

NEWSLETTER EMAIL:

nortonnews24@hotmail.com

NORTON SHOP WEBSITE

<https://www.nortonshop.co.uk>

FESTIVAL WEBSITE <https://www.nortonfestival.org>

PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

<https://nortonsubhamdonpc.co.uk/>

FRIENDS OF NORTON CHURCH WEBSITE

<https://nortonsubhamdonpc.co.uk/friends-of-norton-church>

VILLAGE HALL WEBSITE <http://nshvillagehall.co.uk>

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT MARCH 2024

Planning: There were 3 planning applications to discuss:

Application Number: 24/00386/HOU - Brook Coach House Little Street Norton Sub Hamdon Proposal: Erection of detached garden outbuilding.
SUPPORT

Application Number: 24/00267/HOU - 7 Broadmead Lane Norton Sub Hamdon Proposal: Erection of single-storey rear extension. - **SUPPORT**

Application Number: 24/00233/FUL - Turnpike Lodge Norton Sub Hamdon Somerset TA14 6SL Proposal: Erection of a new two storey, two-bedroom domestic dwelling with new vehicular access
The Parish Council ****OBJECT**** to this planning application. The reasons for objecting are:

1. New proposed access. The Parish Council were very concerned with regards to the proposed access being so close to the junction with the A356. Vehicles turning into the village off the A356 do so at great speed (even though it is the start of a 30mph speed area). Where the proposed access is situated is also a narrowing of this road and invariably when two vehicles meet here one has to stop.

2. Visibility Splay not far enough. Although they have allowed a visibility splay of 60m it was felt that this is not enough for this fast narrow area of road. The Parish Council are under the impression that even in a 30mph limit, a requirement to have a clear view of 70m (metres) in each direction is required.

3. Flooding The area by the A356 floods and when this occurs the road is shut to vehicles. By allowing planning on this site will take away available soakaway for water running off the surrounding land and therefore increase water flow onto the roadside.

Parish Council vacancy: No one came forward to call an election to fill the vacancy. The Parish Council can now co-opt a new member. We have been in touch with a couple of people who are interested. If there is anyone else who would like to be considered for the role then please email the clerk nortonpcclerk@outlook.com before the 5th April.

Wessex Water Meeting: A successful meeting was held in the village with Wessex Water in February. A list of remedial work was compiled which includes:

- 60m of 150mm sewer to be lined on Glebelands/ Rectory Lane due to significant infiltration entering pipework.
- 170m of 150mm sewer to be lined in Little Norton due to very significant infiltration entering pipelines.
- Pressure plates to be installed on manholes located on Rectory Lane to protect the public sewer from Fluvial (river) flooding.
- Manhole injection sealing to prevent significant infiltration identified within chambers located in Little Norton, Skinners Lane, Rectory Lane.
- Removal of land drain connected into the public sewer located in Little Norton.
- 1500m of Wessex Water public sewer to be surveyed to locate significant infiltration feeding into network from the areas of Minchington Close, New Road, Great Street and Little Street.
- Internal review of routine jetting maintenance on public sewer running to Norton Sub-Hamdon.
- Sewage pumping station and maintenance of inlet manhole feeding from Chiselborough.

The clerk explained that due to much of the work listed above requiring roads to be closed, Wessex Water would now apply to Somerset Council for permission to do so. The next meeting will be held on Monday 8th at 7.30pm in the committee room in the village hall. Members of the general public are more than welcome to attend. Louise Brooks (Clerk to Norton sub Hamdon Parish Council) nortonpcclerk@outlook.com

NORTON SUB HAMDON VILLAGE HALL

Puss in Boots, The Pantomime. Puss in Boots in Norton Village Hall. I would like to thank everyone who came along to the pantomime, who cheered, boomed and supported us with their appreciation. So many people contributed in their own special ways. The cast was absolutely brilliant, as was everyone involved – too many to list here, look at the programme if you've still got one, or just remember the spectacular evening in the beautifully decorated hall. None of that would have happened without the big boss director, Lindsay Higgins keeping everything and everybody going. Thanks to the volunteers at Norton Shop for being our Box Office, and to Norton and West Chinnock pupils and teachers who came to the final dress rehearsal, and whose enjoyment was very encouraging. Thanks to the local businesses for their sponsorship, the regular hirers who gave up their classes for Panto week, and to Norton Village Hall for hosting us. The proceeds of the Pantomime go towards Village Hall Funds; the final amount will be announced in next month's Newsletter or Facebook pages. Jennie Harris for Norton Pantomime Society. Secretary Norton Village Hall Committee. 01935 881718.

NORTON PANTO I was asked to share a few words about the panto. I think after this very wet and in many ways, miserable winter, we needed something to cheer us up, and my goodness, that's just what the pantomime 'Puss in Boots' did. It was incredible from beginning to end. The costumes, makeup, scenery, music, sound effects, etc, and of course the actors,

who were amazing. Thank you to everyone who helped in anyway. So many hilarious moments, such as Queen Wendy's striptease, and King Walley's never ending 'Yes Dear'! The silly antics from the rather dim sons of the Miller were a good laugh. Lovely singing voices, too, from Jack and Princess Esmeralda. I could go on and on. After laughing solidly for two hours on Friday evening, I was still laughing when I woke up Saturday morning. What a joy! Ruth C.

NORTON HA!HA! Thank you very much to Norton Ha!Ha! for donating the profits from 'John Peel's Shed' held in November at the pub to Norton Newsletter. We are grateful for this as we rely heavily on donations to support the monthly printing of our village newsletter. From Pam Treasurer

CRAFTY CRITTERS We will be meeting in the Reading Room on Monday **8th and 22nd April between 1.30 and 3.30pm** to work on our own project or to seek inspiration for new ideas. Come and join us for a friendly couple of hours of crafting and chat. £2.50 per session including tea/coffee and biscuits. Tricia 882646.

MOBILE LIBRARY AND BOOK CLUB The Mobile library will be in Chiselborough opposite the Village Hall on **Tuesday 16th April from 9.30-10am and in Higher Street, Norton Sub Hamdon from 10.10-10.35am**. The book club will meet on the same day. Contact Anne Fairweather on 882620 for details.

LADIES GROUP Our AGM on Tuesday 19th March at 7.30pm. was a casual affair. After looking back at last year's events, we looked forward to our programme and outings for this season. We held a Quingo quiz, a raffle, enjoyed a glass of wine and looking at the photos from last year's outings. Our a ten-pin champion, Lynne Jones was presented with a trophy, and a much coveted wooden spoon trophy went to Carole Friend. We have arranged a guided walk with an architect volunteer from a museum with tea and cake afterwards. if anyone would like to join us, please contact Sue. At our next meeting on **Tuesday 16th April** we welcome back Dr Francis Burroughes who will give a talk, or should I say a performance of Albert and the Lion in true Stanley Holloway fashion. Should be amusing to say the least. Our Boules roll ups will start on **Tuesday 23rd April at 2pm** all welcome. We meet every 3rd Tuesday in the Reading Room at 7.30pm and welcome visitors and new members. Enquiries to Sue 881805, Helen 881737.

NORTON VILLAGE COFFEE MORNINGS: Thank you to everyone who attended the February coffee morning. £300 was raised from a successful raffle, table top sales and generous donations. A big thank you to Adele and Steven Wassell for their incredibly warm welcome at Quinces; we all had a lovely time. The March coffee morning at Sophie and Andy Holm's will be reviewed in the next edition. We meet again at **10.45am on 24th April at Sue and Chris Westwood's home, Greenacres, Skinners Lane** (Skinners Lane is the continuation of Great Street, which runs up from the Lord Nelson to Little Norton, and Greenacres is the third house on the left after the pub). The theme for the raffle and table top/bring and

buy sale will be "Stationery & Cosmetics". Refreshments will be served and all are welcome. Sophie Hale and Sophie Snow

NORTON AND CHISELBOROUGH FLOWER SHOW will be holding their Spring Market and Plant Sale on **Saturday 27th April from 11.00 AM to 3.00 PM at Norton Village Hall**. Plants & shrubs, dried herbs, wind chimes, crystal jewellery, stained glass, wood turning, recycled metal flowers, sea glass & pottery and much more. Come along and enjoy delicious cake and/or Bagnell burgers!

READING ROOM NEWS The AGM on 15th March reviewed a successful 2023: increased book sales and book donations, good use of the rooms for meetings, the ever-popular Katy's Tea Rooms and last but not least, a brand new roof, thanks to a grant from the National Lottery Community Fund. Many thanks to all those who supported us by visiting the Reading Room Tea Rooms, buying and donating books and holding meetings. The Saturday morning help sessions with IT and mobile phones was less of a success so, for time being this is no longer being offered. However, did you know that BT are switching off the existing phone-line network during 2025? Some suppliers are already no longer offering a landline service. Where there are landlines, they will be replaced by digital rather than the current analogue system. It will be possible to keep your landline number but it will be via a digital solution. It is with this in mind that The Reading Room has made a further bid to the National Lottery for funds to help ensure that no-one is left out when this happens. We are delighted announce that we have been successful in our bid. This time the funding is primarily for 'digital inclusion'. Simply put, we will use this grant to offer IT and phone assistance to those who may need it, and to further enhance the facilities we provide in the Reading Room for the benefit of all in the village.

NORTON SHOP & POST OFFICE

We are delighted to announce Duncan Palmer from Bower Hinton Farm will soon be supplying locally grown fresh vegetables. Duncan, grows the freshest produce, which will be delivered throughout the week. The old plant stand has been transformed into a vegetable stand, which will be situated in front of the shop window. Our thanks to Peter Callaghan and Steve Collier. Look out for our 'Local Produce' campaign to promote and support our local suppliers and businesses for producing first class produce. At the time of writing, we can say that the shop has significantly improved its viability as a business. Whilst this is good news so far, we anticipate significant challenges in overhead costs in the coming year, so will continue with our efforts to enhance and promote this key community resource. Thank you for supporting the shop. We wouldn't be here without you. Ian Murray

NORTON JUBILEE GARDEN SUMMER PARTY No ticket for Glastonbury? then come to the **Jubilee Garden on Saturday 29th June 5pm-9pm**. No entry charge, but please give generously to the band who are raising money for the charity Mind. Music by the Yeovil Ukulele band. Wine and beer and soft drinks at a donation bar, proceeds to Norton shop. Paella on

sale, traditional and veggie, cooked by our famous Chef, Mark, all the way from our own Lord Nelson. Amazing raffle proceeds to the upkeep of our lovely garden, and possibly a swing ball game for everyone. Stalls available, £10 per table, £5 for a charity. Enquiries to Lynn Orchard on 01935 882 602. Good News: The Table Tennis is now reinstated for the Easter holidays. If you have some table tennis bats and perhaps a new net and would like to donate these to the garden, it would be very much appreciated.

SAVE OUR BEES AND POLLINATORS You might have heard about the Asian hornet threat to our bees and pollinators. Last year, 72 Asian hornets made it to the UK, the closest to here being Portland and Plymouth. Each Asian hornet consumes up to 50 honey bees per day. This means there are fewer native bees and a reduction in crops, fruit, etc. Asian hornets are 25mm long, mainly black with a yellow band around their abdomen and a yellow face (see photo on Norton Shop noticeboard). You can play an important part in the fight to control this pest and save our pollinators. Please do not kill any bee or hornet you suspect is an Asian hornet but, report your sighting, with photo, on the app AsianHornetWatch or alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk or your local team on asianhornet@somersetbeekeepers.org.uk. It can then be tracked to its nest and destroyed there. Further information on the British Beekeepers Association (BBKA) website.

BLACK PLASTIC DRINKING BOTTLE left behind in the village hall after the pantomime clear up. It's 11in/28cm high, capacity 32oz/900ml. Looks fairly top of the range so might be needed rather than abandoned. If it's yours, or you know whose it is, please contact 07778 117705 / 01935 881085.

GRAND AUTUMN AUCTION

Plans are being formulated to hold a Fine Quality Auction Sale in aid of our Community Shop and Norton Village Hall. At present we are unable to announce the exact date but we hope to make it a really special event in early October. We will be asking for items to either be donated to the sale or entered into the auction but sold on a percentage basis. We aim to make this a quality event - it will not be a glorified rummage or bric a brac Sale. So if you have any items of furniture, silver, jewellery, pictures, etc, you would like to donate or sell, please consider entering these items into the sale. In the next issue of the Newsletter, we will be publishing further details. We will be offering a free valuation and collection service. The Auction Committee

CALLING ALL BAKERS Norton Ladies Group and friends from Chiselborough will be serving tea and cake at the Plant Fair to be held at Norton Village Hall on 27th April. If any of you lovely bakers would like to donate a cake please contact Sue Lowder for Norton or Helen Truman for Chiselborough. So that we know how many cakes to expect. Your donations will be very much appreciated and all proceeds go towards the Norton and Chiselborough Flower Show to be held in August. **Volunteers required** to serve tea and cake and help out in the kitchen. If you can spare an hour or

so between 11am and 3pm on 27th April your help will be invaluable and much appreciated. Norton contact Sue 881805, Chiselborough contact Helen 881737

NORTON CHURCH SERVICES for April

Sunday 7th 9.30am Morning Prayer

Sunday 14th 9.30am Communion

Sunday 21st 6.00pm Evensong

Wednesday 24th, 9am Prayer Book Communion.

Details of all services and information about the Benefice are on the website www.hamhillchurches.org and Church notice boards. Rev Nick Clarke 07485 789968

FIESTA NEWS The Fiesta is taking shape and promises to provide lots of entertainment and things of interest over the Early May Bank Holiday (**3rd to 6th May**). The Fiesta is taking place mostly in the Church with over 25 people exhibiting their interests and hobbies with a similar number of floral displays. Live music will be provided at given times by a variety of people and refreshments are being served throughout the weekend. Brave Teddies are parachuting from the tower on Saturday and owls will be waiting to be spotted on an Owl Trail around the village all through the weekend. Make sure you share this experience with family and friends so that they know what a wonderful village we live in.

FRIENDS OF NORTON CHURCH WINE CLUB

The draw results for this month were as follows: Rowena Alsey (2) Jenny Byham (2) David Parkinson, Malcolm Reid, Tim & Pam Williams, Penny Cudmore, Simon Bradley, Heather Hawkins. To join the wine club contact Mary Batstone on 07967604681 or email marybatstone@gmail.com

FRIENDS OF NORTON CHURCH – UPCOMING

EVENTS The FNC are very grateful for our two guest speakers who will be giving our Summer and Pulman Talks this year. The events and respective dates are: **Friday 5 July Dr Sheila Seymour**, an Associate Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, will present a light hearted talk in Norton Village Hall entitled "Four Royal Invitations" covering three invaders we liked to pretend we "invited" to become our monarch.

Friday 20 September Dr John Ashton, previously of Norton-sub-Hamdon will provide our annual Pulman Talk in the church of St Mary in Norton. His subject will cover the mills of Norton, the reason for their locations, how they worked and the people who owned and operated the mills. Please note the dates and look out for further information in future editions.

TINKERS BUBBLE SUMMER VOLUNTEER

AFTERNOONS This summer we want to keep offering open volunteer sessions in the gardens and have decided to have 1 afternoon a month, on a Saturday. They are primarily for us to connect with the wider community and give people a chance to see what we get up to, and the work will be mostly focussed around whatever gardening jobs we have on at that time. No particular experience or skill is necessary. We'll meet at 2pm in our car park/barn area (up the lane from Little Norton Mill, straight on at the waterfall, we're the first gate on the left), work together a bit, share tea and

conversation (and hopefully cake), and finish up around 5pm. No need to book, although it is handy to know if people are planning on coming. These are the dates: April 13th May 11th June 22nd July 13th August 10th September 7th. You can contact us at: tinkersbubble@riseup.net if you have any questions

STOKE-SUB-HAMDON GARDENING CLUB

Wednesday 24th April 2024 At the Memorial Hall, Stoke-sub-Hamdon, TA14 6PZ. 7.15 for 7.30pm

We are delighted to have James Cross, Head Gardener of the Bishop's Palace Gardens, Wells, talking to us in April about the Past, Present and Future of the Gardens. There is a charge of £5 for visitors. Cash only on the door please. Free refreshments; stall (bring or buy) for home grown plants/produce; monthly raffle. **Saturday 27th April 10-12 noon Plant Fair.** Come and stock up your garden for the summer and beyond!

STOKE SUB HAMDON VILLAGE ARTISTS

Are you interested in art? Do you like drawing, colour, painting? How about joining a friendly group of local artists and developing your talent? The Village Artists Group is for you! We meet at Stoke-sub-Hamdon Memorial Hall on Tuesday evenings 7.30 to 9pm and

Friday mornings 10.00-12.00 noon during school term time. Come and join us once or twice a week for a most enjoyable couple of hours of self-development and enjoyment. Please contact Andrew on (01935) 823691, SSHTheVillageArtistsGroup@gmail.com Facebook Stoke Sub Hamdon The Village Artists Group

GUARDIANS OF ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

Our next event will take place on the 25th of April and will be the Emerald Jazz Concert. Details are as follows: **Event: Emerald Jazz Thursday 25th April.**

Venue All Saints Church, Martock;

TA12 6JN 7:30 pm Admission fee: Tickets: £10.00 at Guardianstickets@gmail.com /07547

213992/Martock Gallery/ Martock Newsagent (cash only); £12.00 at door. Website

www.martockonline.co.uk/events

<https://www.facebook.com/emeraldjazz/>

Emerald Jazz perform American Songbook standards made famous by Ella Fitzgerald, and Billie Holiday, to more modern classics by Crystal Gayle and Nina Simone.

VILLAGE DIARY OF EVENTS

Monday 8 April Parish Council meeting, Committee Room, Village Hall 7.30pm

Monday 8 April Crafty Critters, Reading Room 1.30pm

Tuesday 16 April Mobile Library and Book Club, Higher Street 10.10am

Tuesday 16 April, Ladies Group, Reading Room 7.30pm

Monday 22 April Crafty Critters, Reading Room 1.30pm

Tuesday 23 April Ladies Group Boules 2pm

Wednesday 24 April Village Coffee morning, Greenacres 10.45am

Saturday 27 April Plant Sale, Norton Village Hall 11.00-3pm

Friday 3 May to 6 May The Norton Festival Fiesta, Early May Bank Holiday

Saturday 29 June Jubilee Garden Summer Party, 5-9pm

Friday 5 July Royal Historical Society talk on 'Four Royal Invitations, Norton Village Hall

Friday 20 September annual Pulman talk in Church of St Mary, Norton Sub Hamdon

ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER should be in the box on the Post Office counter, or sent by email to: nortonnewsletter24@hotmail.com by 4.00 pm on the 19th of each month.

NEWCOMERS TO OUR VILLAGE If you know of anyone who has moved to Norton, please ask for their details and phone/text the editors or email, see below, so that we can welcome them to our village.

THE NEWSLETTER is produced monthly by the Newsletter Committee and is distributed free to every house in the village by volunteers who give their services free of charge. The Editors are Chrissie Way 07948 379439 and Rowena Alsey 0777 811705 with Assistant Editor Mrs Chrissie O'Brien. Email nortonnewsletter24@hotmail.com. All emails are replied to as soon as possible; please check if no acknowledgement is received by the deadline date.

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