

The Link

Quendon & Rickling
Parish
and Church

You can find *The Link*
and much more at
www.quendonandrickling.co.uk

NEWS

July 2020

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Fledgeling
by Amy Stratford



Visits: If you would like the Vicar to visit you at home or in hospital, or know of anyone who would like him to visit them, please let the Vicar know.

The Rev'd. Neil McLeod, The Vicarage, 5, Meadowford, Newport, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB11 3QL

Telephone: 01799 540339 **E-mail:** vicar4nqrwchurches@gmail.com

From the Vicarage Study

Rev. Neil McLeod,

Priest-in-Charge of Newport with Widdington, Quendon and Rickling.



I am missing our churches, and I am missing going into them. I am missing our services and I am missing my church family. Even though we are able to hold our services via Zoom, which is great, in many respects it just isn't the same. However things are beginning to slowly change.

You may be aware that the government has stated that churches can now re-open **for private prayer only**. Although it is not quite as straight forward as it may sound. The church needs to be thoroughly cleaned as it has been shut for so long, and then there are still the rules about social distancing which will have to be followed and will be signposted at the church. However the Parochial Church Council has discussed it and how it can be made to work for our two churches.

Our target is that our churches will be able to be re-opened from Sunday 5th July. Each church will re-open in a different way.

Quendon Church:

The church will not be open all the time. Instead it will open for an hour each Sunday between 09.30 – 10.30am. It may not sound like much but it is a small step in the right direction. It will still be possible for you to come in and pray which is what you may be missing. You may be able to come in and just reflect, albeit for a short period of time.

Rickling Church:

Rickling Church will not re-open in the same way as Quendon. However if you wish to go into the church to pray then that is possible. You need to contact the churchwarden Lisa Huxtable and agree a time when you can go into the church. As Lisa works, you'll need to go in at a time when she is available. But the important thing is that you can go in, and then can pray.

Small steps, but steps just the same. Slowly things are improving and I hope and pray that it continues to move in the right direction. Until then, please remember that I and others within the church are happy to talk with you if you are struggling with the continued pandemic.

Stay safe and stay well.

Rev'd Neil McLeod

Priest in Charge of Newport with Widdington and Quendon and Rickling.

The Rev'd. Neil McLeod, The Vicarage, 5, Meadowford, Newport, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB11 3QL

Telephone: 01799 540339 E-mail: vicar4nqrwchurches@gmail.com

Churchwardens - **Quendon:** Mrs Christine Osbourn 01799 543367 and Mrs Maureen Hawkins

Rickling: Lisa Huxtable 07771 541944

Treasurer - **Quendon and Rickling:** Mrs Sandra Arnold 01799 543075

Our Member of Parliament

For all enquiries please send an email or telephone.

How to contact me

Email: kemi.badenoch.mp@parliament.uk

Tel: **0207 219 1943**

Write: Kemi Badenoch MP,

House of Commons,

London, SW1A 0AA

Kemi Badenoch, MP

Police contact information

For crimes and suspicious activity NOW phone	999
For non-urgent incidents and reporting a crime that has already happened	101
Alternatively you can report non-urgent incidents or suspicious activity and crimes on-line at https://www.essex.police.uk/do-it-on-line/	
Action Fraud is the UK's national reporting centre for fraud and cybercrime where you should report fraud if you have been scammed, defrauded or experienced cyber-crime in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. If you have been defrauded i.e. lost money phone or report online at https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/reporting-fraud-and-cyber-crime If someone has tried to defraud you but you have <u>not</u> lost money, phone or report online at https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/report-phishing	0300 123 2040
To give information anonymously phone CRIMESTOPPERS or report it on-line at www.crimestoppers-uk.org	0800 555 111

Quendon's Churchyards

In these difficult and, for some, sad times, much use has been made of the calm and quiet of Quendon's churchyards.

They are open at all times to wander around, relax in and explore our history, and, of course they are quite free to visit. That is how it should be.

They don't look after themselves though, and they are tended entirely by volunteers. Our group of volunteers has dwindled in number.

Please help us to keep these important spaces neat and tidy.

Contact John Watkinson Tel: **01799 543350**, e-mail: johnwatkinson@tiscali.co.uk
or Robert Arnold Tel: **01799 543075** e-mail: robert@arnold-q.uk.

Quendon & Rickling Parish Council News

News from the parish council meeting

That was the second virtual meeting via Zoom. We are becoming old hands already. There understandably has not been much council or indeed village activity lately.

There were some complaints about the low water pressure in certain parts of the village but I understand the water company has been out to investigate and it is hoped that this will be rectified.

The PC was hoping to get the Garden Waste Skip into the village but, although the service was resumed at the end of May, it has to be booked and we are not exactly at the top of the list at the moment. Mind you, I imagine we are all pretty used to queuing by now.

The new replacement trees are not exactly thriving, but members of the council have been out watering. There are actually some horse chestnut tree saplings up for grabs so if anybody is interested please let me know and I will pass your name to the appropriate person.

You will know from Sally's article in this issue of *The Link* that there is some money available, in addition to the normal PC grant, for recreational projects around the village. The money comes courtesy of Stonebond builders. If you would like to apply for funding please let me know and I will take the necessary action.

The football pitch goes from strength to strength. There are now three teams signed up, which will generate income for the village.

Until further notice monthly meetings will continue via Zoom. If you want to "attend" please let me know after the agenda has been posted as you will need a sign-in number.

As always stay safe.

Welcome Packs

The Parish Council provides a Welcome Pack of information for new residents to the Village. If any newcomers to the village have not received a copy of the

Quendon & Rickling Parish Council News (Cont)

pack, do please let the Clerk know on the contact details below and a welcome pack will be dropped off to them.

Allotments (part of the Quendon Hall Estate):

- Peter Warwick, No.5 Thistley Crescent, Green Road, Rickling
- Telephone: 01799 543526

Next Parish Council Meeting

Will be on 8th July 2020 at 7.30pm.

Highway Problems

The Essex Highways website is available for anyone noticing a problem to report it: <http://www.essexhighways.org/Report-a-problem.aspx>

A tracking facility for all reported faults is available.

Police/Crime

The Essex Community Messaging Service provides useful information to the public about policing and safety issues. It is free to register and information is given relative to your postcode, thus providing accurate and up-to-date community safety information and crime prevention advice. Users can choose to receive information via e-mail, text or voice-recording and can select what information to receive – based on where they live and work and on issues of interest. For further details and to sign up, visit www.essex.police.uk/ecm

Contact the Parish Council

The Clerk, Keith Williams can be contacted by e-mail quendonandrickling.clerk@hotmail.com or by telephone **01279 814473**

From the Chairman of the Parish Council

Dear Fellow Villagers!

Well, here we are 3 months later - hard to believe lock down could go on so long! As a village, I believe that we seem to have coped remarkably well and sincerely hope that everyone has been looked after and had their expectations met. We know a lot of the villagers have been collecting and doing people's shopping, collecting prescriptions and doing odd jobs. So a big thank you to everyone for their help and here's hoping that the vulnerable will be able to venture out in the not too distant future! It will be good to see you all!

As many of you will have seen, a new cricket cage has been erected on the green for Rickling Ramblers to be able to train and to play cricket again for the first time this season. There is talk of league matches possibly commencing in August for a 6 week period but this is still being discussed. If this does not happen, a number of friendlies have been organised so we will see some cricket on the green this year. I have definitely missed the sound of leather on willow and "Howzat"! It will be so lovely to see life back to some level of normalcy.

On this note, the contribution that has been given to the villages by Stonebond for recreational facilities is now available. Currently, we have purchased the cricket cage for the club and a mower for the football pitch, both of which are now village assets. There are a couple of other clubs who are currently being considered for these monies and if any other club or person would like to apply, you will find more information and how to apply further on in this issue of The Link. The Parish Council is also looking into purchasing a marquee, which can be used for all village events - when we are eventually allowed to hold them again! Fingers crossed for one or two in the autumn!

The Highways Survey, also covered by the contribution from Stonebond, has reached the preliminary stage and

will be out there for you all to see and comment on. Please see further on in *The Link* for more information.

The football pitch has been utilised very well over the lock down, which is great to see. It is definitely there for all the villagers to use but we do seem to have a slight problem as people seem to think they can leave their "pooches" poo all over the pitch and "revellers" seem to think they can just abandon their bottles and cans wherever they happen to be holding the party! PLEASE can we encourage you to remove all these items and take them home with you. We appreciate we have had quite a few more visitors than usual to the green and pitch, who probably don't love the villages quite as much as we do, but this really cannot continue. It is so unfair on those who tread in it and those who have to clear it up! This also seems to be the problem in the bluebell wood. I see somebody has left notices around and free dog bags, so please take note and use them.

"Foxley 2" construction resumed at the beginning of June and a very smart new entrance has been erected by the developers. We can assure you that this is only temporary despite the grandeur of it and will be removed when building is complete.

The Quendon trees have just begun to show a bit of leaf, which is very exciting! A lot of watering and talking to has gone into those trees and we are finally beginning to reap the reward. We know that people have been very concerned that they appear dead and I must admit I was beginning to think so myself! Now the lock down is slowly easing though, most of the "waterers" are returning to full time work, so I was wondering if there is anyone out there who would like to bring their watering cans along and help me water the trees. If we have a few "helpers" it would only be a session a fortnight, so help would be gratefully received. Just drop a note or ring Keith, our Parish Clerk and we can sort out a new rota.

From the Chairman of the Parish Council (cont.)

Neighbourhood Watch signs have been up in the villages for a while now, but currently we are very low on "watchers" so we are also calling out for help on this front too. If we just have one "watcher" at strategic points around the villages, it would make all the difference. We have a co-ordinator so please contact Keith, our Parish Clerk and he will put you in touch with the relevant person and the watching can begin!

As I'm sure many of you are aware, there has been an issue with the water pressure in the village for a while now and despite Affinity Water insisting that it was us using too much water, I believe they have now rectified the problem. A large 40,000 litre tanker was stationed up

by Rickling Church for over a week whilst they changed the booster pump at Newport. Apparently the signs are good at the moment - long may this remain so!

Finally, there are rumours going around that the government is going to let The Cricketers Arms open again, with social distancing in place, obviously, on 4 July! Let us keep everything crossed that this will happen and I encourage as many of you as possible to go and buy a pint. We cannot afford to lose the pub - it is an integral part of the village and the green - they need us as much as we need them!

Cheers to the rest of the summer!

Sally Kitcat

Report from District Councillor Neil Hargreaves

Local Plan

For the new Local Plan we are setting up a different design and governance structure from what went before, in order to ensure we end up with a more robust product, following two failures at inspection. This is being done with the help of two consultants from the East of England Local Government Association (EELGA) which is an association of the 52 local authorities in the East of England. The same people helped with our assessment of the now withdrawn plan, confirming that it was not possible to carry on, and that withdrawal was the only realistic option. They are therefore familiar with UDC. This doesn't solve the serious issues we face, but it is a good start.

Neighbourhood Plan

We now have the final examiner's letter and, following the steering group's fact checking response he has made some changes to his recommendations. As well as incorporating his recommendations, we are in the process of removing references to the withdrawn plan. It has to be in conformity with the 2005 adopted Local Plan, but it was considered sensible to primarily keep it in line with the new local plan. Fortunately (against advice) the steering group incorporated into policies some relevant text from the now withdrawn plan, and the examiner has supported this. And following a request in the fact checking response, he agreed to some more text being incorporated.

This relates to subdivision of sites to avoid affordable housing contribution. It is relevant to Quendon as the Foxley site now under construction was allocated for more houses, which would have triggered the provision of affordable housing. However, it was subdivided at the level just below the trigger point. Should a further application come forward an affordable housing contribution based on the original site size would apply. Although UDC would enforce anyway, there is nothing about this in the 2005 Plan, and having a specific policy

makes any action easier.

Implementation on the Neighbourhood Plan is now between the Steering Group and UDC.

UDC Finances

As part of R4U's strengthening of governance of the council's commercial investment portfolio, a cross party Investment Board was set up. It includes two external independent experts, and the council has set a commercial investment fund target of £300m. A number of investments have already been agreed and are in progress. The board met in mid June and recommended several more investments to be added to the portfolio. If these are agreed by full Council, and meet all due diligence checks, UDC will have built the fund to over £200m. The purchases are freehold land and buildings, with rental incomes from good quality tenants. A key part of the strategy is not to have all our eggs in one basket, so each investment is in a different business sector, and located locally and elsewhere in the UK.

Our Residents Charter, announced this month, says UDC will be 'a self-sufficient Council that generates its own resources from local taxation (Business Rates and Council Tax) and commercial investments, thereby removing the reliance on Central Government grants' and we are working to that end.

UDC will have an estimated £4m+ financial hit this year from Covid. The government have told councils to look to all their reserves, and that they will not give major support to compensate for lost revenues.

UDC staff have done a brilliant job in keeping council services running at the same time as being the local delivery agent for the many government schemes, and our own local support operations. But we should be aware that there is a severe blow to council finances this year. A £1.7m reserve is being held in case MAG take the Stansted expansion refusal to appeal – the deadline for that expires in July. The council's budget for the year

Report from District Councillor Neil Hargreaves (Cont.)

is now likely to be changed to bring it back into balance and this will mean looking at all aspects of our finances including all the usable reserves. We will of course deal with this, and keep residents informed.

Councillor Surgeries

These are currently suspended but I'm available on **01799 540411** and my email is cllrhargreaves@uttlesford.gov.uk. I'm attending the parish council meetings which are now

Zoom video conferences and am on the village Facebook.

Neil Hargreaves

Other News from Uttlesford District Council

You can get email newsletters and alerts on a whole range of topics via Keep me posted – sign up and find out more at www.uttlesford.gov.uk/keepmeposted.

Quendon and Rickling PC

Extraordinary Grant Procedure: Community Recreation Equipment and Facilities

Background

In 2019, the PC were given a one-off special payment by Stonebond developers to develop and improve community recreation equipment and facilities due to the housing development known colloquially as "Foxley 2".

Individuals, or village groups, can make an application to receive some of this grant money.

Procedure

- It can be for an individual item or a project.
- Individuals, or groups may apply.
- A written application should be submitted to the Parish Council.
- The direct impact of this money on the parish and villagers must be clear.
- All applications will be considered. The Parish Council's decision is final.
- Applications should be with the Parish Council (via the Parish Clerk) by 31st December 2021
- The PC will update the spend via *The Link* and website.

Highway Survey for the B1383



Earlier this year, a survey of the B1383 road through Quendon was undertaken by an independent surveyor. The purpose of this survey was to devise a scheme which would address a number of highway issues parishioners have been experiencing. These include;



1. The irresponsible driving and speeding experienced daily as vehicles speed and perform risky overtaking manoeuvres through the village.
2. Difficulties experienced by parishioners when crossing the road safely, particularly the elderly and those with young children
3. Off street parking at Waterbutt Row

A preliminary scheme has been completed and a copy of the report is available to view on the parish council website (<https://www.quendonandrickling.co.uk/local-information/>).

Proposals include;

1. A 30 or 40mph Buffer speed limit for the south side of the village (130 metres south of Ventnor Road)
2. Multiple build outs along the road to assist pedestrian crossing of the B1383
3. Introduction of kerbed 1.2 metre island in the middle of the road north of the Village Hall to Wisteria House
4. Increased pavement widths to increase pedestrian safety/slow traffic speeds
5. Various parking options for Waterbutt Row to try and solve pavement parking

If you would like to comment please contact the parish clerk, Keith Williams on quendonandrickling.clerk@hotmail.com. A hardcopy of the images from the report will also be displayed in the noticeboard outside The Cricketers pub.

Please be aware this scheme is in its preliminary stages. It has not been granted and is subject to agreement with Essex Highways and a Safety Audit will need to be undertaken.

Funding will also need to be agreed.



We are very much looking forward to reopening our doors and welcoming you all back to The Cricketers Arms in early July. Whilst we have been getting the pub ready in line with the new UK government guidelines, our Head Chef Joe Walker has been busy creating some delicious summer dishes for you to enjoy and we will continue to offer our popular takeaway menu.

We will be open daily serving breakfasts, coffee & cake, lunches and evening meals together with our craft beers & lagers and extensive wine list.

We are also available for private hire for wedding receptions, parties and events and with our 10 en-suite bedrooms and personalised catering options, we can make your occasion one to remember!

For our latest events, menus and what's on, please see our website www.thecricketersarmspub.co.uk or email info@thecricketersarmspub.co.uk to be added to our mailing list.

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Please follow us on social media



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Rickling/Quendon Community Café

**Coffee morning
on the Village Green**
(weather permitting)



Wednesday 19th August 2020
10.00 am - 12.00 pm

All welcome

Please contact: Angie and Carole
01799 218061/543807

Quendon & Rickling 100 Club

Congratulations to the June 2020 Winners

1st	K Crow	£35
2nd	S Phillips	£25
3rd	C Mandy	£15

Quendon & Rickling 100 Club generates a source of funds for the Village Hall and both our two churches, All Saints, Rickling and St Simon & St Jude, Quendon.

Volunteers needed!

As you've read in Sally Kitcat's PC Chairman's message above, we now have a Neighbourhood Watch coordinator for the parish. Of course we all tend to look out for each other anyway - as seen for instance in our response to the virus outbreak - but it is felt that formalising our security watchfulness would help us all. Please have a think about becoming a designated "watcher" for your immediate area and contact the Parish Clerk, Keith Williams by e-mail quendonandrickling.clerk@hotmail.com or by telephone **01279 814473** for more details.

Still on the topic of volunteering (lots of opportunities are in this issue!) now that the trees by the fountain have been replaced, they need a bit of love to get them settled in! If you would like to take part in caring for these important features of our parish, please contact the Parish Clerk, as detailed above.



**WOT! No Security
Advice?**

Not enough space!

The Grange Care Home

At The Grange, our care is the kind we'd want all of our loved ones to receive. In these difficult times the elderly population is particularly vulnerable at home. If you're concerned about how your relative will cope and would like them to have more support, The Grange provides family-led care delivered by highly trained staff in a warm homely environment.

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Fly fishing

With prudent rules in place, Causeway Fly Fishers have been able to use the beautiful private lake since the 13th of May, a little earlier than was possible on the public waters. Despite the warm weather, the trout have been quite busy just under the surface and using a variety of dry flies even your editor, still pretty much a duffer, has enjoyed successes.

It's been grand to enjoy the lake in its setting of tranquility, disturbed only by the occasionally argumentative geese and their rapidly-growing goslings, as well as watching the swallows swooping over the surface catching the insects! Don't let them steal your concentration on the fishy challenge though!

A rod licence costs only £30 for a whole year (£20 for those over 65 or disabled) and helps in the upkeep of England's rivers and public lakes. The licence is free for juniors (13-16 yrs).

We have been delighted to welcome a number of new members in the past few weeks, but still have a few vacancies. Whether you are an experienced fly fisher or are interested in taking up this active and sometimes perplexing sport as a beginner, a warm welcome is assured. Our web-site at www.causewayflyfishers.co.uk is kept up-to-date for more information and you can make enquiries by e-mail, info@causewayflyfishers.co.uk or by telephone on **01799 541622** (Colin Harris) / **07710 761487** (David Jaffray).



THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

Recently we have enjoyed above average hours of sunshine and walking or cycling along paths, bridleways and less busy roads has enabled us to admire the abundance of wildflowers and their insect visitors on field margins and wayside verges.

Many of these insects are the familiar pollinators such as butterflies, hoverflies and bees. For obvious reasons, observations of insect / plant interactions after dark are less well studied, especially pollination activities. Concerns about the impact of bright lights on the behaviour of night-flying moths assumed a greater importance when a report published in 2017 revealed that crop yields could be reduced by as much as 13% in well-lit areas as the pollinating moths became disorientated. Ongoing research is revealing the importance of various moths in pollinating flowers, including those of crops such as soft fruits, peas and beans.

Moths transport pollen on their tongues and undersides as

they flit from flower to flower under the cover of darkness. Maintaining a wide variety of food plants for their caterpillars is a good reason for the retention of unmown verges, wildflower meadows or flower-rich gardens.

Darker nights also help our own appreciation of the wonders of the universe. Away from 'civilisation' there are many excellent locations for star gazing across the Hundred Parishes where there is little artificial light after dark. You can check the details for your own location on the online map of CPRE's 2020 star count on www.cpre.org.uk/starcountresults.

Bright lights can be intrusive and there are concerns about their impact on human health and wellbeing. Local councils can adopt policies to tackle light pollution and protect our dark skies. Minimising the use of bright lights can save money and will enable moths to keep busy with their valuable pollination services in unlit areas.

Tricia Moxey, Trustee

What's On

Government permission for doing anything is so fluid at present that any attempt today to specify events is likely to be out-dated tomorrow! We do hope that normality will soon be restored. In the meantime, stay alert!

Emergency Life-saving

Should someone suffer a cardiac arrest or show symptoms of a heart attack e.g. pains in the chest, then your first action should always be to phone the ambulance service on 999. The service will refer you to our Automated External Defibrillator which is at the front entrance to Quendon & Rickling Village Hall. Anyone can save a life by using it until an ambulance arrives. In addition you can seek help from any of the volunteers listed below.

Name	Home Telephone	Locality
Alan Price	01799 542527	Northern end - Cambridge Road
Jane Price	01799 542527	Northern end - Cambridge Road
Robert Arnold	01799 543075	Northern end - Cambridge Road
Sandra Arnold	01799 543075	Northern end - Cambridge Road
Andrew Thomson	01799 543253	Northern end - Cambridge Road
Karen Thomson	01799 543253	Northern end - Cambridge Road
Thelma Wilson	01799 543313	Northern end - Cambridge Road
Chris Phillips	01799 542351	Middle - Cambridge Road
Sue Phillips	01799 542351	Middle - Cambridge Road
Nigel Ackerman	01799 540678	Middle - Cambridge Road
Wendy Stannard	01799 541869	Middle - Cambridge Road
Anne Howes	01799 543545	Southern end - Cambridge Road
Pat Turner	01799 543314	Rickling Green
Joanne Hales	07903 596011	Rickling Green
Janice Hart	01799 541196	Rickling Green/Brick Kiln Lane/Rickling
Clare Willoughby	01799 543637	Rickling Green/Brick Kiln Lane/Rickling



For further information see www.communityheartbeat.org.uk/

Remember: Using the defibrillator can't cause injury. Doing nothing can.

The Link is produced on behalf of Quendon & Rickling PCC, who do not necessarily share or endorse any opinions expressed by contributors or advertisers.

The Link is delivered free of charge by volunteers to every household in the villages of Quendon and Rickling. It is also available by post and online at: <http://www.quendonandrickling.co.uk>

All correspondence for *The Link* should be addressed to the editor,

Robert Arnold: **preferably by e-mail with attachments if necessary:** robert@arnold-q.uk, or at Talbots, Cambridge Road, Quendon, CB11 3XJ; otherwise telephone 01799 543075

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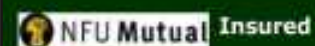
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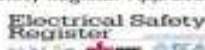
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