

BEYTON VILLAGE NEWS

DECEMBER 2022 – JANUARY 2023



<https://beyton.suffolk.cloud>

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES – 2022/23

Beyton Parish Council Meetings 2022/23

Tuesday 13th December
Tuesday 10th January
Tuesday 6th February
Tuesday 14th March
Tuesday 11th April
Tuesday 9th May – Annual Parish and Parish Council meetings



Parish Council meetings will usually take place on the second Tuesday of the month, starting at 7.30pm unless stated otherwise.

Meetings are open to the press and public and there is a section of the meeting where residents are invited to raise questions or make comments; although there is no requirement of the Council to answer any questions at the meeting, Councillors will take account of the balance of views expressed when they are deliberating matters during the remainder of the meeting.

Carol Singing

Monday 19th December 6.30pm on the Green

Village Walk

Sunday 22nd January 10am meet at the Old Bus Shelter on the Green



Chairman:	Graham Jones	chairman@beyton-pc.gov.uk
Vice Chair:	Ann Alderton	ann.alderon@beyton-pc.gov.uk
Councillor:	Peggy Orsler	peggy.orsler@beyton-pc.gov.uk
Councillor:	John Clark	john.clark@beyton-pc.gov.uk
Councillor:	Helena Harris	helena.harris@beyton-pc.gov.uk
Councillor:	Jonathan Wilson	jonathan.wilson@beyton-pc.gov.uk
Parish Clerk:	Tina Newell	parish.clerk@beyton-pc.gov.uk

Vacancy

DEADLINE FOR NEXT EDITION

Please let us have any contributions by **Thursday 19th January 2023 at the latest** for consideration for the next edition.

Please send to: editor@beytonvillage.news – Letters welcome



EDITOR'S WELCOME

Another year nearly gone and 2023 is just around the corner. I don't know about you but the lovely long warm Autumn that we've had means that I have been in denial as far as Winter is concerned and am suddenly faced with Christmas!

As another year's worth of magazines come to a close, I'd like to thank everyone who has taken the time to make contributions, write articles and submit photos. Your efforts are much appreciated.

Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and many good wishes for 2023.

Editor

BEYTON PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Christmas is rapidly approaching and I hope that your preparations are well on the way.

I'm sure that you have been keeping up with the activities of your Parish Council, the meeting minutes are published on the Beyton website and of course there is always the opportunity for you to come along to the meetings. We would be delighted to welcome you.

I am pleased to say that we have now a full complement on the Parish Council as Kerry Mason has just joined. Some of you may already know her as she heads up the Speed Watch team in the village – she may even have your number!! (Just kidding)

Purchase of the Village Green is still high on the agenda, all forms have been completed by our solicitor, we now await feedback from the legal firm representing the vendor.

So far there has been no flooding in the village, it looks like all the efforts of the last 12 months are paying off – Preventative maintenance is key.

I am very happy to be part of a hardworking and can-do group of councillors. May I wish you and your families a very Happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

Yours

Graham Jones

Chairman, Beyton Parish Council



WORDS OF WISDOM FROM THE EXPERTS



Belonging as we do to several wildlife and environmental organisations, we receive their regular magazines and/or emails to keep us up to date. Recently we had interesting pieces from Suffolk Wildlife Trust, RSPB, and the Soil Association.



SWT have had problems with dogs on their reserves for years, and now have begun to address the 'Doggy Dilemma' in a rational way. Here are a few points from them:

- In this country there are an estimated 34% of households with one or more dogs.
- SWT encourages responsible dog-owners to ensure that their pet doesn't disturb wildlife while out in the countryside. Dogs are natural predators, however cuddly they might be at home, so it is crucial to keep them on a lead in any wild or open area, even if it is not an official wildlife reserve. Constant flushing of birds on beaches and open spaces means that they use up precious energy reserves as well as being unable to forage and feed properly. Ground-nesting birds are especially vulnerable in the spring and summer, where whole nests can be destroyed or abandoned by the parent birds.
- Recent research has found that many dog flea treatments, which contain Neonicotinoids, can have a devastating impact on aquatic life. These are toxic insecticides, and it only takes a dog or two to swim in a pond to kill an entire dragonfly community.
- Dog poo should always be removed and disposed of properly. It is very unpleasant and can cause Toxocariasis, usually in young children, leading to severe disease and even blindness.

www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org



RSPB had a really worrying piece about Avian Flu, which has had, and is still having, a devastating effect on our wild bird populations. The current strain, Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) was first recorded in intensive poultry operations in East Asia in the late 1990s. It is highly virulent and lethal for birds. Populations of geese and many seabird species have crashed in the last year.

More than 50 wild bird species have tested positive for HPAI.

The fate of garden birds is less clear, maybe because it is harder to find a dead blue tit than a dead gannet! We can all help by keeping bird feeders, bird tables and bird baths really clean. Don't let debris, rotting seeds and bird poo build up, as this might kill the very birds you are trying to help. You can get special feeder cleaners, such as Ark Klens (available from Vine House Farm, who support The Wildlife Trusts) which is totally safe for wild birds. After using it, rinse the feeder with water and allow to dry before refilling. Move your feeders every couple of weeks to avoid bacterial build-up.

www.rspb.org.uk



The Soil Association are taking part in World Soil Day on 5th December, and we are all encouraged to get outside and get dirty for climate and for nature! Whether you are digging the garden or going for a country walk, take time to appreciate the importance of healthy soil for our natural world.

Here are a few Soil facts:

1. Healthy soils have six different layers.
2. Soils are home to a quarter of the Earth's species.
3. One gram of soil can harbour 10 billion organisms.
4. 95% of all food production relies on the soil.
5. Soil stores more carbon than the atmosphere and all of the world's plants and forests combined.

www.soilassociation.org

More details on all these topics can be found on the websites.

Happy reading!

Cathy Cass



THURSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE NEWS

Dear Residents

The College is always interested in working with our neighbours and residents for the benefit of all and we encourage our students look for ways to contribute positively to the wider community. Likewise, I know the community is keen to support the College in making use of public facilities in the local area.

One such example of this is the way in which our student make use of Thurston Public Library. We are all very fortunate to have the facility of a public library on our doorstep which not only provides 'the loan of books' but so much more! Below is a flavour of how our students access this superb community facility. If you have not been to the public library for a while then I wholeheartedly recommend a visit and I can assure you that you will be greeted with a warm welcome.



Dr Jean Wheeler


Thurston Community College – Community Voice



We are a group of students who are between the ages of 11 and 16 and we meet at the end of the school day on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Thurston Public Library. It provides a space for our Chat 'n' Chill social group to come together, to relax and converse with each other. We utilise the Public Library space for activities such as reading, doing homework and socialising. As a group, we value being able to come to the Public Library after school; it is a warm, friendly and calm place to meet as friends. The spacious library rooms are stocked with interesting and contemporary reading material which is regularly refreshed. There are many other facilities that allow us to enjoy our time in the Public Library, including refreshments such as tea, coffee, juice and water.

For people who want a warm, safe space to take a break there are things such as sofas, reading nooks, computers and books to accommodate everyone's tastes. The library can be a very busy place during opening





hours at peak times, with people of all ages coming and going, however there is a separate room within the library if you want a quieter space to relax. This room often has just one or two other visitors to the library using it, so it is ideal for those 'quiet reflection times' which we all need in our busy days.

We would encourage everyone to come along to the public library; set aside a good hour or so for your visit as there are lots of things in addition to the books to see and explore.

Heather and friends



BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL 2022

**"They shall grow not old, as we who are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We will remember them"**

These poignant words were once again heard in churches and alongside war memorials throughout the country as we remember those who gave their lives for our freedom.

Our door-to-door Poppy sellers have again done us proud and this year managed to collect £890. Many thanks go to Rod Scott, Sheila Mole, Neil Higham, Eve and Mick Fenner, Alan and Wendy Lewis and Joy Bateman.

Additionally, there were static boxes at the White Horse, Thurston Community College and Beyton Garage.

Thank you

Graham Jones

Beyton Poppy Appeal Coordinator



A TALE OF 2 BOTTLES

Having been involved in cleaning out the pond behind the Bus Shelter, several people have asked me if we found anything interesting. The simple answer at the time was no – just an old sack barrow and an ice lolly wrapper priced 2d (that's old pence!) dating it to pre 1971.

Since then, however, I did find these 2 bottles in the mud at the Mill House end.

They are both embossed around the bottom edge with BULLARDS AND SONS NORWICH.

Some of you may remember that the Bear was a Bullards pub before Bullards was taken over by Watneys in 1963 – they ceased brewing in 1968 and Watneys was on the menu thereafter – unfortunately!

The Bullards brewery was on the banks of the Wensum in Norwich and the site was only demolished in the 1980's and became the Anchor Quay residential area, named after the old Anchor Brewery.

The 1 pint bottle has a vulcanite screw stopper, marked REG^D BURGOYNE 62529, I've no idea of the relevance of this, unless it is some form of design registration – they generally had the brewers name embossed.

The punt marks on both bottles is FGC and a mould number.

Despite having worked for nearly 30 years in the packaging world, this wasn't one I knew but good old Google has revealed that it was Forsters Glass Company, St Helens, founded in the 1920's. They were taken over by Rockware Glass in 1968.

I've no real idea of how old they are but the stopper probably points to any time between the 1930's and the 1950's, I'm fairly sure the screw cap had been replaced by the ubiquitous crown cork by the 1960's. One thing's for sure, someone didn't bother collecting the deposit that was generally charged on take away bottles in those days.

Roy Crosby



VILLAGE POND



Work continues apace on the restoration of Beyton Village Pond. The Parish Council decided to invest some £3,000 when it became apparent that the hot weather had afforded an opportunity to both clean and tidy the pond and then markedly improve it for residents (as well as resident wildlife!)

The money is largely being spent on plant hire and equipment with tippers and diggers all part of the process.

First, the pond was tidied up and foliage cut back. Next the diggers and tippers did their job, deepening the pond and defining a “shelf” on the side nearest the road.

Next Gabions (mesh baskets) were constructed by the team and positioned on the “shelf”, creating a strong edge once they were filled with stones and rocks. Over time the Gabions will be hidden from view as grass and other foliage springs into life. Dirt which had been excavated from the pond has now been used to cover them.

The pond itself has been gently filling up, though some prompt pumping out had to be done initially to allow the tippers and diggers in.

As to the soil on The Green, the team are proposing eventually to spread it over the grass in the low spot where it currently sits. They'll see how fertile it is in the spring then either seed it with a wild flower mix, if not too rich, or grass if it does propagate nettles, thistles and the like.

Thanks to Andy Rollett, Roy Crosby and Ben Magnani for their time and energy on this project.





BVN NEWS & EVENTS



Carol Singing on The Green

Monday 19th December

6.30pm meet at the Old Bus Shelter on The Green

After the success of last year's event, we are repeating the arrangements this year so we will all be gathering together to sing in a group on The Green and invite you all to join us for a lovely pre-Christmas sing-a-long. Christmas hats and decorations are encouraged but please do wrap up well.

Galley Slaves will be there selling burgers and hot drinks, so there are plenty of refreshments to keep us all warm and fed. We will have recorded music as backing to help us keep in time and in the same key! After the singing The White Horse are kindly providing complimentary mulled wine and mince pies so everyone is welcome to walk across to the pub afterwards.

We will be collecting donations on the night in aid of the Alzheimers Society, so please give generously.

(If the weather is too bad to do the singing on The Green the White Horse have agreed that we can sing inside the pub, so please keep an eye on social media for updates just in case).

Village Walk

Sun 22nd January

10am meet at the Old Bus Shelter on the Green.

This is a healthy and social activity, and a great opportunity to get to know other villagers. So why not come along and work off a few of those Christmas pounds, as well as banishing those January blues! The route will be about 5 miles long and will last about 2 hours so we should be back in time for Sunday lunch. Everyone welcome, including accompanied children and dogs (on leads). Hope to see you there.

Future Events

We are planning further activities for later in the year such as the Beyton Village Quiz, an event to celebrate the Coronation, an Abba Music Night and a Summer Fayre. Please keep an eye out in future magazines for details.

Anyone interested in joining the BVA Committee to help organise these events should contact Anselm Gurney on 01359 270176, or simply come along to the next BVA Committee meeting on Wed 11th Jan in The White Horse, starting at 7.30pm.



Chair Beyton Village Association



REMEMBERING YOUR FAITHFUL FRIEND THIS CHRISTMAS



Christmas may be a time to remember family and friends – but **Dogs Trust Snetterton** is also asking local dog owners to remember their four-legged friends this festive time, with a *Canine Care Card*.

The Canine Care Card is a free service, which helps to ensure your dog's future, in the event of you either passing away, receiving a life-changing diagnosis or moving into a care home. This can often be a great concern to some people, who perhaps do not have a family member or friend in a position to look after their dog, should the worst happen. Therefore, by signing up to the service, Dogs Trust can offer peace of mind, reassuring you that your faithful friend will be well cared for by the charity.

It is easy to sign up to the service, which simply asks for some information on your dog, including their likes and dislikes, as well as your dog's medical history and your vet details. It also asks for you to confirm who you would like as your Dog Guardian. This should be someone you trust, like a friend, family member, solicitor, neighbour or vet, who can sign over ownership of your dog to Dogs Trust on your behalf, should you become seriously ill or pass away.

You can register online by going to www.dogstrust.org.uk and searching for 'Canine Care Card' – or if you do not have access to the internet, you can request a paper version of the application form. Once the form is submitted, Dogs Trust will then write to you, to confirm when your application has been processed.

Once signed up, should your card ever need to be activated, Dogs Trust will then arrange with your Dog Guardian for your dog to come into the rehoming centre or into foster care. With a team of vets, trainers and behaviourists on hand if needed, your dog will then be welcomed, loved and well cared for by the charity, who will work tirelessly to find a loving new home for your much-loved canine companion.

If you would like further information about the *Canine Care Card*, or to request a paper application form, please contact Dogs Trust Snetterton's Supporter Relations Officer, Paige Pope, at paige.pope@dogstrust.org.uk or phone 01953 497912.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR



Is it time to say 'Goodbye, geese'?

Once again our geese are caged up in a pen rather than running free in the village. Is that what we want? Avian flu is becoming increasingly prevalent, causing a great deal of concern both locally and nationally. That means our small flock is seemingly now at permanent risk and the list of concerns is growing:

- If Avian flu affects our geese they would almost certainly have to be put down, and geese are believed to be highly vulnerable.
- A neighbouring poultry farmer has expressed concern about possible cross-contamination from Beyton geese.
- Enclosing, feeding and looking after the geese costs money (£1,000 in next year's draft budget) and manhours.
- Even in good times the mess from droppings on The Green, in particular around the play area, has brought vitriolic complaints from some very unhappy people.
- Some residents are genuinely concerned about animal welfare.

On the other hand, other residents like to have the geese around and a village opinion poll carried out about 10 years ago voted in favour of keeping them.

However time moves on and maybe we should now be giving consideration to leaving this rustic nostalgia behind and making Beyton a better place to live. An attractive goose-related sculpture, for example, might well retain the historic link, preserve our character and take us forward.

If you have any thoughts either way, why not go to the village website and click on Contact Us?

Roger Brand

Country boy and long-time Beyton resident



Graham Jones, Chair of Beyton Parish Council (BPC) replies: 'Thank you for your letter, Roger, much food for thought for villagers. However, it is important to restate that the Council has followed all advice received from Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs and the Animal and Plant Health Agency over the geese.

I do need to pick you up on one point though. You state that 'A neighbouring poultry farmer has expressed concern about possible cross-contamination from Beyton geese'. That statement needs context. You are referring to an email written over a year ago *before* the Parish Council had undertaken *any* measures whatsoever in relation to the geese. In other words that concern was expressed when the geese were wandering freely around The Green before they had been penned in for the first time. We worked together with that particular farmer to design and source materials for the pen constructed last year and also the one you see today. We were and still are grateful for the support and advice given to us by our neighbour and the responsible authority, DEFRA

To our best of our knowledge no farmers are concerned now that the geese are securely housed.



SPEEDWATCH

Sadly speeding in the village remains an issue.

Throughout September and October we recorded 188 vehicles travelling in excess of 35pmh throughout the village. We have noticed a number of drivers overtaking coming down Tostock Road into the village . . . overtaking when the speed limit is 30mph!!!

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CONTACT INFORMATION



Beyton Village News Comments & Contributions

Email: editor@beytonvillage.news



Websites

<https://beyton.suffolk.cloud>



Facebook

Beyton Village Community
Beyton Village Association
The White Horse Beyton



Twitter

@beytontweets
@thurstoncollege



PC

Clerk

Tina Newell – 01449 672825
parishclerk@beyton-pc.gov.uk



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Beyton All Saints Church

The Rev'd Graham Rendle – 01359 270924 – www.allsaintsbeyton.co.uk

Shops

Thurston – Co-Op

Tel 230803 – Opening hrs: Every Day 7am-10pm

Thurston – Cracknells

Tel 270256 – Opening hrs: Mon-Sat 7am-9pm, Sunday 8am-9pm

Thurston – PO Londis

Tel 230450 – Opening hrs: Mon-Sat 6:30am-8:30pm, Sunday 8.00am-6pm

Rougham – Meg's Farm Shop Rougham Hall Nurseries

Tel 270577 – Opening hrs: Mon-Sat 9am-5pm, Sunday 10am-4pm

Rougham – PO

Tel 270201 – Opening hrs: Mon-Fri 7.30am-6pm, Sat 9am-12.30, Sun 9am-12

Garages

Beyton Garage Tel 01359 271166

Thurston Cracknells Tel 01359 270256

Pubs Restaurants

The White Horse Tel 01359 270324



