



# Easton Village Newsletter

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### FARMER BURTON'S COUNTRY TALK



I have been asked to write a piece on the future of the Common Agricultural policy and the future of farming after Brexit. If only I knew the answers! I really need a crystal ball or someone who can read the future - even the Government doesn't know! The NFU (National Farmers Union) said that plans are in place to minimise disruption for the farming sector in the event of a no deal Brexit, but the amount of support for individual sectors has yet to be decided. Concern is mounting that sheep producers, in particular, could see their livelihoods devastated if the Brexit transition period ends without a deal on December 31<sup>st</sup>. We need to get everyone in this country to buy BRITISH, food of the highest standard to be proud of!

On top of that there are many changes to the Agricultural Policy. The countryside will radically change: there will be more trees, meadows and wetlands (have they seen how wet my fields are already?) as well as fewer sheep and cattle. EU farm subsidies will be phased out and the new system called Environmental Land Management (ELM) will pay farmers to help prevent flooding, plant trees and help wildlife. This time is very

concerning for all farmers, many of whom like to plan the next couple of years in advance but don't know what is happening in two weeks' time! The changes apply to England, with Scotland and Wales making their own policies.

I was very pleased to get my wheat drilled in the very small window of dry weather in late October but I know of many farmers who are still waiting to drill and they will probably have to wait now until the Spring. With the wet weather that came straight after we drilled, the crop has grown well and grew away from the small amount of slug damage that the little molluscs were giving it. After drilling, I spread a small patch of grain in each field and check it the next morning to see how many slugs are in that small patch; I then decide if there is enough to warrant applying slug pellets to the whole field.

The UK has recorded a second outbreak of bird flu in a matter of days. It is now a legal requirement for all farmers and poultry keepers to keep their birds indoors or within a netted area that doesn't let wild birds in. Please stay safe and we hope that the New Year is a healthy one.

## **DEFIBRILLATOR**



## **Easton Parish Council**

The Parish Council is pleased to confirm that the village Defibrillator is now installed at its new location and the emergency services have been advised. The photograph shows it in place on the front wall of No.3 The Lane and it is clearly visible from the road. Considering the safety of the unit, there are security cameras in the area and the unit is in a secure cabinet which requires a security code to open. The code has been circulated in the past, but for those who do not have it recorded, please speak to a Parish Councillor and do not communicate this outside of the village. Our thanks go to Helen and Tom who offered to have this sited on their house and also to maintain the unit.

However, the overall responsibility and ownership for this continues to lie with the Parish Council. Please remember that in case of emergency the first action should always be to ring 999 to ensure the emergency services can respond to the incident, and then if required, obtain the defibrillator.

## **59 CLUB**

## **John Maith**

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to one and all. We have the December and January draws before I will, once again, be doing the rounds for the start of the 2021

year. Anyone in Easton who would like to take part in 2021, but does not currently hold a number, you are very welcome. Each number (1 - 59) is £12 for the year and every month (last Saturday of the month) someone wins £25. The winning number is taken from the bonus ball in the National Lottery Lotto draw. The money raised is used for the maintenance of the Church, so we welcome all to participate. You can contact me at [maiths60@hotmail.com](mailto:maiths60@hotmail.com) or by phone 891647. The winners for October and November were Margaret Halliday and John Hill respectively. Congratulations to Margaret and John. The December draw will be on Boxing Day, so good luck to all. Let's hope 2021 is a much better year and we can again all get together for various events throughout the year. Stay safe!

## CHURCH SERVICES IN JANUARY

At the time of going to print, there is considerable uncertainty about what will be possible in 2021 and any plans may be subject to change. Current expectation is that Easton will have the following:

**10<sup>th</sup> January 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion;**

**24<sup>th</sup> January 9.30 a.m. Morning Worship**

For further information please go to [www.kymchurch.org.uk](http://www.kymchurch.org.uk), see the church notice board or speak to one of the Churchwardens.

## EASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Easton Parish Council has scheduled a Parish Council meeting via 'Zoom' for 8.00pm on 14th January 2021. If you are not already on the Parish Council mailing list and would like the link to join the meeting please email: [clerk\\_eastonpc@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:clerk_eastonpc@yahoo.co.uk). The Easton Parish Council would like to wish everyone a very Happy and stay-healthy-and-safe New Year!

**Obstructions:** The Parish Council frequently receives complaints about obstructions placed on verges in front of properties. As the owners of the verges around the village, the CCC Highways Officer has already agreed with a number of residents the removal of these obstructions. It is understood that the property owner could be liable for the costs of repairing damage caused to any person or vehicle by any of the obstructions. All the roads in the village are narrow and vehicles attempting to pass each other run the risk of substantial damage from the rocks to the underside of the vehicle.

This problem has also recently been highlighted by the operators of the bus companies running services into the village where their vehicles now have a lower wheelbase to allow for wheelchair access. Similarly, waste bins left on the verge or edge of the road long after the bin has been emptied have been causing an obstruction. HDC state: *"the earliest the bin can be put out is 6pm the day before collection and wheeled bins should*

*be returned to your property as soon as possible after emptying.*" Thank you for your help and co-operation.

**Community Speedwatch:** A very good number of people have confirmed their interest in volunteering to help with the Community Speedwatch initiative to be co-ordinated with Cambridgeshire Constabulary. A road survey is to be carried out and the Speedwatch Organiser is to arrange training in the new year. If you have not already expressed an interest and would like further details please forward your name by email to the Parish Council at: [clerk\\_eastonpc@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:clerk_eastonpc@yahoo.co.uk). Thank you.

## **NEW YEAR WASTE COLLECTION - HDC**

The **household recycling centres** will close at 1pm on Christmas Eve and will be closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. A booking system is now in place at all sites so if you are planning on visiting between Christmas and the New Year, book a slot today. Visit [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk) for more information.

**Christmas Tree Recycling:** We are supporting East Anglia's Children's Hospice again this year who will be collecting real Christmas trees for recycling on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January. To check availability and book your slot visit [just-helping.org.uk/register-tree](http://just-helping.org.uk/register-tree). Donations received from the Christmas tree collection provide vital funds for your hospice and other local charities. Alternatively, real trees can be placed by the side of the garden bin on collection day. If the tree is bigger than the bin, we ask that it is chopped in half. The Household Recycling Centres will also take Christmas trees.

## **LONDON LUTON AIRPORT FLIGHTPATHS**

As you may already be aware the [public consultation on new arrival flightpaths](#) into London Luton Airport is now running. Currently, Stansted and Luton airports share airspace and flight paths, and the proposals are to separate these. The Parish Council is registering a formal objection and suggests that everyone registers their own views on the formal consultation website which contains a virtual exhibition with more information and maps. A shortened version of the consultation has now been released <https://www.nats.aero/vr/ad6/static-docs> which may be more helpful.

## **FOUND ...**

A small power charger in the bus shelter. Would the owner please claim it back from Mike Baker.

***Deadline for the February newsletter is 25<sup>th</sup> January***