



The Swift

FRISTON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER



Friston Covid 19 Support Update

Even with lockdown easing it is reassuring for people to know that there is a point of contact if the need should arise. Please contact fristonvillage@gmail.com with your name and contact details & we can put you in touch with one of our volunteers. If you don't have email, please phone Briony Sones on 07885 560380. *Briony Sones*

Parish Council update

Village Sign - Probably not many will have noticed the sorry state of our village sign. Not surprising given its inconspicuous position behind the Jubilee (Bus) Shelter. Erected in 1977 to mark the jubilee of the Queen's Accession, the sign is now well past its sell-by date. The oak boarding and framework are fragmenting, and one of the frame supporting brackets (and a securing peg) is missing. Restoration may be possible, and if there is anyone in the village with the necessary expertise, or knows of someone suitable, we would very much like to hear from you. Please contact the Parish Clerk. Otherwise the sign will have to be dismantled and we would then need to consider a replacement, and also its most appropriate location.



Play Equipment - Although the new Government guidance is not totally clear, the Parish Council is reasonably confident that it is able to bring the Play Equipment back into use from Saturday 4th July, and would like to thank everyone for keeping clear of the play area during the past weeks. Use of this facility is rarely intense, but it would be advisable for no more than six children to play on the equipment at any one time, and from no more than two different households. Surface contamination is likely to be light, and mitigated by the sterilizing effect of ultra-violet, but parents should consider providing hand hygiene for children before and after use. Needless to say, no-one showing any symptoms of Covid-19 should be allowed to play on the equipment. Should future clarification to the Council necessitate changes to be made, the appropriate notices will be posted.

SZC - The Planning Inspectorate has accepted EDF's Development Consent Order for examination. Look out for a newsletter being delivered to all households or visit www.edfenergy.com/energy/nuclear-new-build-projects/sizewell-c for more information.

News from St Mary the Virgin

Whilst there has been some relaxation it is only possible to open the church for private prayer by approaching one of the designated key holders. For details see inside the porch. We all hope to recommence public worship as soon as restrictions have been lifted, and that looks like being Sunday 5th July. No doubt there will be a manual of rules to adhere to but we look forward to welcoming you to the church.

Date for your diary - 30th August - Songs of Praise on the Village Green - more details to follow *Carole Edwards*

SPR and SASES update

We are grateful to all those who submitted their Planning Inspectorate's 'Virtual Events Participation Questionnaire'. Your experiences were so serious that SASES submitted an extensive report and covering letter which raised issues of the robustness of their own systems in relation to the integrity of the Examination process. These can be found on SASES.org.uk. None of this augurs well for the Examination and there is increasing pressure to establish virtual hearings to get them underway. SASES had earlier submitted a detailed rejection of virtual hearings and their suitability for these major complex applications. Again, the letter can be found on the SASES website. We are aware that other residents have submitted separate letters of objection. The uncertainty as to when the Examination is due to start, the need to be prepared along with the requirements for virtual hearings all weigh heavily. Accordingly, we ask that you contact us with any issues and

concerns that you may have. The questionnaire farrago highlighted difficulties in keeping in touch during lockdown. During this beautiful Spring we have become even more aware of what is around us and how fortunate we are. It has also been difficult to maintain informal contact. SASES is anxious to hear your own views as you think more about what is proposed and you can e-mail us - saveeastssuffolk@outlook.com. Also do not forget to check the website SASES.org.uk and sign up for e-mail updates if you have not already done so. *Simon Ive for SASES*

The Old Chequers will reopen 4th July!

Visiting the bottle bank, many of us will have been encouraged seeing Carol tending the pots outside the pub. She and Andy have confirmed that they have been sprucing up the inside in anticipation of opening. They have confirmed they will open at 12 Noon on Saturday, 4th July. Meanwhile, they are poring over 40 pages of guidelines. The Government have asked that patrons leave their contact details when visiting so some have already pre-registered details at chequers.friston@hotmail.com!

Friston Goes Green

Many thanks to all those who dropped off an array of plants, vegetables and herbs for this event. Despite having the worst weather of the summer so far (including hail, wind, thunder & lightning!) we had a constant stream of people who were thrilled by what was available. Many thanks to all who came especially for your generosity: some buying produce and others making donations to the Hospice meaning that £400 was raised. Thanks to Mike Lewis for popping by every few hours to keep me company and to check the tent was still in one piece. Feedback I received was very positive with requests for another such event. Watch this space!

Marie Szpak

Peter Berry - 'Slow Puncture' - The Book

Peter Berry is probably best known locally for pedaling his penny-farthing around the area. You may not know that he was diagnosed at fifty with early onset dementia. Last June, the village waved him and his team of fellow cyclists off on his 300-mile Four Counties Challenge. He raised the incredible sum of £12,000 for the national charity, Young Dementia UK. It was a busy year for him since he also participated in the Channel 4 documentary, 'The Restaurant That Makes Mistakes'! He has recorded that year in a book, 'Slow Puncture' co-authored with Deb Bunt who was a member of the team and still accompanies him on his cycling trips. The book is due to be published at the end of September and you can read all about it by going to the website: <https://peterberrylwa.wixsite.com/peterberry/the-book> There you will find details of how to pre-order and includes a moving testimony from the actor, Hugh Bonneville. Peter is a most engaging speaker and we shall look to organise a Friston book launch when we are out of lockdown *Simon Ive*

Calling All Wannabe Editors/Advertising Executives/Reporters/Delivery Drivers!

This newsletter is being solely funded and organised by the Parish Council. It was agreed to fund 3 copies to help the village feel more connected during the lockdown period. There have been many positive comments about the newsletter and if there is anyone in the village who would like to be part of helping the newsletter continue and grow, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Friston Wildlife Watch

Well it seems the birds and bees have been doing what they do best! I have had reports from the village of cavorting pigeons, tawny owls nesting in the garden, bumblebees nesting in a bird box, a hedgehog family in a compost heap, Red deer in the fields, hares in the flowerbed and wood mice in the strawberry patch, not necessarily all welcome visitors. I'll leave you to decide! Thank you to all those who have shared their wildlife encounters, we may have a global crisis but it seems the natural world is thriving and Friston has its own healthy and diverse ecosystem - we must be doing something right! In the lock down I managed to build my own small wildlife pond, not much to report so far except insect larvae, but that doesn't stop me visiting several times a day to have a look just in case. I'll let you know when the otters arrive! If you have anything you would like to share, please send an email through to fristonvillage@gmail.com *Briony Sones*