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Police Matters

A meeting of our local Safer Community Team Panel was held on the 4th March 2010.

A number of incidents were reported to the Panel. Unfortunately there have been several break ins across the beat, particularly in and around Hackleton. Criminal damage was reported in Yardley Hastings with stones being thrown at windows, and raves have been held nearby in the former ammunition bunkers at Yardley Chase, with people reported as having travelled as far as Norfolk and Essex to attend.

Hackleton Parish Council (which includes Horton/Piddington) has secured funding to spend on its roads. NCC Highways have been contacted regarding the junction from the Brafield Road Horton leading onto the B526. The 'Keep Clear' road markings have faded near The Drive, and this is causing problems with vehicles being backed onto the main road. PC Smith informed the group that Helen Howard of NCC had carried out a number of surveys in the area and it is proposed that traffic calming measures be placed in Hackleton Parish sometime in the new financial year.

Fly tipping was highlighted as an issue in the area. These matters can now be reported online to www.FixMyStreet.com. This is a national site to help people report local problems they have found to their local council. Just identify the area on the online map and the site then contacts the relevant Council. Problems such as abandoned vehicles, dog fouling, fly tipping, graffiti or potholes can be reported using this site.

It was with deep regret that PC Roger Smith informed the group he would be leaving our beat and moving to Brackley Town area. PC Smith said he had enjoyed his time here, and was sad to be moved. From 1st May 2010, PC 448 Andy Scott will be working with us and covering the Hackleton Beat (which includes Brafield).

The Safer Community Team are currently working with local schools under the Safer School Partnership Protocol (SSPP). It is a new agreement between local schools, Northamptonshire Police and other partner agencies. The aim of this Protocol is to ensure that the young people, staff, parents and visitors to the school have a safe environment in which to study, work and visit, and where young people can develop to their full potential. Each school will develop its own plan and will outline what can be expected of the relationship between each agency.

The next meeting of the SCT Panel will be held in June.

Neighbourhood Watch

Emergency SMS text messaging service (ESMS) is a national and essential service for members of our communities who are unable to use the 999 voice service. It aims to improve access to the 999 service and is initially aimed at the hearing impaired and speech impaired, whose preferred channel of choice is SMS. Further information on the ESMS service, including how to register your mobile phone and how to send a text to the 999 service, is available via the following website www.emergencysms.org.uk

A property on the Bedford Road, Brafield on the Green was broken in to sometime between 2:30pm and 3:10pm on Saturday 6 March. In this incident the offenders forced open a side UPVC window, once inside a search was made and a number of items of jewellery were stolen.

If you have any information in relation to this incident please report using the dedicated Neighbourhood Watch number 01604 432436 quoting WB/CMS/3008/09.

If you do not have your e-mail address registered to receive Neighbourhood Watch updates and you would like to receive them, then please send an e-mail to ruth@kentigern-fox.com or if you do not have access to e-mail but would like to be kept informed of incidents in the area then please telephone Ruth on 890223.

It would be good to get Neighbourhood Watch fully up and running in our village. Although we have had little crime recently, we have had a number of shed break-ins and the above burglary. In order to get the scheme fully up and running we need more people to come forward who would be willing to act as Street Coordinators by keeping their neighbours informed of incidents. If you feel able to carry out this role please contact Ruth by e-mail or phone as above.

Next Meeting: Monday 17th May : Annual General Meeting and Annual Parish Meeting at 7 p.m. followed by the Parish Council Meeting at 7.30 p.m.
Sargeant Memorial Hall Brafield

Northamptonshire County Council : Have your say : You choose

It is no secret that money is tight for public services right now.

With national debt going through the roof, organisations, such as local councils, are having to look at new ways of delivering vital services for less money. As part of this, NCC is looking at completely transforming the services it provides by basing them on its core purpose of 'Helping You Help Yourself.' By using this new approach NCC believes it is putting itself in the best possible position to face up to the ever tightening purse-strings. Latest estimates show that it will have to save around **£100million over the next few years**. The need to make such large savings will mean a complete and radical change to the services it provides – stopping some while completely redesigning others. And it wants to do this while keeping taxes low.

This is where you come in.

This is where the people of Northamptonshire come in. NCC does not believe it is right to make these kinds of huge changes without involving you. The 'You Choose' campaign is being launched to make sure this happens. It will be made up of a series of road-shows taking place in the towns and boroughs across the county, which will give you the chance to video record your views on the services you most value and how you feel public money can be saved. Those people who can't get to the road-shows, but want to ensure their voice is heard, can give their views on the Council's website: www.northamptonshire.gov.uk. Click on 'You Choose' on the home page to make comments.

NCC will also be taking part in discussions with people on social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter. Details of all these opportunities are on its website - please give NCC your views on how best to tackle the challenging times ahead.

A428 Bedford Road Resurfacing Work

May Gurney WSP will be carrying out carriageway resurfacing work along the Bedford Road from Brafield to beyond Denton from 10th May to the 25th June 2010 at **off peak times only**. During this time there will be a temporary 10mph speed limit in force.

For further information please contact Rob Dunmore on 01604 883400.

Calling all Bee Keepers

BeeBase is an award winning and important tool in the control of honey bee pests and diseases. The National Bee Unit (NBU) would like to encourage any beekeepers who keep apiaries on their land (allotments, smallholdings etc.) to register on BeeBase. Registration is an important step towards helping to sustain a healthy honey bee population.

Simply log on to www.nationalbeeunit.com to download a leaflet on BeeBase, which highlights the importance of registration and what beekeepers can expect to receive once registered.

**Great British Fish and Chip Supper
Friday 21st May 2010**

Hold a fish and chip supper on Friday 21st May and raise awareness of the Spinal Injuries Association (SIA) whilst raising money for that charity.

You can hold it in your own home, at work, or at a local community centre. SIA will provide a fundraising pack containing hints and tips, recipes, invitations and donation envelopes.

Every year in the U.K. over 1000 people experience a spinal cord injury, and there are an estimated 40,000 spinal cord injured people in the U.K. alone.

The money raised from the suppers will help the SIA to offer support to individuals who become paralysed as well as to their families, from the moment the injury occurs for the rest of their lives. They provide services and publications which enable and encourage paralysed people to lead full and independent lives.

For more information or to request a fundraising pack please call Elizabeth Wright on 0845 678 6633 extension 229 email fishandchips@spinal.co.uk or visit www.spinal.co.uk

Who's Who?

The village website has been given a number of old photographs of the village.

These include some showing groups of people who were part of life in Brafield many years ago.

You may be interested in trying to identify some of them. Maybe you can spot a relative? Do you know when or where they were taken? Perhaps they bring back memories of earlier times?

The photographs will be added to the website (address at top of page) over time.

Check the 'latest changes' on the home page to see the latest photograph.

Do let us know if you can help – details will be posted on the website.

Members of the public are most welcome to attend any meeting
At the start of the Parish Council meeting, time is set aside for public enquiries