

TILBROOK VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

October 2025 Issue 41

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Welcome to the October Tilbrook Village Newsletter

BOILER REPLACEMENT

Work begins on Thursday 13th November and hopefully, we will have our boiler back up and running by the following week and we can then make progress with the internal wall reconfiguration project.

GUTTERING

Many thanks to Stuart Purdie, who has reconfigured the guttering to the rear of the village hall. This reconfiguration has diverted water that was accumulating at the base of the building and was suspected as being the cause of damp in the boiler room wall. Stuart has saved the community hundreds of pounds as our original solution was to instal a new underground soakaway within the playing field; this was going to cost hundreds of pounds for administrative fees from HDC

BARN DANCE

Around 50 people thoroughly enjoyed themselves at last Saturday's barn dance. Full report later in this newsletter but many thanks to Janette Birch who once again put on a fantastic event and the food was particularly good. Well done Janette and her team for putting on a great event.

FUTURE EVENTS



FIRST AID TRAINING SESSION

The First Aid training session on 21st November is **FULL**. However, if you are interested in attending a future event (Date yet to be confirmed) please continue to register with the on-line form below. This will not secure you a place on the current session but will place you in line for any future sessions that are planned.

For those who booked a place on or before the 6th November, your place is booked. If you can no longer make it, please let me know so that we can offer your place to another.

FUND-RAISING EVENING MUSICAL CONCERT IN AID OF PROSTATE CANCER UK, FRIDAY 5TH DECEMBER

Hear songs from film, stage, and the charts sung in the a cappella close harmony style. Tickets are on sale at £13 now via Ticket Source. All proceeds will go to Prostate Cancer UK.

The evening will be compered by Sue Wilson, who is a very experienced singer with the award winning all female Phoenix Chorus. The programme includes :

- Hereward Harmony (Peterborough)
- A1 Acappella (St Neots)
- Black Cat Harmony (Bedfordshire)
- Firebirds Quartet (Bedfordshire)

Main Sponsor  Higham Ferrers

Prostate cancer is the most common cancer affecting men in the UK with 1 in 8 men likely to contract it during their life. Many of us will know someone close to us that is living with it or experienced it. Prostate Cancer UK is a leading charity providing financial support to lifesaving research and other support services into this cancer.

Tickets can be purchased through TICKET SOURCE – TILBROOK VILLAGE HALL
<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/tilbrook-village-hall-amenities-committee/evening-harmony/e-xolojv>

Scan Me



TILBROOK VILLAGE – SUMMARY OF DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

December

- **5th Dec** - **Friday Musical Concert in Village Hall, Fund Raiser In Aid of Prostate Cancer**

TILBROOK VILLAGE HALL PROUDLY PRESENTS

♪ EVENING ♪ HARMONY

Friday 5th December, 7:30pm
(Doors open 6:45pm)

Hear songs from Stage, Film and the Charts sung in close harmony a cappella style by local barbershop choruses and quartets

Featuring:
Compère - Sue Wilson
Hereward Harmony (Male chorus - Peterborough)
Black Cat Harmony (Mixed Chorus - Bedfordshire)
Firebirds (Female quartet - Bedfordshire)
A1 Acappella (Male Chorus St Neots)

—>> **Tickets £13 - [click here](#)** <<—

All proceeds in aid of Prostate Cancer UK

Sponsored by Water Works

 

REPORT

BARN DANCE – 1st NOVEMBER

The Saturday Barn Dance was another great success! There was plenty of space for everyone to dance, and the floor was alive all evening with happy feet and smiling faces. *Frog on a Bike* once again played their hearts out, keeping the energy high until the irresistible aroma of Janette's delicious chilli supper brought everyone to the tables for a well-earned break.

A huge thank-you goes out to all the helpers who made the evening run so smoothly — and especially to Janette and her amazing team of servers for their hard work and hospitality



REPORT

BARN DANCE – 1st NOVEMBER



SERVICES at TILBROOK PARISH CHURCH

On **Remembrance Sunday, the 9th November**, there will be a short, spoken Service of Remembrance in Tilbrook Church at 9:30 am taken by the Rev Pamela Soult.

It will be indoors around The Roll of Honour at the back of the Church which acts as our village's war memorial, and will finish in plenty of time to allow those who wish to go on to the Remembrance Day parade in Kimbolton.



On **Sunday 23rd November** there will be our normal 4th Sunday 11 am Communion Service, again taken by the Rev. Pamela Soult.

Date For Your Diary: the Carol Service (with a difference) will be at 5pm on **Saturday 13th December** (inside the Church!) - save the date now!

The Autumn has gone like clockwork, the wheat, barley and beans are all sown into ideal seedbeds and are now emerging evenly across the fields. Weed control sprays have been applied, and as a result of the dry summer there is no problem from slugs.

The cattle have all calved except for a few stragglers, and so far so good. No need to call a vet for assistance, and every calf born alive - this must be a record for having nothing born dead.

Machinery all worked well and there were no expensive breakdowns. So, on the surface all looks ideal. However, there are too many problems within the farming industry. A combination of several whammies is taking its toll. A culmination of disappointing yields and a couple of years of below average cereal prices, removal of farm subsidies and the fear of increased taxation from IHT is taking its toll on profitability and returns.

Velcourt, which is a farming company who farm a lot of land for clients, has within the last month pulled out of farming 20% of its land portfolio, thus, walking away from 25,000 acres of farmland and leaving the land uncropped. Their farming accounts are in the public domain and the losses of the last couple of years are substantial and unsustainable. All a very sad situation for a lot of people.

We had an interesting day loading grain lorries recently. Six were booked in for one day, which was going to be a busy day, and most of them came within an hour.

Another lorry was booked into a neighbouring farm for loading, but as he was passing our farm, he saw the queue and decided to join it. In true British tradition he queued patiently and waited his turn. It was only during loading, after an hour and half wait, when his grain passport was being sorted that he realised he was at the wrong farm. There were quite a few unprintable words, and he tipped his load off on the concrete and moved onto where he should have been hours ago.

Unfortunately his language had not improved when he got to the other side of Tilbrook, and the farmer there refused to load him and sent him away. He had a frustrating day.





LOCAL HIGHWAYS INITIATIVE

The Parish Council are happy to report that we have been successful in our latest LHI bid of 2025/26 & a new active speed sign will be delivered during this financial year. The new sign will come with a solar panel so there will be no need to change batteries, but we are still looking for a volunteer to download the data from the existing sign near the Shuttles plus this new addition.

To start with the sign will be located at the eastern end of the village on the B645, towards the bottom of Sandy Lane on a new pole installed by the County Council.

You will recall we also applied for a 20mph limit throughout the village. This application was not successful although it is worth noting the council only approved 11 applications for this financial year.



Local Government Reorganisation - Development of Option A

Update from Cambridgeshire County Council: Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) - "Option A" to proceed to Government.

(Option A would create a unitary council covering the current area of Fenland District Council, Huntingdonshire District Council and Peterborough City Council, and a second covering the current area of Cambridge City Council, East Cambridgeshire District Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council.)

At the Full County Council meeting our elected members have voted to approve to finalise and submit "Option A" as the County Council's proposal for Local Government Reorganisation (LGR). This decision followed a full and wide-ranging debate, drawing upon the extensive and detailed evidence, engagement and analysis undertaken and in reflecting upon the Government's criteria for LGR.

A majority of County Councillors agreed that finalising and submitting "Option A" would best meet the Government's criteria for LGR and would benefit the whole region through the creation of two new unitary councils, covering the 'north' and 'south' of the area, replacing the seven existing councils, which would be more equal, effective and sustainable.

The following points were all parts of the consideration by our councillors, having been set out in the report and appendices they debated:



The two proposed unitary councils under Option A have sensible economic areas with sufficiently robust tax bases to be financially viable and support sustainable public service delivery for the future.

Option A enables the achievement of the Government's optimum population figure of 500,000 people to be served by new authorities by 2040 for both of the newly proposed councils. It also aligns with the strong encouragement from Government to use existing city/district council areas as the building blocks for new unitary councils.

Both proposed unitary councils under Option A create the opportunity to develop better, more integrated public services. For example, the boundaries of both proposed councils under Option A are aligned with and supported by key NHS partners.

Both proposed new unitary councils under Option A seek to respect local identities and patterns of daily life. For example, health, travel to work, shopping and how and where people socialise.

Under Option A the two proposed councils will support the Mayoral Combined Authority and further devolution by providing equal voice and representation for both urban and rural communities.

The submission date for final proposals to Government is 28 November 2025 and it is currently anticipated that there will be several proposals submitted by different local authorities on behalf of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.



PLAYING FIELD TIDY UP

At our next parish meeting , the parish council will consider what needs to be done in terms of maintenance, and fix some dates when help would be appreciated.

Jobs like filling holes in cracked earth, trimming the hedge on the north side of the field, pruning trees, mending the car park fence, marking parking bays, weeding the gravel and moving the nature garden. Many folk offered to help with the Station Road hedge cutting in September, but couldn't on the day, so maybe this time you will be able to.

PLANTING AND GREENERY

Thank you all for keeping the village looking neat and tidy this year. The planters will be taken in soon to be refurbished. Please remember the 6 village hall green bins if you have too many leaves etc as you tidy your own gardens.

NEXT MEETING

Tilbrook Parish Council next meeting is at 7.30 pm in the village hall on Tuesday 18 November.



BOOKING THE VILLAGE HALL



Remember that you can book the Tilbrook Village Hall for all types of events *and* there are reduced rates for village residents!

Remember to mention it to your friends if they are looking for a venue.

Contact: tilbrookvillage@gmail.com

Or ring: 07903 987445

TILBROOK VILLAGE HALL FOR HIRE



The ideal venue for:

- Receptions and parties
 - Business meetings
 - Community groups
 - Yoga
 - Art classes
 - Quiz nights
 - Coffee mornings
 - Movie nights
 - Kiddies birthday parties
- and so much more

For bookings and enquiries
bookings.tilbrookvillage@gmail.com
07903 987445
www.tilbrookvillage.life

AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEMBERS

THE COMMITTEE

Chair:	Stephen Birch (Trustee) chairman.tilbrookvillagelife@gmail.com
Vice Chair:	David Cowan (Trustee) davycowan10@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Sandy Havercroft (Trustee)
Minute Secretary:	Jacqui Bouffler
Hon Secretary:	Tony Harris (Trustee) secretary.tilbrookvillage@gmail.com
Comms:	David Cowan
Members:	Stuart Purdie Richard Gudgeon Anne Mc Manus

Volunteers

Bookings Secretary	Vacancy
Tea Tent Organiser	Darren Pescod
Hall Manager:	

ABOUT US:

The Amenities Committee (AC) are the Managing Trustees that operate the parish asset of the village hall as an unincorporated association. The operations are financially independent of the Parish Council.

All proceeds from the AC's operations are used to maintain and improve the assets and to provide community activities and facilities for the benefit of all in the community. Members of the AC are volunteers from within the community and receive no remuneration for their work.

The AC is a charity registered with the Charities Commission No: 302663