

*Tiverton and Tilstone Fearnall
Parish Council Newsletter*

December 2020



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

**Tiverton and Tilstone Fearnall Village Society
Christmas Fun!!!
(socially distanced of course...)**

2020 has been a challenging year for everyone so we thought we'd bring you some community cheer and share some Christmas activities that will be taking place in the parish in December. Due to Covid-19, we can't hold the annual Christmas Party (including the visit of Father Christmas – see above) at the village hall, but we hope everyone will join in with the socially-distanced activities that the Village Society have organised.

Christmas Quiz - Test your knowledge and take part in a special “House of Cards Quiz” - there will be a hamper prize for the winner. You can either take part by completing the quiz online at <https://tinyurl.com/y3xcl7sh>, (or if you prefer, e-mail me and I will send the link electronically), or by completing a paper version that you can also obtain from me.

The deadline for quiz entries is Friday 18th December.

Gifts for the Kids - If you have kids or teens who you would like to receive a small (chocolate!) Christmas gift, please email the child's name and address to me, or you can drop me a note or leave a message on my mobile. We'll deliver the gifts around 20th December.

A final thought; because the Scarecrow competition was so successful and brought a smile to people’s faces, why not put a Christmas decoration in your front garden. If there is an original, really unusual and imaginative display I will see if between the Village Society and the Parish Council we can provide a prize.

Jean Toyn, Chair, Tiverton & Tilstone Fearnall Village Society

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What's On

Christmas Quiz – Answers back by Friday 18th December 2020

Parish Council Meeting - 7:30pm on 12th January 2021

Parish Council Meeting - 7:30pm on 8th March 2021

(Location of PC Meetings to be confirmed)

Chairman's Notes

Covid-19 unfortunately continues to dominate our lives. Since the last Newsletter we have gone from Tier 2 into a second national lockdown and then, next week, back into Tier 2 regional restrictions. There has been some good news, though, with the announcement of some excellent vaccine candidates, so there is a flicker of light at the end of the tunnel, if not for this year then for next.

There had been a little bit of hope that the November Parish Council meeting could have been held in Tiverton Village Hall once again, but alas rising numbers and new restrictions put paid to that. The next meeting is in January and I

expect that to be via Zoom once again which, as I have said in previous Newsletters, has been really quite effective.

For those of you who used the services of the Tiverton & Tilstone Fearnall Covid-19 Support Group during the first lockdown, then the good news is that they are still here to help if you need it. Contact details can be found on our website along with up to date Covid-19 information that you might find useful.

New Parish Councillor

I am pleased to announce that we have a new Parish Councillor – Lesley Randles. Now living in Beeston Brook, Lesley was brought up in the area, went to school in Chester and is currently a lecturer at Liverpool University in the Department of English. She has worked in several countries overseas, notably Malaysia, Japan and Sri Lanka and taught at Chichester University in West Sussex before returning to Cheshire in 2012. Her hobbies include bridge, walking, crosswords, sailing and current affairs.

Lesley joined the Sailing Committee at the Port Dickson Yacht Club in Malaysia in 1991 and was given the position of ‘Seahorse’ – her duties were to do any job other members of the Committee didn’t want to do. So, a very useful addition to the Parish Council!

Speed Limit Change by Four Lane Ends

Those of you who have been following this drama will be aware that the Parish Council has been lobbying for a reduction in the speed limit at Four Lane Ends, formerly known as the Red Fox Junction, for many years. All hoops have been jumped through and all boxes have been ticked, but we are still unable to obtain from Cheshire Highways Department any dates (either firm or otherwise) of when the work will commence. This frustration has led to a decision to write to the Chief Executive of the CW&C to request some form of intervention as, quite frankly, the lack of information and action from Highways is unacceptable. At the November Parish Council Meeting it was agreed that I would make everyone aware of this in this Newsletter and that I would also ask for your help. Please write or e-mail Highways Department to request action on this matter, as a matter of urgency. Let us see if we can make our displeasure known as a community and get this moved forward!

The Tiverton Act of Remembrance

The Tiverton Act of Remembrance was held as usual this year at 11am on the 11th November by the War Memorial on Huxley Lane, close to the Methodist

Chapel. Because of the Covid-19 restrictions it had been necessary to submit a Risk Assessment to CW&C to obtain approval to run the event. The rules for approval became even stricter as we moved from Level 2 to a full national lockdown. So, to comply, there could be no singing of hymns and no post ceremony refreshments and, of course, plenty of social distancing. I was also instructed not to advertise the event so as not to be seen to be encouraging people to attend. In the absence of a Minister from the Methodist Chapel Ann Wright led the service and the bugler Ted Fowles played the Last Post and then the Reveille, following the placing of the wreath and the 2-minutes silence. Although the whole ceremony was much briefer than normal it was appreciated by all those who attended.

Ray Mould – Chairman, Tiverton & Tilstone Fearnall Parish Council.

Jean Toyn

Jean, as many of you know, is at the heart of many of the activities and initiatives carried out in the village. Not only is Jean the Chair of the Village Society, she was also front and centre of the Covid-19 support group that was set up at the start of the pandemic. In recognition of this and all the hard work she puts into various charities, Jean was nominated for a Neighbourhood Watch Award that seeks to recognise people who have gone above and beyond for their communities. I am pleased to say that this was recognised and Jean was one of four people shortlisted for the award. This is a great achievement in itself, so well done Jean, and all the other people in the village who have worked alongside her over the years.

Tiverton Methodist Chapel

It is somewhat sad to report that the Tiverton Methodist Chapel will be closing its doors permanently in April 2021. This is nothing to do with Covid-19 but rather a reflection of the challenges faced by many churches because of dwindling attendances and resources needed to support them. Many people will be sad that the annual Carol Service will no longer be held there as it was, along with the Remembrance Day Service, one of the key events that brought the village together.

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