repair of:

- 1) the nave roof structure including concealed beam ends and joints;
- 2) the chancel roof structure including concealed timber bearings (both north and south sides);
- 3) the structural timbers of the bell tower;
- 4) the nave floor; and
- 5) foundations in locations of structural movement;

This will require a range of skills including an archaeologist and ecologist to compliment the more obvious building conservation related skills. We will keep you all informed on progress in the new year.

One aspect of conservation that we are pursuing concurrently is the future of the rood screen that has been stored in the church for many years. It, too, requires a survey. It is early days but the screen needs to be accurately drawn and/or scanned. The paint needs to be investigated as there maybe gold, blue and red detailing under the black paint. Such paint would require a conservator to work on it, the screen structure to be repaired at erected, hopefully, at the west end of the nave. Again, we will have more information to share on this over the coming months.

If anyone would like to get involved, in any capacity, with the conservation of St Bartholomew's please get in touch. Don't think because you have never been involved in something like this there isn't much you can offer as nothing could be further from the truth. It is a learning process from day one, lots of professionals out there give us advice and your knowledge grows. Conservation, fundraising, archaeology, history, gardening, event management, ecology, building, carpentry, cleaning and administration. All of these disciplines and more make up a successful team so please join in, we would be pleased to see you.

*All the best, the Trustees.*





*“Passionate about gardening, plants  
and helping people to enjoy their  
outdoor spaces”*

- *Gardening advice*
- *Designing planting schemes*
- *Advising on plant choices*
- *Growing, sourcing plants and plant sales*

*Friendly, practical and professional advice.*

*RHS Level 2 Certificate in Practical Horticulture*

*07747 411040 or [angela.aylett10@gmail.com](mailto:angela.aylett10@gmail.com)*

*The Ash, Covenham St. Bartholomew*