



Whatton-in-the-Vale *Village News*

May 2014

Volume 7

Issue 2

Annual Parish Meeting

Eight residents attended the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 12th May 2014.

The Chairman presented the Annual Report of the Parish Council (reproduced on Page 4).

In response to a question in respect of glass recycling (which had been raised at last year's meeting), the clerk explained that Rushcliffe had concluded that glass recycling was not an economic prospect and would not be implemented in the Borough.

Two concerns were raised in respect of the A52/Grantham Road junction. One regarding the sign which indicated that Aslockton was closer than Whatton and secondly, the danger if waiting to turn into Grantham Road from the Grantham direction on the A52. The meeting felt that the issues should be raised with the Highways Agency and the clerk agreed to contact them on the issues raised.

Concern was expressed about the parking situation on Burton Lane and at the Burton Lane/Church Street junction. It was felt that it would be very difficult at times for emergency vehicles to negotiate the road. It was agreed that the Parish Council would look at the issue, but it was

understood that in the end any action would depend on residents' goodwill and sensible parking.

This quarters Village News is larger than usual with the Parish Councils' Annual Report and Accounts.

We have also introduced a new **Dates for you Diary** section and the first part of the **History of Whatton**, which will be a continuing set of articles exploring the rich and long history of the settlement.

We also hope to cover local events in more detail and involve local organisations and make the **Village News** a more entertaining and informative read.

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Temporary Closure of Bingham Library

Bingham Library will temporarily be closed from 4pm Saturday 24 May 2014 and will re-open on Monday 10 November 2014. This is to enable major improvement work to take place.

Work will also take place on the old health centre site to turn it into a new children's centre. The current children's centre will remain in the market place until November.

The number of items library members can take out from Bingham Library will be increased from 24 to 36. From now, any items taken out from Bingham Library will not be due back until December.

There will be a mobile library service in the town centre on Saturday mornings starting on Saturday 7 June. This will continue subject to use.

Weekly Rattle, Rhyme and Roll sessions will continue to run but at the Methodist Church Hall. The sessions are moving to a Friday and will run every Friday from 6 June from 10.30am to 11am.

The Home Library Service which operates from Bingham will not be affected.

The nearest alternative library is Radcliffe-on-Trent. This will have extended hours starting from Monday 2 June. Opening hours will be extended on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday.

- Monday 9am-7pm
- Tuesday 9am-5pm
- Wednesday 9am-12noon
- Thursday 9am-5pm
- Friday 9am-5pm
- Saturday 9am-4pm

Other nearby libraries are Cotgrave, Newark and Southwell.

For the latest information on the Parish
Visit the Parish Councils' website at

<http://www.whatton.org>

Dates for your diary

We will try and keep you up to date on the activities in an around the parish.

Cricket 2 nd XI v Great Dalby	Saturday 31 st May 2014	1:00 pm	Playing Field
Local History – The Civil War	Tuesday 3 rd June	7:40 pm	Thomas Cranmer Centre
Jubilee Hall AGM	Friday 6 th June 2014	7:30 pm	Jubilee Hall
Cricket 1 st XI v Belvoir CC	Saturday 7 th June 2014	1:00 pm	Playing Field
Cricket 2 nd XI v West Bridfordians CC	Saturday 14 th June 2014	1:00 pm	Playing Field
Cricket 2 nd XI v Ruddington CC	Saturday 21 st June 2014	1:00 pm	Playing Field
Open Gardens	Sunday 22 nd June 2014	1:00 pm	Jubilee Hall
Cricket 1 st XI v Gedling and Sherwood CC	Saturday 28 th June 2014	1:00 pm	Playing Field
Cricket 1 st XI v Sutton Bonnington CC	Saturday 5 th July 2014	1:00 pm	Playing Field
Cricket 2 nd XI v Poplars CC	Saturday 12 th July 2014	1:00 pm	Playing Field
Heritage Trail	Sunday 13 th July 2014	1:30 pm	Jubilee Hall*
Help for Heroes – Open Gardens	Thursday 17 th – Sunday 20 th July 2014	10:00am	Aslockton*
Help for Heroes – Evening BBQ	Thursday 17 th July 2014	7:00 pm	Aslockton*
Cricket 2 nd XI v Farndon CC	Saturday 26 th July 2014	1:00 pm	Playing Field
Whatton Parish Council Meeting	Tuesday 29 th July 2014	7:30 pm	Jubilee Hall
Cricket 1 st XI v East Bridgford CC	Saturday 2 nd August 2014	1:00 pm	Playing Field
Cricket 2 nd XI v Attenborough CC	Saturday 9 th August 2014	1:00 pm	Playing Field
Cricket 1 st XI v Calverton CC	Saturday 16 th August 2014	1:00 pm	Playing Field
Cricket 2 nd XI v Kirkby Portland CC	Saturday 23 rd August 2014	1:00 pm	Playing Field
Cricket 1 st XI v Eastwood Town CC	Saturday 30 th August 2014	1:00 pm	Playing Field
Late Summer BBQ	Saturday 31 st August 2014	12:00 am	Jubilee Hall
Fish & Chip Quiz	Saturday 20 th September 2014	7:30 pm	Jubilee Hall
Whatton Parish Council Meeting	Tuesday 23 rd September 2014	7:30 pm	Jubilee Hall
*see Articles in Village News	Pages 11 and 12		

Do you have an event that you want including in the next edition (August 2014)

Send the details by e-mail to

news@whatton.org

Annual Report of the Parish Council

This report was presented at the Annual Parish Meeting held in the Jubilee Hall on the 12th May 2014.

Introduction

2013-2014 was the third year of the Council and my seventh year as Chairman; On behalf of residents I would like to thank members of the parish council for their commitment during the last year. All members deserve a vote of thanks for the work and effort they have put in to their council responsibilities this year, as does our Clerk whose wealth of experience has been a great help during the year.

Communications and Community Engagement

This council recognises the importance of communication, public involvement and transparency in the work of your parish council:

An open session included at every meeting where residents are able voice their concerns or suggestions on issues affecting the Parish.

A Newsletter (Whatton Village News) to keep residents informed about the work of the Parish Council and issues affecting the Parish

Residents are encouraged to visit the Parish Council Web Site (<http://www.whatton.org.uk>) for up-to-date information on issues affecting the Parish

Precept and Budget

Our income is mainly derived from the precept, Nottingham County Council paid the Parish Council in respect of the maintenance of the roadside verges. It is unclear whether the payment will continue into 2014/2015 at the same level. A figure of £2,000 is included in the 2014/2015 budget, but its' effect is neutralized by the creation of a capital reserve of £2,000.

In setting the precept for 2014/2015 we had to consider a number of factors:

Advice from the District Auditor as to the level of our General Reserve – this should be equal to our annual revenue expenditure which is currently in the region of £8,500.

The need to maintain and improve services to our residents.

The Council set the precept for 2014/2015 at a net figure of £11,116 (Prior year: £10,995) which included the 'transitional grant' of £480 (Prior year: £556) in respect of the change to the Council Tax and Housing Benefit changes introduced last year. The budget year benefitted from an increase in the housing 'tax base' to 364 (Prior year: 360). The impact of both the increased tax base and the transitional grant maintained the Band 'D' precept at the same level as last year.

Financial Position for 2013/2014

Total income for the year amounted to £15,545.06, of which £11,551 was the precept, other income of £3,367.60 which a payment from Nottingham County Council in respect of verge maintenance and a VAT repayment of £626.46.

Expenditure for the year was £13,011.52.

The balance carried forward is £11,089.55 (Prior year: £8,556.01).

Planning

The Parish Council is a statutory consultee in respect of planning application in the Parish (and in some circumstances in adjacent parishes) local planning authority is required to 'take note' of our comments or objections. The Parish Council take planning applications very seriously and encourage residents to attend our meetings when planning applications are discussed. Where we object to planning applications we have do so purely on material planning issues. We continue to monitor Planning Applications in the parish.

The 'Publication Version' of the Rushcliffe Local Plan – Part 1 (Core Strategy) was published in March 2012 and was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for approval. The Inspector expressed concern and examine of the Strategy has been suspended whilst those concerns are addressed by the Borough Council. The plan has since been modified and resubmitted, Rushcliffe hope it will be adopted in November 2014.

In the Publication Version of the Rushcliffe Local Plan – Part 1 (Core Strategy), Whatton-in-the-Vale did NOT have any allocation sites. However, smaller, non-strategic land allocations will be made in the Local Plan – Part 2 which will not be adopted before the spring/summer of 2016.

Until the Rushcliffe Core Strategy is approved the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) published in March 2012 will be the principle guide for planning applications.

In September 2013, the Parish Council discussed the planning application for a Wind Turbine on land South-West of Whatton Manor Stud (13/1730/FUL). Whilst the actual Wind Turbine is located in Langar-cum-Barnstone parish, it is just over the parish boundary and the access road is in Whatton-in-the-Vale parish. A number of residents voiced objection to the proposal. The Parish Council objected to the application at the date of this report (30th April 2014) the application is still 'pending'.

In March, the Parish Council discussed an outline planning application for 75 houses in the adjacent parish of Aslockton (Abbey Lane). The Parish Council objected to the proposal.

Playing Field

The Playing Field Committee discussed during the year a suggestion that a small BMX park may be provided on the Playing Field. No substantive

proposal has been provided and the project has not been progressed.

Funds to purchase a 'Nest Swing' was provided by the Playing Field Trust out of its' Capital Project Reserve and the equipment was installed in March 2014.

The Playing Field Committee is currently preparing a 'Development Plan' for the playing field, covering a replacement for the pavilion, financing and other issues. The Plan will be published once it has been considered by the Committee, Trustee and Parish Councils.

Other Activities

The Parish Council in partnership with Nottinghamshire County, designed and installed new Village signs at two entrances to the Parish. Those two signs were funded by Nottinghamshire County Council, the Parish Council has resolved to fund a third sign for the junction of Grantham Road and the A52.

The Parish Council purchased a strimmer to allow volunteers (Councillors) to maintain, on an ad-hoc basis certain public rights of way in the parish. During the last cutting season rights of way on Blackberry Hill and the Whatton to Aslockton footpath were cut.

The Parish Council has agreed the terms for the lease of the land at the end of Azimghur Road, the documentation is currently being processed by the Parish Councils' Solicitor. The Parish Council has proposed the creation of a Community Orchard and wildflower area on the site and a resident has volunteered to coordinate the project. Further information will be provided on the website and in the Village News.

The Parish Council co-funded with the Vale of Belvoir Lions the purchase and installation of a Community Defibrillator at the Jubilee Hall.

The Parish Council have funded and installed a new Community Notice Board on Dark Lane (opposite Beverleys Avenue).

The Parish Council are currently examining options for repainting the fence on the Green (Ivy Row).

Verge Maintenance and Lengthsman Scheme

Technically we are only responsible for the Green in front of Ivy Row. The verges are the responsibility of the Highways Authority and the amenity spaces (the areas at the end of Azimghur Road and Green Walk) are the responsibility of Rushcliffe Borough.

A Parish Council cutting schedule was set up in 2006/07 and has been continued and allows for the cutting of the following:

The Green in front of Ivy Row;

Verges on Beverley's Avenue, Cottage Avenue and Green Walk;

The Green at the Junction of Dark Lane and Grantham Road;

The verges at the Junction of Main Street and Grantham Road;

The verges on the East side of Dark Lane;

The verge of the east side of Dark Lane;

The verge on Whatton Bridge;

The verges along Grantham Road to Orston Lane; and

The verges around the Green in front of Ivy Row.

The verges along the Old Grantham Road between Whatton Bridge and Conery Lane is due for consideration.

Rushcliffe Borough Council continues to cut the Green on Green Walk.

Agreement has been reached with Rushcliffe Borough Council for the Parish Council to lease (at a 'peppercorn' rent) the land at the end of Azimghur Road and that land will be included in our maintenance programme.

The Nottinghamshire County Council 'Lengthsman' Scheme allows parish councils to undertake work on behalf of the County Council. As the parish council undertakes a substantial amount of the work already (Verge Maintenance), we have applied to join the scheme and were accepted. However, the change of control of the County Council appeared to put the scheme 'on-hold' as nothing more was heard from the County. In the meanwhile, the Parish Council (after a number of years of negotiation) agreed the level of reimbursement from the County Council for the maintenance of the roadside verges within the 30 mph limit area. As the agreed amount is greater than that available under the Lengthsman scheme, the Parish Council will continue under the present arrangement.

Elections

Parish Councillors serve for a period of four years and the next election is in May 2015. Whatton Village News and the website will provide details of how to become a Parish Councillor over the next few months.

Localism Act

The Localism Act received the Royal Assent in December 2011 and some of the provision came into effect in January 2012 and other provisions followed in 2012.

The Parish Council is continues to review the Powers available to it through the Localism Act and which of those powers can be used to benefit Whatton-in-the-Vale.

Annual Accounts

	Receipts/Payments		Variances	
	2012/13	2013/14	on last year	
Balance brought forward	£7,818.54	£8,556.00	£738.00	9.4%
Annual Precept	£10,885.00	£11,551.00	£666.00	6.1%
Total Other Receipts	£1,155.96	£3,994.00	£2,838.00	245.0%
Staff Costs	£189.00	£146.00	(£43.00)	(22.7%)
Loan Interest/capital Repayments	£0.00	£0.00	0.0	0.0%
Total other payments	£11,114.49	£12,865.00	£1,751.00	15.7%
Balances carried forward	£8,556.01	£11,090.00	£2,534.00	29.6%
Total fixed assets	£21,215.00	£23,115.00	£1,900.00	8.9%

The accounts have been reviewed by the Parish Council's Internal Auditor and no issues have been raised.

The accounts are subject to review by the External Auditor.

Does your club or organization have news or articles you would like *Whatton Village News* to include.

Send the details by email to

news@whatton.org

Footpath News

Footpath No 19 (Whatton) and No. 13 (Aslockton)

In the last issue we reported that the Planning Inspector had confirmed the footpath order that was made on the 21st October 2011. The confirmation was made subject to the modifications to the original made by the Inspectors interim decision of the 20th August 2013.

In the last issue we reported that Nottinghamshire County Council were consulting with the landowner as to the works required to open the paths.

It now appears that the landowner has indicated to the County Council that she intends to challenge the Inspectors decision. The landowner has until the 29th May 2014 to lodge the appeal with the court, until it is determined whether or not an appeal has been lodged Nottinghamshire County Council will not take any action to open the path.

Footpaths, Animals and Stock.

A number of our footpaths pass close-to or through either sheep, cattle or horses.

Please respect the landowners notices, if you are requested to keep your dogs on a lead, please do so, no matter how well-behaved your dog is it can be 'spooked'. Sheep are normally contained within 'electric' fences which can hurt both your dog and sheep. When passing through fields that has horses or cattle, ensure your dog is on a lead and under close control.

Orston Lane – Bridleway

There is evidence that motor vehicles have been using Orston Lane (beyond the metalled portion). The track beyond the metalled road is a BRIDLEWAY is only accessible by foot, on horseback or on a bicycle, **MOTOR VEHICLES ARE NOT ALLOWED.**

Landowners with land off the track do have a right of access for agricultural and access purposes, but may not use the bridge with tractors or other vehicles that exceed 3 tons (maximum laden weight).

History of Whatton – Part I – Early Settlement

Whatton is an ancient settlement, artefacts have been found on the border of Aslockton and Whatton indicating that there was a settlement in Whatton in the late iron-age. The actual settlement wasn't found but is thought to be located under the A52. It is of interest that the 'finds' were dated up to the 1st century BC and did not extend into the Romano-British period (1st to 5th Century AD). Whilst evidence has yet to be found it is entirely probable that there was a Romano-British settlement in the parish.

Names used in the parish, supported by the Domesday record provide evidence of early Saxon and Danish settlement in the 5th to 11th Centuries. The 'English Place name Survey' ('EPNS') of 1948 proposed that the name Whatton is a contraction of *Wheat* with the Saxon suffix of *ton* meaning farm or settlement. Unfortunately, the EPNS used the modern spelling, the actual 11th Century spelling was *WATONE*, the *tone* suffix is indeed Saxon, but the *wa* appears to be a contraction of the Danish for Water. The bridge which carried the Nottingham Grantham road over the *Smite* (at the start of what is now the Bye-pass) is called the *Cocker Beck* Bridge. *Cocker Beck* is a combination of Saxon and Danish meaning winding stream. The name of the river itself, the *Smite* is thought to be of Danish origin.

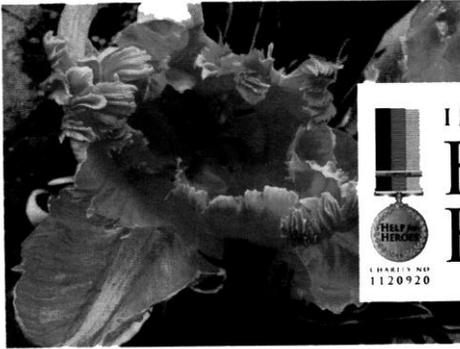
Whatton was in an area of England called '*Danelaw*'. *Danelaw* was part of the *North Sea Empire* which also included Norway, Denmark and part of Sweden. The other parts of England were *Mercia* and *Wessex* (*West Saxons*.) On the death of Edmund Ironside, England was unified under *CNUT* (*aka Canute*).

In the *Danelaw* area, *Manors* were called *Sokes* and *Wapentakes* were the equivalent of Saxon *Hundreds*. We know from the Domesday record that Whatton was held by Ulf Fenwick who was a '*Jarg*' – the Dane equivalent of the Saxon Earl.

The *Soke* of Whatton also had jurisdiction over the southern part of Aslockton and the majority of Hawkesworth and was part of the *Bingham Wapentake*.

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In the next issue – Part 2 – The Normans.



IN SUPPORT OF
**HELP for
HEROES**

Come and see two lovely gardens in Aslockton
"Whiteways" and "Hawthorn Cottage"
near the junction of Mill Lane and Main Street

Thursday 17th July

10.00 a.m until 5.00 p.m
Admission by Donation

**Tombola
Plant
Bric-a-brac
Toys and Gifts**

**Refreshments
available all day at
"Whiteways"**

Evening Barbecue 7.00p.m
(weather permitting)
£15 for 2 course meal



Hawthorne Cottage is also open on the 18th, 19th and 20th July, all day from 10 am selling plants, gifts, toys and bric-a-brac.

In support of Help for Heroes.

News from the Jubilee Hall

The Committee are hoping to complete the refurbishment of the entrance lobby and they heartily welcome residents to the Annual General Meeting on the 6th June to enjoy a complimentary glass of wine and inspect the improvements already completed.

The next project is to install a full size screen and projector on the stage. This will enable the hall to economically stage film shows. It will also provide additional facilities for people hiring the hall.

The Committee is now finalising the questionnaire, asking residents or their options and ideas for the Hall. The response so far has been encouraging, but there is still time for additional responses to be included. Any more responses should be taken to the Hall or to Barbara Harris at 18 Cottage Avenue. It is the intention to analyse the results and respond to as many suggestion and ideas as possible.

Heritage Trail

Whatton-in-the-Vale Parish Council, Whatton Jubilee Hall and the Parish Church of St. John of Beverley are joining forces to provide a truly community based event.

A gentle exploration of the village, answering few questions on the way and learning a little bit more about the parish in which you live.

The Heritage Trail itself will be a little under 2 kilometres and will start and end at the Jubilee Hall.

There will be a prize for the winning team, family or individual. At the end of your excursion you can enjoy a Cream Tea, a (self-designed) Pizza for the children or maybe a beer or wine from the bar.

The event is scheduled for the sunshine (we hope) on July 13th 2014.

Keep your diary free.

Full details will be published nearer to the day on the notice boards and the parish council website <http://www.whatton.org> and the Jubilee Hall website <http://www.whattonjubileehall.org.uk>.

News from St John of Beverley Church, Whatton

The Church held its Annual General Parochial Meeting on 22nd April in the Harris Room to which sixteen people attended with three apologies. Reports on the work of the PCC, the Fabric and Furnishings of the Church and presentation of the Audited Accounts were presented to the meeting together with an up to date Finance Report. The Church is just solvent and we are grateful to everyone who supports this beautiful and historic building.

We still were unable to elect a Churchwarden (or two) or a Treasurer but two people attending the meeting volunteered to join the Church Council – Mrs. Caroline Coulter and Dr. David Banks. Janet Greasley and Judith Gray were re-elected.

Janet was asked to write to the Notts County Council Footpath/Bridleway division to see if they would clear the undergrowth which is adjacent to the wall on Church Walk.

19th May. Whatton has been selected to host one of the Archdeacon's Visitation Services which will be held at 7.30 pm.

During the next three months there will be two Weddings, Sunday 22nd June and 2nd August. We understand the Hall is planning Open Gardens on 22nd June and the Church will be open for visitors from 4.15pm

5th July. Many people will be aware that the Revd. Karl Przywala took up the position as Rector of Holy Trinity Church, Vancouver and left the Cranmer Group on 30th December. Advertisements were inserted in The Church Times for a replacement who will be part time. The Revd. Bryony Ann Wood, who at present is Curate at Charlesworth, Hadfield and Glossop is to be Installed and Inducted as Priest in Charge of the Cranmer Group and Deanery Missioner at a special Service at 4pm at St Thomas' Church, Aslockton.

Our regular Sunday Services are now on the first and third Sundays of each month at 9.00 am.

The Clerks bits ‘n bobs

Coun. Gregg Redford has been re-elected chairman of the parish council. He was first elected to the post in May 2007, taking over from Mr Roger Coulter. The vice chairman is again Coun. Mrs Barbara Harris.

The Housing Survey carried out recently in Whatton in the Vale by Midlands Rural Housing showed there was a need for three affordable homes in the village. Parish chairman Gregg Redford is to meet Mr Miles King, an officer from the Housing Group for a village walk-about to see if there any suitable sites in the village for such a development. A similar survey was carried out in nearby Orston and that too showed up a need for three properties. It is possible a joint scheme could be developed.

The parish council have asked Notts County Council for the go ahead for a scheme to lay concrete slabs in front of the Ivy Row notice board and post box. The area often becomes mud-bound after any fall of rain and people approaching the two amenities have difficulty in reaching the areas concerned.

After the erection of two colourful village name signs the parish council have agreed to seek provision of a third one so that all the approach roads to the parish are provided with one. The first two were provided under the now ceased Notts County Council Local Improvement Scheme and didn't cost the parish anything. The third one will cost the parish council £1900. They are made at the Cropwell Bishop firm of Michael Lane and Son.

The annual accounts for the parish council for the year 2013-14 have been approved by the council's internal auditor, Keyworth accountant David Dixon. He made no comments on any part of them and they will be sent on June 23 to Grant Thornton of Liverpool who work on behalf of the Audit Commission.

The Clerks bits ‘n bobs

Notts County Council have confirmed the modification of Whatton footpath No 19.

Whatton Parish Council have told **Rushcliffe** Borough Council they object to planning application 143/00480/OUT by Hallam Land Management, involving a site of land south of Abbey Lane, Aslockton. They were seeking Outline Planning permission with all matters reserved for the development of up to 75 residential dwellings, incorporating open space, access and landscaping.

Environmental matters discussed by the parish council at their last meeting included comment on the erection of a number of white marker posts on the frontage to a property on School Lane in the village. The clerk Mike Elliott was asked to write to the resident to ask for them to be moved back from the road side to allow pedestrian use of the grass. It was agreed to add the grass verge on Coney Lane from in front of the properties from No 7 onwards to be added to the cutting list for Ulyetts, the contractors employed by the parish council. A letter was to be sent to the resident on Main Street to ask for his property hedge to be cut back because it was obstructing the footpath (Whatton Footpath No. 1)

The clerk was asked to write to Aslockton parish council in regard to their suggestion of a joint newsletter for the two villages and to say the parish council would consider the matter if they put forward some proposals and that Couns. Redford and Ayres would meet them to progress the proposal.

Parish councillors at Whatton are to discuss an item covering the poor mobile phone service in the village when they next meet on July 29. Any resident in the village who has concerns on the service they can obtain is invited to make contact with a councillor or the clerk of the council so their comments can be considered by councillors.

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Chairman

Gregg Redford
01949 851 597
17 Burton Lane

Vice-Chair

Barbara Harris
01949 850 117
18 Cottage Avenue

Ray Dawson
01949 850 493
19 Conery Gardens

Jan Ayres
01949 850 630
61 Beverleys Avenue

Graham Linney
01949 859 348
Conery Gardens

Carol Key
01949 850 087
41 Cottage Avenue

Malcolm Seagrave
01949 851 067
5 Riverside

WHATTON-IN-THE-VALE PARISH COUNCIL

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Comments and suggestions about Whatton Village News should be
sent to:

The Clerk,
Whatton-in-the-Vale Parish Council,
19/21 Main Street,
Keyworth, Nottinghamshire. NG13 5AA
Parish Council website: <http://www.whatton.org>