NORTON NEWS

October 2024 Edition

Please email nneditor@nortonparish.com if you have anything you wish to be included in the Norton News

Last Week's Flooding in Norton

Residents won't need reminding about last week's rain, or the damage and distress caused by the resulting flooding in the village, especially in the Wainlode Lane/ Cook Lane area.

The Parish Council announced at its meeting on Thursday that it intends to collect all the relevant Neighbourhood Watch WhatsApp messages and the information posted on the Council's flooding spreadsheet and submit this material to Severn Trent Water and Gloucestershire County Council (as the local Highways Authority) for their comments. The Parish Council's chairman will also be asking for an urgent meeting with Severn Trent to discuss what action they intend to take to address our flooding issues and, most importantly, when.

It's vital that the parish works together on this issue and therefore the Council urges residents who haven't already done so to record details of any local flooding which affected them on the flooding spreadsheet (which may be found at https://nortonparish.com/flooding-and-stormwater-reporting/) so that Severn Trent can be presented with all the available evidence.

Parish Affordable Housing Needs Survey

The Parish Council has accepted an offer from the Gloucestershire Rural Community Council (GRCC) to conduct an Affordable Housing Needs Survey in Norton.

GRCC is an independent charitable organisation which works with the county's rural communities as part of a strategic approach to meeting local needs for affordable housing. This approach includes a postal housing needs survey which will be sent to all households in Norton, possibly as early as next week. The results of this survey will help to establish whether or not there is a need for affordable housing in the parish. GRCC will analyse the results and produce a report containing the survey's findings for the Parish Council, which will share the conclusions with parishioners.

The Parish Council supports this survey (which will be funded entirely by GRCC) as it will provide useful information about local housing needs, which could also influence the Council's responses to planning applications.

Primary SchoolUpdate

It's been a busy start to the term at Norton Primary School. Building work has started to extend the front of the school and we are excited to have additional space planned which is very much needed.

We also welcomed in our new Reception children who have settled in quickly and brilliantly! Norton school has grown over the years and now has seven classes as well as an onsite preschool. We were oversubscribed again this year despite this being a low birth rate year across Gloucestershire with only just over a third of all primary schools filling their Reception places. Having single year groups (one class per academic year group) has many benefits including clear curriculum progression.

We aim for Norton school to serve the local community. With more and more houses being built in the village, it is important that children are able to attend their local school. Children should be at the heart of community planning; they should be part of a locality which works together to nurture relationships. Gloucestershire County Council are keen to support the growth of the school and utilise any funding generated from local building to ensure Norton Primary can accommodate the children within the locality.

Norton Friends Coffee Morning

Norton Friends are having a coffee morning on Wednesday 16th October at Norton Church from 10:30am to noon. There will also be a bring 'n' buy table.

Next Parish Council meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 13 November 2024 at 7.30pm in the village hall's Committee Room

Refurbished Bells Dedication

There will be a dedication of the refurbished church bells at the church on 27th October at 3pm with Bishop Robert (Bishop of Tewkesbury). Everybody is welcome.

Borough Council's change of name

Tewkesbury Borough Council has voted to change it's name to "***North Gloucestershire Borough Council***".

The new name was chosen to more accurately represent the borough's geographic location and to avoid prioritising Tewkesbury Town over other areas. The name change will be implemented in stages, starting in December.

Village Hall Makeover

Users will have noticed that the main hall has been completely refurbished and redecorated. The Committee Room will also be redecorated and a new floor laid to replace the stained carpet. This will be carried out sometime in October/November as the work needs to be done around existing bookings for the room.

Norton Nurturing Nature

If we could all consider why and when we cut grass and kill so called weeds maybe there would be more butterflies, bees and other insects around. We could also take action and plant more nectar producing flowers, especially wild flowers. Yes, grass verges need cutting in places and lawns can be lovely to play on but please, consider the bees and make sure nature can thrive in all its glorious diversity.



Useful Links and Contacts

https://nortonparish.com
https://seventowers.org.uk
nortoncouncil@gmail.com
Norton History
NHS 111
Police Non-Emergency number : 101
Norton Village Hall Website

Did you know there is a Norton branch of Neighbourhood Watch?

With over 100 villagers in the group, it's a great way to keep in contact. Please email to join:
christine1williams@btinternet.com

There is a Regular Collection of donations for the Gloucester Food Bank at St Mary's in Priors Norton. Please drop any food or toiletry items every other Wednesday morning.