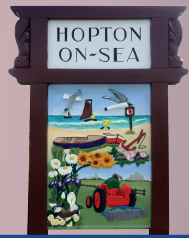


# villagenews



January 2024 Issue 4, Volume 14

A monthly magazine for the residents of Hopton-on-Sea

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Phoenix Karate School awards - see inside for details  
Hopton-on-Sea Parish Council wish all readers a Happy New Year

## ALSO IN THIS EDITION:

- **Youth Club news and photos**  
- See back cover  
- Volunteers urgently needed
- **New 20mph flashing speed signs coming to Coast Road**
- **Norfolk Constabulary priority Coast Road**
- **Cutting back Warren Road footpath - work to start in January**
- **Village People - who is featured this month?**
- **Could you be a voluntary dog warden in Hopton?**

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## village news

January 2024

dear reader,  
We hope you enjoy reading your monthly copy of Village News. If you have a news article or something you would like published, please get in touch, using the contact details below.

advertising sales  
If you are interested in advertising within this magazine, which is delivered free of charge to 1400 homes in Hopton every month and published on the Parish Council's website, then get in touch.

t 01502 730768  
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**12th January** for consideration in the next edition.  
**Julie McNair**  
hoptonparishclerk@hotmail.com

### Useful Contact Numbers

Hopton-on-Sea Parish Council	01502 730768
Hopton Village Hall	01502 730768
Great Yarmouth Borough Council	01493 856100
Norfolk County Council	03448 008020
Hopton Primary School	01502 730489
Hopton Medical Centre	01502 732246
Hopton Dental Surgery	01502 732124
Hopton Pharmacy	01502 733876
Hopton Co-Op	01502 731628
Hopton McColls/Post Office	01502 733617
Bus Times Information	0871 2002233
Cliff Park Ormiston Academy	01493 661504
Gas Emergency Service	0800 111999
Emergency Police/Fire/Ambulance	999
Norfolk Constabulary (Gorleston Police Station)	101 non emergency
James Paget Hospital	01493 452452
NHS Direct	111 for non emergency
Samaritans	01493 842800

# Welcome to Hopton

If you are new to Hopton, welcome! A copy of Village News will be delivered through your door every month. It should help you keep in touch with what's going on in Hopton. If you have any queries or we can help in any way please contact Julie, Clerk to the Council on 01502 730768 or pop into the Office at the Village Hall, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9.30am to 1.30pm. The Parish Council's website also has information at the click of a mouse.

**www.hopton-on-seapc.info**

We look forward to seeing you at one of the many events being held throughout the year in the village. There is also a Hopton Residents Facebook page (managed by residents).

### Norfolk Constabulary SNAP meeting

#### Priority Coast Road during school drop off/pick up times

Due to unforeseen circumstances the initial meeting was cancelled and re held on 14th Dec @7pm via Teams.

Southern Villages' previous priority was anti social behaviour/ vandalism at the ruins both in Hopton and Burgh Castle. There have been no more reports and no one came forward with any other priorities.

Luckily, a member of Hopton did also attend and spoke up about the parking at the school, saying it was a fatality waiting to happen. As there were no other people representing any of the other villages, Hopton was given priority. Police presence will be raised particularly at drop off/pick up times.

This just goes to show the importance of villagers representing themselves and voicing concerns at these meetings. Look out for the next meeting date that I will post on Facebook.

Zandra (resident)

**NOTE from the Parish Council:**  
New updated 20mph flashing signs coming to Coast Road - see County Cllr. Carl Annison's article in this edition of Village News.

# COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Make some room in your diary to support a local event ...

Are you involved in organising a local event? Let us know and we can spread the word. Contact hoptonparishclerk@hotmail.com or phone 01502 730768 and speak to Julie. Copy deadline is 12th of each month for inclusion in the following monthly edition.

**ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH:**  
Every Sunday at 11am Service

**LITTLE FOOTPRINTS:**  
every Thursday at the church  
9.15 to 11.15am (term time only).

**DROP IN AT THE CHURCH:**  
every Monday 10 to 12. All welcome.

**YOUTH CLUB:**  
every Friday 7 - 9pm (during term time).

**MARCH:**  
**Saturday 23rd March:** Easter Bingo in the Village Hall

**JUNE:**  
D. Day celebration June. Details to follow.  
**Saturday 15 June:** Party in the Park at the Recreation Ground.

**JUNE:**  
**Saturday 22nd June:** Summer Bingo

**SEPTEMBER:**  
**21st September:** Autumn Bingo Saturday

**NOVEMBER:**  
**Saturday 30th November:** Christmas Bingo

To find out what's on at Hopton Village Hall, view their website:  
**www.hopton-on-seavh.info**  
or phone **01502 730768**  
and speak to Kye to book a party or event.

Parish Council website:  
**www.hopton-on-seapc.info**

# PHOENIX KARATE SCHOOL

Four members of Phoenix Karate Schools competition squad travelled to Antibes, France for the WUKF European Championship a competition that attracted over 1300 competitors.

Following on from the clubs success at the World Championships in Dundee, Scotland in July, they once again returned triumphant with six gold, two silver and two bronze medals. As part of a seventeen strong National KKO team, they finished eighth in the medal table, beating some much larger squads.

Eight year old **Kayah** came away with Gold in Long weapons kata and Individual Kata.



**Aaliyah**, thirteen took Bronze in Individual Kumite and Gold in Team Rotation Kumite.

Sixteen year **Cory** received a Silver for Individual and Team Kumite and Gold in Team Rotation Kumite and a Bronze in Long Weapons Kata.

Veteran **Gavin** took Gold in Inclusive Kata and Combat.

All students train at Hopton Village Hall on a Wednesday evening in either the mixed age class or the

**New ADULTS ONLY class.**

*Anyone interested in joining them can*

contact Instructor **Vivianne Trorey** on **07895 550168** or email **phoenixkarate@hotmail.co.uk**

# YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

**Hopton on Sea Parish Council** meetings take place on the dates listed below commencing at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

The Agenda is published on the Parish Council's website and on the three noticeboards in the parish. A public forum takes place during each monthly session where you can raise issues that are of concern to you.

Parish Council website:  
**www.hopton-on-seapc.info**

### Meeting dates 2024:

8 January, 12 February, 11 March, 8 April, 13 May Annual Parish Council Meeting/Annual Parish Meeting, 10 June, 8 July, 12 August, 9 September, 14 October, 11 November, 9 December.

### Your Parish Cllrs are:-

Jan Windsor-Luck, Chairman	07941145152
Keith Bradley	07561266209
Yvonne Bradley	07879284973
Sue Hacon, Vice-Chair	01493 444271
Kevin Lee	07850555864
Pamela Oakes	07850584679
John Plaskett	07836251345
John Tonks	07956 873232
Julie McNair, Officer of the Council	01502 730768

(message service)  
e-mail: hoptonparishclerk@hotmail.com

County/Borough Cllrs for Bradwell South and Hopton Ward

E-Mail: Cllr.Carl.Annison@great-yarmouth.gov.uk  
Tel: 01493 656854

E-Mail: Cllr.Katy.Stenhouse@great-yarmouth.gov.uk

E-Mail: Cllr.antony.capewell@great-yarmouth.gov.uk

Hopton North Ward:

E-Mail: Cllr.paul.wells@great-yarmouth.gov.uk

### Your MP:

Brandon Lewis 01493 854550

There are Parish Cllr. **vacancies** that can be filled by co-option.

If any residents are interested in being co-opted to the Parish Council please contact Cllr. Jan Windsor-Luck in the first instance.

**Are you celebrating an anniversary, birthday, birth of a new baby or to announce the death of a loved one?**

Send your entry to **hoptonparishclerk@hotmail.com**

or drop your wording to the Office at the Village

Hall by the 12th of the month, for inclusion in the

following monthly edition.

**As we are moving into colder weather, this is just a reminder of where the grit bins are located in Hopton.**

1. Hall Road, off Lowestoft Road (near old Post Office).
2. Seaview Rise, next to 7 – 8 Manor Gardens.
3. Noel Close, junction Lowestoft Road.
4. Seafields Drive, junction Lowestoft Road.
5. Warren Road, junction Station Road/Coast Road, near Turnstone.

Please feel free to use the grit/salt bins for roads in your area (not private driveways) when the weather is icy. A request has been sent to NCC to replenish all the bins. They usually only fill half full each time.

NCC advise "GRIT BINS will be replenished on mass throughout the county once there has been a prolonged period of cold weather".

### Gritting route by NCC:

A47 into Hopton, Station Road through to Coast Road (to the Suffolk border). No other roads in Hopton are gritted by NCC.

**Caister Recycling Centre** is located on Pump Lane NR30 5TE. It is open daily 9am to 4pm and open as usual on Bank Holidays but closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. The site also has a reuse shop where you can buy unwanted items for bargain prices. For more information go to: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/>



Interested in taking part? Email Cllr. Kevin Lee at [klee.hospc@gmail.com](mailto:klee.hospc@gmail.com)

### 1. Describe yourself in five words.

Enthusiastic, Kind, Friendly, Reliable and Honest.

### 2. Can you say a little about why you chose those words?

I am an enthusiastic trained nurse with experience in A&E, ITU and rehab. I wanted to make a difference and prevent people from going to hospital unnecessarily but I also wanted to create a home where people found a new lease of life and carried on living life to the full. I promote a caring home which is somewhere people choose to work and live.

### 3. Tell me a bit about a typical day in your life.

By day I work as a General Manager of Ritson Lodge which could be any role within the home assisting with full oversight of the home. I also am a Mother to my family and help assist my partner on the farm when he needs me to help with something. I haven't quite mastered the art of tractor driving yet..... The residents and staff quite like it when he picks me up from work in the tractor as they call it my convertible!

### 4. What's your favourite thing about the village?

I love that when I became a manager they have supported me as a community and there is always someone to ask for help and support.

### 5. What's important to you?

My family are the most important thing to me. I have a son and 2 daughters who are all truly remarkable and I am so proud of them all. My partner Chris has been the most supportive person in my life, helping me in my role as a manager and helping with everything at home to keep me happy and healthy.

### 6. Tell me a funny/strange/unexpected story involving something that has happened to you?

Last Christmas we were trying to get the decorations sorted at work and it was all getting a little bit stressed. Instead of waiting for help with moving the main Christmas Tree, I decided to try to move it on my own and it came down on top of me leaving me wearing most of it. All the staff found this incredibly funny and took great pleasure in telling everyone that year!

This year the staff entered the scarecrow competition and knowing I am always up for a laugh, made a mermaid scarecrow with my face. They shared it on Facebook giving a prize to the best photo with mermaid Siobhan. Everyone thought this was highly amusing!

# Village People

**Village People is a new interview series about the people who live and work in Hopton**

Each month, we ask a different Hoptonite the same six questions. The questions cover a bit about what they do, why they do it, the things that are important to them and hopefully, a bit of humour too. For our second instalment, we have Siobhan Fennell, the General Manager of Ritson Lodge Care Home. A massive thank you to Siobhan for finding the time to complete the questions.

# Village People

# CHRISTMAS BINGO IN THE VILLAGE HALL

**Saturday 25th November** saw a packed house for the Christmas Bingo in the Village Hall. A big thank you to all the generous businesses, who donated some fantastic prizes, which helped us raise a whopping £1640, to enable members of Phoenix Karate Schools, competition squad, attend national and international events in 2024. Our members

would like to thank everyone who supported us, at this event and the others throughout 2023.

Dates for **2024** are as follows:-  
**Easter Bingo Saturday 23rd March, Summer Bingo Saturday 22nd June, Autumn Bingo Saturday 21st September, Christmas Bingo Saturday 30th November.**

We look forward to seeing you all there.

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# Winter Warm and Well offer from Norfolk Libraries

**This includes Gorleston Library at** 1 Lowestoft Rd, Gorleston-on-Sea, Great Yarmouth NR31 6QU. Opening times Thursday 10am to 7pm. Friday 10am to 7pm. Saturday 8am to 4pm. Sunday closed. Monday 10am to 7pm. Tuesday 10am to 7pm. Wednesday 10am to 7pm. Open Library Access 8am to 10am – speak to a member of staff about an access card.

From Monday 16 October all libraries will provide:

- **Free hot water bottles and blankets**, available for anyone in need and no questions asked
- **Free toiletries bag** containing deodorant, shampoo, bodywash and toothpaste. (Adults and children's

toothbrushes are available to help yourself to, or ask a member of staff)

- **Free 'Tricky Period To Go' bag.** (Sustainable items are available while stocks last, including period cups, washable pads and period pants)

Visit the **Adult Learning page for free courses at:** [www.norfolk.gov.uk/education-and-learning/adult-learning/courses](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/education-and-learning/adult-learning/courses)



# Norfolk County Council

## Other Services at Gorleston Library:

- Browse and borrow books and other library items
- Free access to computers and wifi
- Meeting rooms for hire
- Automatic doors
- Wheelchair accessible lift
- Accessible toilet
- Baby weighing facilities

**Dog fouling** is on the increase in Hopton once again. There is a temptation for dog owners to allow their pets to foul and not clear up after them, or to clear up and then throw the bag in a hedge.

Great Yarmouth Borough Council's Environmental Ranger team would like to remind dog owners that the whole of Great Yarmouth borough, including Hopton, is covered by a Public Space Protection Order – Dog Fouling. Failure to clear up after a dog has fouled can incur a fine of up to £1,000.

Please carry a dog bag or other means to pick up your dog's mess and take it home with you, or put your bag in any public waste bin

in the village.

The Environmental Health team can be contacted on **01493 846478**.

**Could you be a volunteer dog warden in Hopton? The role is about raising awareness, providing advice and handing out dog poo bags if necessary. The Environmental Ranger team can provide full training. If you are interested please contact the Parish Council who will co-ordinate with GYBC.**

**Please call 01502 730768 and speak to Julie or e-mail [hoptonparishclerk@hotmail.com](mailto:hoptonparishclerk@hotmail.com)**

## What's On at Hopton Village Hall Jan 24

[www.hopton-on-seaVH.info](http://www.hopton-on-seaVH.info)

Hopton-on-Sea Village Hall Management Trust wish all residents and village hall users a very Happy Christmas.

Bookings via website or phone **01502 730768** and speak to Kye.

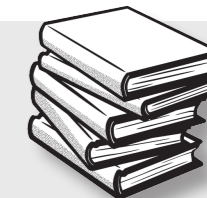
### Main hall

<b>Monday:</b>	Dance Academy 3.30pm to 7.30pm Badminton Club 7.30pm to 8.30pm
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Latin Rhythms 9am to 10.30am NHS Private Hire 11am to 1pm Slimming World 5.30pm to 7.30pm
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Pilates 9.15am to 10.15am Phoenix Karate 4.45pm to 8.15pm
<b>Thursday:</b>	Pickleball 10am to 12pm Badminton Club 12.30pm to 1.30pm Dance Academy 4pm to 4.45pm Yoga Sculpt 6pm to 7pm Zumba 7.15pm to 8.15pm
<b>Friday:</b>	Dance Academy 3.30pm to 6.30pm Youth Club 6.30pm to 9.00pm
<b>Saturday:</b>	Dance Academy 8.30am to 3.30pm Pickleball 3pm to 5pm
<b>Sunday:</b>	Little Kickers 9am to 11am Badminton 7.30pm to 8.30pm

### Small hall

<b>Tuesday:</b>	Dance Academy 4pm to 6pm Spiritualist Church 7.15pm to 10pm
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Dance Academy 6.30pm to 7pm Phoenix Karate Adult beginners 7.30pm to 8.30pm
<b>Thursday:</b>	Dance Academy 5pm to 7pm Pilates 7pm to 8pm
<b>Friday:</b>	Fifit Weight Class 9.45 to 10.45 Tai Chi 6pm to 7pm
<b>Saturday:</b>	Mini Ballet 10am to 11am Dance Academy 11am to 12pm
<b>Sunday:</b>	Spiritualist Church 6pm to 9pm

**EVENTS:** 8th - Blood Donors | 27th Quiz Evening



# HOPTON MOBILE LIBRARY

The mobile library visits Hopton once per month.

The location and times are as follows:

- 2.15 - 2.30pm - Lowestoft Road Opposite White Hart NR31 9AH
- 2.35 - 2.50pm - Old Church Road lay by NR31 9BZ
- 2.55 - 3.10pm - Rogers Close NR31 9RP

**NEXT VISITS (WEDNESDAYS):**

**24 January 2024,**

**21 February 20 March,**

**17 April, 15 May**

**12 June, 10 July**

Please note this information is subject to change or amendment both on a permanent and temporary basis.

For all enquiries about this route please call NCC on **01603 222303**

There is also a free book exchange at the Village Hall.



## The Honesty Book Exchange Point

There is an Honesty Book Exchange Point in the Village Hall for everyone to use. Bring in a paperback you have read, browse the books on the trolley, and exchange your book for another one. This is a community initiative at no cost. The village hall is open daily. Please remember to sanitise your hands before exchanging a book. No hardback books please, just paperbacks on exchange only. Please do not leave books without exchanging.

# #BUY NOTHING NEW MONTH

SAVE YOUR PENNIES. PROTECT YOUR PLANET



## Keep Britain Tidy Campaign Save your pennies!

This January, Keep Britain Tidy's award-winning Buy Nothing New Month campaign returns! This campaign is all about moving beyond simply recycling, to reducing the amount of new stuff that we buy, and by extension, the amount of waste that we create. We're encouraging members of the public to buy nothing new – bar the essentials – for just one month.

## KEEPING PATHWAYS CLEAR

Has your tree or hedge overgrown a pathway? Could your boundary hedge or tree be overgrowing a public pathway? Please check your boundaries and cut back hedging and tree branches to ensure safety and a clear pathway for everyone.

*Thank you.*



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# HOPTON-ON-SEA PARISH COUNCIL

Minute of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 11 December 2023 commencing at 7.30pm at Hopton Village Hall, Station Road, Hopton-on-Sea NR31 9BE.

**Present:** Parish Cllrs: Jan Windsor-Luck (Chairman), Yvonne Bradley, Keith Bradley, Sue Hacon (Vice-Chairman), Pam Oakes, John Plaskett.

**Also present:** County/Borough Cllr. Carl Anison. Julie McNair, Officer of the Council and one member of the public.

The Chairman pointed out housekeeping matters.

## 1. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies received from Parish Cllrs. Kevin Lee and John Tonks.

**2. To receive declarations of interest in respect of items on the agenda and consider any requests for dispensation.** Cllr. Oakes declared a pecuniary interest in respect of planning item 06/23/0772/HH below.

**3. Public Forum.** Nothing was raised.

**4. To confirm the Minute of the Parish Council Meeting held 13 November 2023.** It was proposed by Cllr. Y. Bradley and seconded by Cllr. Oakes to confirm the Minute. This was unanimously agreed.

## 5. To receive County and Borough Councillors' Reports.

Cllr. Anison advised he is supporting the Parish Council's bid for S106 money to replace play equipment at St. Clair Court. All rubbish has now been cleared at the development north Lowestoft Road. Some discussion has taken place between GYBC and NCC regarding a gate across the road to stop fly tipping.

GYBC is in favour, NCC is opposed. A bollard also needs to be placed in the cycle/footpath.

The faulty street light at Tower View has been reported. Cllr. Anison continues to lobby Highways England for a crash barrier on the A47 from Links Road roundabout to Hopton to make the area safer for cyclists and pedestrians. GYBC Tree Surgeon visited the Repton development, Lowestoft Road (Lovells site) and advised that no trees were cut down that had tree preservation orders on them. Cllr. Anison will speak to the resident who raised the concerns.

The £1M NCC road safety fund may be available again next year. This is not the same as the Parish Partnership Scheme. Item 11 below refers.

## 6. To consider the Clerk's reports.

**a) Correspondence.** As listed and circulated.

**b) Planning applications.**

06/21/0471/CU Change of use of existing paddock land to equine use and livery (retrospective) (Revised Location Plan) at land off Hall Road Hopton.

06/21/0472/F Change of use of land from equestrian to keeping of animals and poultry and permanent retention of outbuildings (contrary to condition 1 of original planning permission for stables 06/14/0573/F and requirement to remove them by October 2023) (Revised Description and Location Plan) at land off Hall Road Hopton. Cllr. Oakes declared a financial interest in the following application and left the room. 06/23/0772/HH Proposed removal of 6m of the existing palisade fencing and construction of replacement 2.9m high brick wall to match the existing to the south at Hopton Manor Hall Road Hopton. All the above are with the Planning Committee for consideration.

Cllr. Oakes returned to the room.

**Permissions Granted by GYBC:-** None  
**Planning Permissions Refused by GYBC:** None

**Other:** None

**c) Finance. To agree December 2023 invoices for payment and bank reconciliation statement as at 31 October 2023.**

Eight payments and two direct debits from the business current account totalling £4,069.40. It was proposed by Cllr. Hacon and seconded by Cllr. Plaskett to approve the list of payments and bank reconciliation statement. This was unanimously agreed.

## 7. To receive information and consider matters relating to the budget/precept 2024/25.

**a) Confirm the Minute of the Policies & Finance Advisory Committee meeting held 30 November 2023.**

It was proposed by Cllr. Plaskett and seconded by Cllr. K. Bradley to approve the Minute. This was unanimously agreed.

**b) Recommendation from the Policies & Finance Advisory Committee.**

In view of the budget figures and reduced income (reduction in the Concurrent Functions. Grant from GYBC), it is recommended to increase the precept by £3.77 per annum for a band D property (all other bands proportionate). This is subject to the tax base figure being in the region of 1160 for the Parish. Any slight variation in the tax base will affect the amount. However, if there

is a significant variation to the tax base, the matter can be reviewed again prior to the 12 January 2024 deadline. GYBC is encouraging Parish Council's to increase the precept.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr. Y. Bradley and seconded by Cllr. Oakes to increase the precept, as set out above. This was unanimously agreed.

## 8. To consider matters relating to the Millennium Garden/Ruin.

**a) Work carried out by Abate Pest Management Services Ltd to remove the pigeon poo from the base of the tower and generally clean as per GYPT report.** The work started last week. All pigeon poo has been removed and the walls of the tower cleaned. Some scaffolding remains and will be taken away in the New Year, at which time the new netting will be installed.

**b) Re-pointing parts of the walls.** Work will be carried out, as previously agreed, when there are a couple of good weather days.

**c) Delivery and lighting of Christmas Trees.**

The Christmas Tree (free) has been delivered and decorated with lights, which are on a timer.

The smaller one metre pot grown tree will be delivered and planted in the spring.

**d) Possibility of LED lighting around the Millennium Garden. Public consultation.**

The potential lighting of the Ruin was discussed in 2021. At that time the Diocese (Hopton CE Primary Academy) advised that it would not be possible to have a separate metered electricity spur off the school. There is an outside socket on the school building that the Parish Council has use of to light the Christmas Tree, for which a donation is made to the school to cover the cost.

A feasibility study for lighting the Ruin was discussed in 2021 and the cost of a design, as quoted by The Norwich Architectural Lighting Company, was £200 plus VAT. Planning permission would need to be sought from GYBC, and written consent from the Church of England Commissioners to the proposal and final design.

Full costings would need to be obtained and a village wide consultation to see whether the proposals are supported by residents and to ensure money is well spent.

A copy of the restrictive covenants relating to the use of the Millennium Garden have previously been circulated to all Cllrs. It may be possible to have low level solar lighting to avoid the problem of a permanent electricity supply. The matter is to be carried forward to a future meeting.

## 9. To consider matters relating to the Recreation Ground/Pavilion.

**a) Meeting with Graeme Watson, Arboricultural Officer, GYBC to assess all trees to establish condition and ownership.**

A meeting took place and Mr Watson has provided a plan showing the position of all trees.

However, he was not able to provide advice to the Parish Council.

Most trees and shrubs on the boundary fences do not belong to the Recreation Ground and are not therefore maintained by the Parish Council. Any growth that appears to be in the gap between the wire fence and private fencing is not maintained by the Council. Private fences have been moved over the years.

In relation to the two oak trees on the east side of the field, it is suggested that an independent tree surgeon is appointed to assess both these trees. One has the protection of a Tree Preservation Order. A report by an independent tree surgeon would be lodged with the Parish Council's insurers for their information.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr. Windsor-Luck and seconded by Cllr. K. Bradley to appoint an independent tree surgeon to assess the two oak trees. A budget of up to £400 to be set. This was unanimously agreed.

**b) One line of existing Laurels removed and replanted.**

Work will be carried out either December or January by the contract gardener.

**c) Re-installation of car park post.** The work has been carried out, as previously agreed. There is a water pipe immediately under the post which has been checked and is not leaking.

**d) Emergency repairs to stop leak south changing, back room.** The leak has now been isolated. Work is due to be carried out shortly.

**e) Meeting with Hopton Harriers FC re fire risk checklist.** Matter carried forward to a future meeting.

## 10. Call for more volunteer community dog wardens.

As dog mess is once again on the increase on pavements and fields, a call for additional volunteer community dog wardens has been published in Village News and on Facebook pages. Full training will be provided by Environmental Health, GYBC. This is not a confrontational role. It is about providing advice, giving out dog poo bags if needed and conversing with dog owners. If anyone is interested, please contact the Clerk.

## 11. To receive information and consider new updated 20mph advisory flashing speed signs on Coast Road to replace the existing that are no longer effective. Coast Road is a 30mph limit.

Following discussions with NCC Highways to see what can be done to enhance safety outside the school, it has been suggested that new updated 20mph advisory flashing

speed signs would be of some benefit. A quote has been obtained from Westcotec for 2 mains powered signs and two 76mm post extensions at £3,828.00 plus VAT. A further sum of £1,000 plus VAT (for both signs) is payable to NCC for ten years maintenance/electricity costs and replacement should any of the equipment be vandalised in anyway. The Parish Partnership Scheme administered by NCC has now closed for this year, but may become available next year. This is a 50/50 scheme and the upgrading of the flashing signs would fall within the required category for funding. Alternatively, Cllr. Anison advised the £1M NCC road safety fund may be available again next year. He will investigate this further.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr. Windsor-Luck and seconded by Cllr. Oakes to postpone this item until Spring 2024 when more information will be known regarding the Parish Partnership Scheme and/or £1M NCC road safety fund. This was unanimously agreed.

## 12. To receive and consider updates from previous Minutes.

**a) Plans for the 80th anniversary of D Day 6 June 2024.**

Ritson Lodge has been approached and they would be willing to facilitate a WW2 style afternoon tea for residents. A meeting will be taking place at the school in January 2024 to ascertain whether a few school children could attend, along with any other groups. Organisation is at an early stage and more information will be available over the coming months.

**b) Draft Biodiversity Policy.**

A draft policy has been circulated. Comments to be submitted as soon as possible. Matter carried forward to a future meeting.

**c) Meeting with Warren Road Residents Association. Maintenance of the footpath.** A meeting took place on 27 November 2023 attended by Cllr. Plaskett and the Clerk. Notes have been circulated. The long-standing problem of maintenance of the Warren Road footpath is a difficult one with legal implications. The footpath is well used by walkers and cyclists, however, there is no maintenance programme in place because ownership of the land is in question. The footpath is not a designated one, and is not on the definitive map. At this time, there is no possibility of getting the footpath recognised on the definitive map nor adopted by NCC Highways to maintain. If the Parish Council want to have the footpath cut back 2 or 3 times a year, this could be achieved, and two options were put forward.

The first is a quotation from the Contract Gardener to trim hedges, brambles and the sides, cutting back overhead branches and removing most of the green waste to the existing bonfire pile at the Millennium Garden. The work would take 2 days per visit, at a cost of £273.00. The second option is with the Norfolk & Suffolk Probation

Service, Unpaid Work Unit. Following conversations with the Placement Co-Ordinator, the Work Unit could carry out maintenance 2 or 3 times a year, using hand tools only i.e. no strimmers. They would need an area to park both ends of the footpath. Toilet facilities must be provided and the disabled toilet at the Recreation Ground would be suitable. Any green waste would be bagged up and taken to the existing bonfire pile at the Millennium Garden. It might mean that a bonfire is needed twice a year rather than only once at present. The Probation Service work is free of charge.

Much discussion took place. It was proposed by Cllr. Oakes and seconded by Cllr. Plaskett to accept the quotation of £273 from the contract gardener to carry out the work as soon as possible. This was unanimously agreed.

The Probation Service may be asked to carry out work in the Spring. Residents of Cliff Cottages, the Golf Club and the Residents Association will be advised of the decision.

## 13. To consider showing a sign of appreciation to the Parish Clerk for her work over the past year.

The Clerk was thanked for her work during the year and presented with a card and gift (not from public funds).

## 14. Result of uncontested election.

Steve Ames has been elected unopposed (ie no election required as only one candidate), with effect 20 December 2023.

## 17. To confirm the date and time of the next meeting of Hopton-on-Sea Parish Council.

Confirmed Monday 8 January 2024, 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at approx. 8.10pm.

These Minutes are in draft format and unconfirmed until approved at the next Parish Council meeting. The Clerk to the Parish Council can be contacted in the following ways:-

**E-Mail:** hoptonparishclerk@hotmail.com

**Tel:** 01502 730768 (message service)

**Website:** www.hopton-on-seapc.info

**Address:** Office at the Village Hall Station Road Hopton-on-Sea NR31 9BE.

Office open Mon, Tues, Thurs, Friday 9.30am to 1.30pm (flexible).

## New flashing 20mph speed signs for Coast Road are in the pipeline

Dear Residents,

I would like to wish all the residents of Hopton a happy new year, and hope you all had a fantastic Christmas.

During the holidays I thought I would give you an update on various matters that I have been working on recently as your Borough and County Councillor.

As many will know there has been much concern from residents, Hopton Primary School and the Parish Council regarding road safety



outside the School on Coast Road. Many issues have been raised, and one was the request for new flashing 20mph advisory road signs outside the school. Looking into this and working with Hopton Parish Council, it was clear certain funding routes for this type of work had been exhausted and over subscribed for the next financial year. So discussing this with NCC Highways I proposed if money from my County Councillors Highways Budget was available. Good news came back saying there are funds available to make this go ahead sooner for the residents and School children. At this stage I don't have a fixed date for these to be completed, but will keep you all updated. I regularly work with Norfolk Police to visit this location when possible, as I continue to get complaints regarding how people drive and park during the school pick ups and drop offs. Please I urge everyone to respect the highway and take extra care outside the school during these times.

With respects to the building site North

of Hopton on the Lowestoft Road, I have been working with the developer and GYBC Environmental Department to get this area cleared of builders waste.

The area has been greatly improved due to my continued intervention in highlighting this matter with the local authorities.

I continue to try and get gates erected at the end of the road to prevent fly tipping but this currently is difficult getting both councils (GYBC and NCC) to agree a solution, but I will keep at it.

Once again, it is an honour to serve you all and if you have any concerns, please contact me.

Kind Regards

Carl Annison  
County/Borough Councillor  
Lothlingland Division  
Carl.annison.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk  
Direct Dial: 01603 729219

## Carols around the Ruin 2023

Carols around the Ruin 2023 proved to be one of the most challenging events we have organised this year. The event was cancelled due to the weather and the wet ground at the Ruin/Millennium Garden. Then one of the committee members suggested that we ask Nigel Lacey, the Vicar of St. Margaret's Church if we could use the church for the day to save the event. We are extremely grateful that Nigel and his team handed over the church, and we made emergency venue change calls to all the stall holders. Unfortunately, we lost around 8 of them as they had already cancelled and made alternative plans for their day. Despite going from being organised to unorganised within minutes, we believe the day went well. Saturday truly showed a genuine community spirit in the village, which was lovely. We appreciate everyone who pulled together and helped change the venue, and all those who came along to enjoy the event. Without people participating and enjoying what we do, it's all for nothing, so it really means a lot that you all continue to support us. Our thanks also go to RWR, Arc Cinema and the Parish Council for supporting this event. Keep your eyes peeled as we will be hiding ducks for the Christmas Duck Hunt.

Hopton Residents Events Team - Ian, Carole, Steve, Helen, Anne, Paula, Daniel, Jack, Abigail, Amber, Simon, Paul, Zoe, Anthony, Jade & Derren.

## Norfolk Recycling Centres Household DIY waste

Norfolk residents will be able to dispose of small amounts of DIY waste at Norfolk's Recycling Centres free of charge from 31 December following changes made by Norfolk County Council.

The change applies to small-scale projects carried out by householders on their own home, allowing them to bring a maximum 100 litres (must fit into 2 x 50l bags) for free or one single item (maximum size of 200cm x 70cm x 75cm). Each household is allowed four free visits with DIY waste every four weeks. Anything beyond this will still be charged at normal rates.

Cllr Eric Vardy, Norfolk County Council Cabinet Member for Environment and Waste, said: "This is very welcome news for Norfolk residents who have carried out small projects on their homes or gardens and can bring these materials to us

for recycling or disposal.

"From 31 December, the Government has set out the limits to household DIY waste which can be taken free of charge, but our Pay As You Throw service will remain in place as a convenient way to get rid of larger amounts. It's important that people are encouraged to dispose of their waste responsibly.

"In 2022/23 the County Council's Recycling Centres handled more than 60,000 tonnes of waste and 72% of this was diverted from disposal. We hope this change to legislation will be a further boost to householders to recycle as much as they can."

The change in policy follows Government abolishing charges for the disposal of limited amounts and types of DIY waste at recycling centres across the UK.

Traders must continue to pay for DIY waste.

For more information [www.norfolk.gov.uk/DIYwaste](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/DIYwaste)



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**Please can you help?** – After losing 3 volunteers over the last 4 months we are in **desperate need for more volunteers**, even if you can only support once a month, or be called upon for sickness or planned absence cover, we look forward to hearing from you. We are open on Friday evenings at the village hall during school term times.

We require volunteers to do any of the following:

- Help set-up from 6:30pm till 7pm before the members arrive (some heavy lifting may be involved)
- Help pack away from 8:45pm (some heavy lifting may be involved)
- Assist anytime between 7-9pm with the members ensuring,
  - The rules are being obeyed (i.e. being a hall monitor)
  - One to one play (i.e. having a game of table tennis with a member)
  - Group play (i.e. refereeing a ball game, leading a cooking class)
  - Help run the tuck shop
- Be talented and creative in arts and crafts, sports or music and share these talents with the members.

With more volunteers we can remain open and avoid any closures outside the school holidays, take some pressure off the regular volunteers and implement the requests from the members of additional activities/games they would like to take part in. We can never have enough volunteers so however small you feel your support might be to us please get in touch.

However, it would be great if we found a volunteer who has the passion to be involved with the club full time and commitment to regularly attendance. If you are 18 years old or over and interested in helping out then please call Liz on: **07729 093748**.

To enrol your child to start 1st March 2024, please pick up a form from the Village Hall any Friday's 6:30pm till 9pm during term time, all completed forms to be submitted by 16th February. Alternately you can request a form via email [hoptonyouthclub@outlook.com](mailto:hoptonyouthclub@outlook.com) to be sent a copy. Completed forms can be returned by email, during Youth Club sessions at the Village Hall or posted in the Village Hall post box. If this date is missed the next membership enrolment will be for April 2024.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer and help out on an evening, please call Liz on **07729 093748** or email: [hoptonyouthclub@outlook.com](mailto:hoptonyouthclub@outlook.com), we look forward to hearing from you.

Alternatively, pop in and see us, we are open on Friday evenings at the village hall during school term times from 6:30pm till just after 9pm.

**Facebook users, don't miss out on what is going on; please join the Hopton Youth Club**

**Facebook group:**  
[www.facebook.com/groups/265693031523615](https://www.facebook.com/groups/265693031523615)  
and keep up to date with current events.

The Youth Club hopes you had a lovely festive break and looks forward to welcoming all the members back on Friday 19th January 2024.

We ended the year with a very fun filled Christmas party, all members took part in the party games and plenty of prizes were won. Members also enjoyed hotdogs and ice cream.

After being involved with us since 2010, Ida has made the decision to resign as a volunteer and committee member, we will miss her invaluable help and support. As a little thank you, Ida was presented with a card, chocolates, and a gift as a token of our appreciation and to thank her so very much for her dedication and support to the youth club, she will be greatly missed.

**TREASURER REQUIRED** Our Treasurer Matt would also like to stand down from this responsibility, therefore if you have any treasurer experience or are good with numbers and would like to get involved, please get in touch.



Jaydon. Musical chairs winner



Lawson, Lexi, Liberty and Macie - Musical statue winners

