

# HETHERSETT NEWSLETTER

September 2015

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## A Sign of the Times

AN historic Hethersett sign is back in place after a parish council refurbishment programme that has seen it restored to its original 1920s glory.

The “Please Drive Slowly” sign was moved from its position at the entrance to the village at the top of Great Melton Road into a central position on land further down Great Melton Road. Many residents felt that the sign looked unsightly, being dirty and full of rust.

Hethersett Parish Council decided to have it renovated and returned to its original glory as befitting one of the few from that era still remaining on active service in the county. Enthusiast Tony Langford, assisted by Nigel Ford, set to work and the resplendently cleaned and painted sign is now back in its place as a reminder both of history and the need to take care when driving through the village. It was officially un-



veiled by children from the Rockinghorse Nursery with parish councillors and members of the Hethersett Environmental Action Team (HEAT) and restorers Tony Langford and Nigel Ford looking on.

Nigel Ford has estimated the date of the original sign to approximately 1925, making it 90 years old this year. “We wanted to restore it whilst keeping the original look and feel so that it maintained its historic features and didn’t look brand new,” he said.

# Council to Outlaw Flyposting

HETHERSETT Parish Council is taking a zero tolerance attitude to illegal flyposting.

Councillors have expressed their concern over the proliferation of commercial and event posters being nailed to telegraph poles and other structures in the village and not being taken down after events have passed.

Councillors agreed to outlaw such posters and have them pulled down,

reminding those putting them up that there are five council owned noticeboards in the village and a number of businesses that accept and display posters. The council is also sending letters to residents who cause obstruction by allowing hedges and trees to overhang footpaths and also monitoring inconsiderate parking in the village, particularly where motorists park partly on pavements, making it impossible for pushchairs to get through.

## Parish Council News

HETHERSETT Newsletter is published quarterly in March, June, September and December by Hethersett Parish Council and distributed throughout the village.

Hethersett Parish Council is a quality standard council which meets monthly in Hethersett Village Hall. The council's planning committee meets every two weeks. All meetings are open to the public and there is an opportunity for residents to bring up issues at the beginning and towards the end of full council meetings. Coming full council dates are as follows: September 14th, October 19th, November 16th and December 21st. All starting at 7.30 pm.

We would like to point out that District Councillor Leslie Dale's telephone number is 01603 810952 and not as stated in the June newsletter.

Christopher Mallett was omitted from the Chairman's report published in the June newsletter when thanks were given to Councillors who stood down. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Christopher for his service to the parish council and village in general.

# Green Fingers on Display

KEEN Hethersett gardeners defied the rain to open their properties to the public and help raise a total of £1,750 for a World War One Commemorative bench in the village and the Norfolk Wildlife Trust local members group. A



total of 21 gardens took part in the day organised by the Hethersett Environmental Action Team (HEAT) and supported by Hethersett Parish Council.

Heavy rain during the morning didn't deter many villagers from setting off on foot to visit the gardens that were spread over a large area and included Woodcote Sheltered Housing Scheme and Woodside Infant and Nursery School. Starting point for many was Hethersett Social Club where there were stalls run by HEAT, Wymondham Nature Group and the Norfolk Master Composters, along with information on wildflowers, building insect houses and bird and bat boxes.

The gardens varied greatly from those with carefully preserved and manicured lawns, to rose gardens and areas with a slightly wilder aspect in keeping with a current Wild Hethersett project aimed at attracting more wildlife. Each of the gardens had been carefully thought out to reflect the character of individual owners and this was reflected in the programmes issued to guide the public round. The garden at Woodside Infant and Nursery School has been put together by the Green Fingers Group, a community based project provided by the nursery team, Surestart and local gardener Pauline Harper. The gardens were identified by scarecrows, many of which were made by leading Hethersett environmentalist and parish councillor Dr Anne Edwards. The event was also featured on Radio Norfolk's highly popular Treasure Quest programme with gardening expert Thordis Fridriksson. finding the treasure attached to an apple tree in Margaret Ford's garden in Lynch Green.

# Statement on Development

A planning application has been submitted to the planning authority, South Norfolk Council, for the first phase of the Hethersett North Development.

The stated position of the parish council has consistently been against this development. However, as outline planning consent has been granted, we must move on from debating that decision and focus on the challenges such substantial development will pose for the existing and future community of Hethersett.

Hethersett Parish Council will be working to ensure that the amenity of local residents is protected and due attention is paid to the mitigation of disruption to their lives by, for example, strict controls on construction traffic access and site activity times.

We shall be scrutinising the land plan, looking closely at how amenity land will be allocated and what funding will be available to the community to enhance existing and provide new services.

Residents who wish to comment on this development can make those comments known to the planning authority, South Norfolk Council, their district councillors and to the parish council.”

The development will be an agenda item for our full council meetings for the foreseeable future.

**Jacqueline Sutton Chair Hethersett Parish Council**

## FROM THE HETHERSETT VILLAGE HALL TRUSTEES

AS trustees, we always try to provide the best facilities for hirers of the village hall at all times. This does rely very much on having the full number of trustees on the hall management committee. This year we are two members short as the Hethersett annual parish meeting did not make the full quota of nominations.

Thus the trustees need to co-opt two people. Is being a trustee something that you would be interested in? If required one of the trustees can explain what is involved before anyone needs to make a decision about volunteering.

In the first instance please contact the hall secretary Fred Watkins on 01603 811390 or by email [mail@hethersettvillagehall.org.uk](mailto:mail@hethersettvillagehall.org.uk)