NORTON NEWS

JULY 2021 ISSUE

Please email NNEditor@nortonparish.com Deadline for next month's issue: 16TH JULY 2021

PLAY SPACE UPDATE

It's nearly time to celebrate the opening of the Play Space at Norton! We look forward to welcoming the whole Parish, as well as their families and friends, to the opening event on 21st July 2021 - the perfect way for the children of Norton C of E Primary to enjoy the last day of term! Whilst the expectation is for the final "unlocking" to have happened before this date, we are erring on the side of caution.

Please can those who attend bring a picnic so that we can safely picnic on the Playing Field (not obligatory, just to add to the social side of the event). Children are encouraged to dress up in fancy dress with a theme of "The great outdoors!". There will be a small prize for the winners of 3 age groups - Pre-school, Infants and Juniors. The official opening will take place 30 minutes after school finishes, so that as many as possible can attend, and also so that the children don't have to wait any longer than they already have.

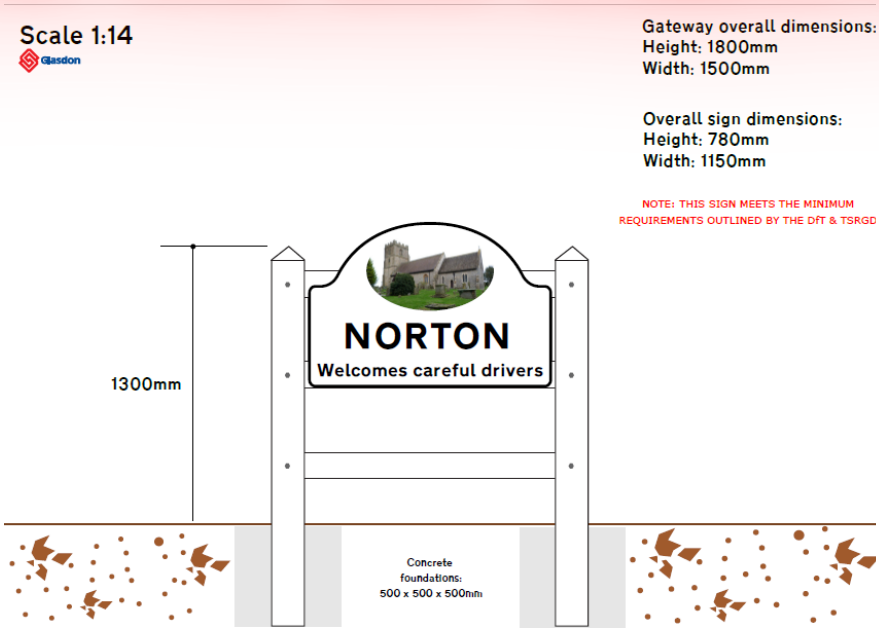
We really want this to be a location for the whole Parish to enjoy. Whilst we do have the much awaited Play Space, there will also be memorial benches added amongst the trees for members of the community to sit and enjoy the positive atmosphere we wish to bring.

If there are any questions regarding the opening, including the confirmation of the time please email Selina the Parish Council Clerk - nortoncouncil@gmail.com

RESULT OF VOTE ON NEW VILLAGE NAMEPLATES

The public poll to choose the design for the Norton village signs to be erected on the A38 resulted in 42 votes for the oval version of the church and 2 votes for the square version. Thank you to everyone who voted. The Parish Council will be ordering and erecting the winning design shortly.

WINNER!



No one could remember a time before the tree,
for its roots ran deep into the heart of the village.
It knew the people and the people knew it.
The tree was a playground, a refuge, a sanctuary and a home.
It was a tree of knowledge and of memory.

The capricious seasons came and went,
blowing this way and that,
But the tree stood faithful and firm.
Through summer's sultry breezes...
and autumns golden glow.
Through the icy chill of winter...
till spring buds blossomed once more.

A little girl, as strong as sunshine and as young as yesterday,
played in the branches of the tree,
She climbed its boughs...
She read in its shade...
She sheltered in its embrace.
The tree kept her secrets; it listened to her stories old and new.
And the tree watched as the girl grew up:
curious, kind and courageous.
As the girl grew, so did their small village ...

How this poem ends is up to us. Our community has the opportunity to grow together, united behind efforts to preserve our environment, whilst balancing Norton's present and future needs. The Parish Council will be seeking to place Tree Preservation Orders on individual specimens.

Tree Preservation Orders are intended to protect individual trees, or groups of trees, which because of their size and form make a significant contribution to the local landscape, and where their loss would have a negative impact on the environment and its enjoyment by the public. While there's a need to plant more trees, it's even more important to protect the best of those we already have.

Please email Councillor Fran Bussey at fbussey15@gmail.com with the subject line of "TPO" with your suggestion of local trees which should be preserved and a brief outine of how your choice meets the criteria.

NORTON CHURCH

The church is open daily from 10.00am to 4.00pm for private prayer.

We are opening our church again for services. There is a Holy Communion Service on 4th July at 6.00pm. This is special as the Rev. Philippa Donald will be taking this as she will be retiring at the end of July. Please come and join us.

A Teams-led service will be held on Sunday 18th July at 9.00am.

On the Sunday 25th July at 10.30am we are having a Morning Prayer Service which will be held outside in the churchyard.

For services in the Benefice please go to: seventowers.org.uk



There is a regular collection of donations for the Gloucester Food Bank at St Mary's in Prior's Norton. Please drop any food items and toiletries every other Wednesday morning. Food is collected from the church between 1-2pm.
If you can't get to Prior's Norton, please email:
NNEditor@nortonparish.com

NORTON RFC

Preseason training will commence on Tuesday 6th July at 18.45 on the playing field. After almost 18 months without rugby, there is a lot of enthusiasm for the upcoming 2021-22 season. We are always keen for new players to join us, and welcome those of all abilities. The 6th July is the perfect opportunity for new players to come and meet the team. Please let people who may be interested know. For all players this year we have a great deal to supply Norton club kit when they sign up.

Our 10 year anniversary party will be held on the afternoon of Saturday 4th September at the playing field. The event will start at 14.00, with a game of rugby between a Norton Warpigs team and a guest team. All afternoon there will be food available and a licenced bar run by our sponsors British Polo Gin. All of the local community is very welcome to join in our celebrations.



NORTON CofE School

Another month has flown by at Norton Primary School! Our Covid precautions remain in place, and we are rising to the challenge of providing our children with meaningful, memorable learning experiences.

Year 6 are busy rehearsing their end of year production, 'Lost in the Woods': a fairy-tale with a twist. Two princesses set off on a quest to save their brothers, the princes, from the Dark Master and his henchmen. They meet some helpful magical creatures along the way. But can they save the princes, the Queendom of Evermore and defeat the Dark Master?

Years 1 and 2 visited Oxstalls for a team building activity. The children behaved impeccably as always and the adults leading the session remarked on how polite and resilient our pupils are.

Reception Class went on a very exciting trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park. They explored the park and saw some wonderful animals. The extremely tall giraffes were a class favourite, as well as the ice-cream at lunch time!

As summer approaches, and restrictions ease, all the staff at Norton send our thanks to the community for supporting us during the challenges of the last 18 months. We are looking forward to welcoming our village back to our school as soon as it is safe.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Did you know there is a Norton branch of Neighbourhood Watch? With over 60 villagers in the group, it's a great way to keep in contact in these difficult times. Please email to join:

christine1williams@btinternet.com

USEFUL LINKS & CONTACTS

http://nortonparish.com

http://seventowers.org.uk/

nortoncouncil@gmail.com

Norton History

Norton Village Hall

NHS 111 online

Police Non-Emergency: 101