

THE FARTHINGHOE CHRONICLE



Village news, notices and events....

I'd dearly love not to have this on the front cover, however, it is a graphic reminder of one of the many reasons why we need a bypass.

Read on to discover the latest news and how you can have your say...Ed.

USEFUL CONTACTS

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Annual Farthinghoe Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 17th April, 2024

As you are probably aware, the Annual Parish Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 17th April, 2024. We very much hope you will attend this meeting and ask questions you may have regarding any element of our Parish Council activities and what we have achieved this past year. We would also welcome knowledge of any specific requirements or projects that you consider would enhance our Village environment.

We wish to encourage a substantial turnout for the following reasons:-

Cllr. Phil Larratt of West Northants Council has accepted our invitation to attend the meeting in order to update the Parish on issues relating to his role and in particular the current position concerning a Farthinghoe Bypass. He will of course take questions on this and any other issues you may have regarding traffic conditions in Farthinghoe and Steane.

Why Phil Larratt??

Cllr. Phil Larratt is the Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport, Highways and Waste in West Northants Council and in January, 2024, made the following statement regarding our potential Bypass.

“The Council is not intending to pursue further work towards proposals for a Farthinghoe Bypass as assessment to date shows it would be considered poor value for money and therefore unlikely to attract Government funding necessary to make it a reality. We will instead be carrying out further assessment to see if there are other ways of dealing with some of the issues raised by the Parish Council”

For the record, we have seen the estimated cost of a Bypass rise from approx. £12m to £28M. Inflation has been given as one of the reasons.

Justification for the above statement is because the calculated Business Case Ratio (BCR) was considered too low in value. The BCR is used by Government to determine if a project has sufficient payback to National tax payers, to qualify for investment.

In August, 2023, WNC presented Farthinghoe Parish Council with a 152 page document, entitled “Strategic Outline Case” which calculated, that taking into consideration traffic jams, air and noise pollution, the BCR for a Farthinghoe Bypass amounted to between 1.07 – 1.1, depending on the route chosen. We are advised that Government would not consider any project with less than 4.00 as suitable for financing.

In September, 2023, Farthinghoe Parish Council advised WNC that they had serious doubts about the accuracy and completeness of the report which came to the BCR conclusion.

These doubts included:

- (1) No attempt to quantify the effects of traffic diverting from the M40 in the event of closures. Recently, Farthinghoe and surrounding areas were saturated with overspill traffic from the M40, from 16.00 hours on the Wednesday to 11.00 hours the following Thursday.
- (2) The daily traffic flow of vehicles through Farthinghoe is considerably understated.
- (3) No attempt made to quantify additional and future HGV traffic using the A422 caused by the numerous Logistics warehouses that have been approved and built, specifically in Banbury, and surrounding area.
- (4) The root cause and effects of traffic mayhem in Farthinghoe has never been investigated or quantified. This is a gross oversight, as it is one of the prime reasons for needing a Bypass.

There are 2 other issues that we believe you should be made aware of:

- (1) HGV weight restriction for the A422.
- (2) Finance availability from cancelled HS2 project.

As a result of the refusal by WNC to pursue a Bypass for Farthinghoe, we have suggested that an interim weight limit should be imposed for HGVs through our Village, until such time as we can persuade the powers to be that a Bypass

is the correct and vital decision for the long term solution of traffic problems in Farthinghoe.

WNC agreed in September, 2023, to undertake a feasibility study on this interim proposal and report back in Spring, 2024. We await with baited breath the outcome of this study. Spring has now arrived so we are hoping that Cllr. Phil Larratt will have some positive news for our meeting. This will mean that all HGVs will be designated to use alternative routes including the B4525 instead of the A422 through Farthinghoe.

Finally, as you may imagine, as soon as we learnt that the Northern part of the HS2 route was going to be cancelled and monies made available, we were all over WNC like a rash, to secure monies for our Bypass. We felt justified because it appears that Bucks and S. Northants (not Northampton Town) have been hit hardest by the decimation of our Countryside.

The following statement has been made by WNC, again by Cllr. Phil Larratt, regarding dispersal of these funds.

“Following the Government’s announcement to provide West Northamptonshire Council with £162 million worth of funding from Network North over seven years, the council is awaiting guidance from the Department for Transport regarding how funding can be used and how it will be allocated.

When this is understood we will be working with partners and local stakeholders to prioritise the spending across the West Northamptonshire Highway network.

The council is continuing to work on the things that we have committed to in the Farthinghoe area, for example the review of HGV routing, with a view to reporting back to the parish council in the spring.”

Since this statement was made it has become clear that WNC are now preparing a plan to submit to the Department for Transport, but currently appear unwilling to discuss details with us. We are waiting to learn from WNC what monies will become available and the project allocations.

We hope the above summary of our Bypass activity provides an insight to progress we hope will be achieved. Your presence at the meeting and questions

to Cllr. Phil Larratt will certainly provide clarity and knowledge of what the future holds for Farthinghoe.

Finally, irrespective of what Cllr. Phil Larratt may say, it is worth noting that the above mentioned “SOC” document stated “*When the transport problems and issues are considered collectively a clear need for intervention is established*”.

**Farthinghoe Parish Council
22/03/2024**

A NEW WEBSITE FROM FARTHINGHOE PARISH COUNCIL FOR THE VILLAGE

The Parish Council are busy creating a new, easy to navigate, website for Farthinghoe to replace the current rather out of date one. We plan to launch around September / October this year.

We hope that as well as including all the Parish Council news, agendas and minutes for meetings, the website will also be a hub for the village with news of events and links to other communal sites in the village plus contact numbers for important local services.

This will not replace the Chronicle - a printed copy will still be posted to you each month and it will also appear on the website in full, glorious colour.

We would like to celebrate our beautiful village with a photo or photos on the Home page. Spring flowers and lambs are surrounding us just now, and we also have some beautiful buildings in the village.

The Council would really appreciate it if you would take some photographs that you think would display Farthinghoe at its best and submit them to us, we can then choose which will be on the Homepage of the new website. Children's entries would be very welcome too.

If you would send me your photos - either from your phone, email, or if you have used a camera, hard copies would be fine. My contact details are either 07851 054938, 01295 711345 or email, wendy.gainford@gmail.com

Thank you very much,
Wendy Hancock
On behalf of Farthinghoe Parish Council

VILLAGE NOTICES

Church Cleaning

Will be on Tuesday, April 9th from 8.30am. If you would like to help, please come along!

Coffee, Cake & Chat

On Friday, April 12th from 10 -11am in the Church Vestry. There will be a Bring & Buy, and also a Raffle. Thank you to all those who gave items for Baby Basics.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Will take place on Wednesday, April 24th at 3.30pm in the Church Vestry. All welcome!

Church Fete

Sunday, June 30th! More details next month. Keep the Date!

WINNERS!

1st prize - £25 - No 47 - Pippa Parnell
2nd prize - £15 - No 60 Geoff Hovland
3rd prize - 310 No 108 - Lois Ashburner

VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

SOCIAL EVENING – 2nd MARCH

A very successful event with 53 people enjoying an excellent buffet from Limes Farm and being entertained by our DJ Richard, who I think would have happily carried on all night.

My thanks to all who helped with selling tickets, setting up and clearing away and we will certainly look at organising another one in the summer.

FASHION SHOW - SATURDAY 23rd MARCH

Another well attended evening when we were entertained once again by Ruth on the catwalk, very ably assisted by Helen, who also proved to be a natural model.

FUTURE EVENTS

BOOKS & BAKES - FRIDAY 26TH APRIL

Come and join our ever growing group for tea/coffee and cake, and make use of the library.

GARDEN FURNITURE SALE - 6th APRIL

Joe Douglas has booked the hall again for a Teak furniture sale.

CONCERT - 11th MAY

Brackley Chamber Music Group are holding another concert. This was a very enjoyable evening when they performed at the hall last year. See separate advertisement for where to obtain tickets.

REGULAR SESSIONS :

Art - Tuesday 10.00am - 12.00 & Friday 10.45am - 1.15pm

Ballet - Monday 5.00pm - 7.00pm & Saturday 9.00am - 1.00pm

Martial Arts (Adult) - Sunday 11.30am - 1.30pm

Martial Arts (Children) - Friday - 5.30 - 7.30

Minimayhem - Wednesday 9.30am - 11.00am

Pilates - Tuesday 6.30pm - 7.30pm & Friday 9.30am - 10.30am

Table Tennis - Monday 7.30pm - 8.30pm

U3A - Spanish 1st & 3rd Thursdays 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Victorian Literature 2nd Thursday 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Yoga - Sunday 10.00am - 11.00am

If you are interested in any of the above and want further information please contact me.

Marjorie Morris

Email - bookings@farthinghoevillagehall.org

Tel. - 07900 590808

CHAMBER CONCERT

11th May at Farthinghoe Village Hall

***Brahms String Sextet Number 2 in G**

***Mozart Horn Quintet**

***Boccherini Flute Sextet G.466 7.30pm**

Tickets on the door or online from... <https://buytickets.at/bcmc/1194722>



BCMC are pleased to announce their upcoming concert at the Village Hall on May 11th. Delve into the rich tapestry of sounds as our talented ensemble presents a meticulously curated program, showcasing the depth and diversity of the chamber music repertoire.

Kicking off the concert with Mozart's Horn Quintet, listeners will be transported by its sublime beauty and refined craftsmanship. The opening Allegro is imbued with a sense of classical elegance, as the horn and strings engage in a spirited dialogue, while the ensuing Larghetto unfolds with a serene grace, its melodic lines weaving a tapestry of exquisite beauty. The Allegro moderato that follows brims with energy and vitality, showcasing Mozart's mastery of form and structure, before the final Allegro vivace brings the work to a thrilling close, leaving audiences enraptured by its brilliance.

Following Mozart, Boccherini's Flute Sextet offers a delightful contrast with its charming melodies and flowing phrasing. The opening Allegro Con Spirito captivates with its buoyant rhythms and playful exchanges between the instruments, while the following Adagio evokes a sense of tender intimacy, drawing listeners into its gentle embrace. The Minuetto that ensues brims with grace and elegance, before the spirited finale, Rondo Allegro, brings the work to a joyful conclusion, leaving smiles on everyone's faces.

After a short interval where guests can enjoy a complimentary glass of wine and nibbles, the concert resumes with Brahms' captivating String Sextet No.2 in G. Settle into your seats as the evening takes a more reflective turn, with Brahms' lush harmonies and sweeping autumnal melodies. The first movement, Allegro non troppo, unfolds with an air of anticipation, gradually building towards moments of poignant reflection. Transitioning seamlessly into the Scherzo, the mood shifts to one of lively exuberance, punctuated by intricate interplay

between the strings. As the Andante unfolds, listeners are enveloped in a serene landscape of melodic beauty, before the final movement, Poco allegro, brings the work to a triumphant close, leaving hearts soaring with its majestic grandeur.

Throughout the evening, our ensemble of skilled musicians will showcase their high semi-professional standard, bringing each composition to life with impeccable technique and heartfelt expression. Whether you're a seasoned classical music aficionado or a newcomer to the genre, this concert promises an enriching and unforgettable experience, as we invite you to join us for an evening of sublime beauty and musical mastery.

There will be a retiring collection in aid of the Farthinghoe Primary School Ties Charity.

Beth Ellison
Art and Framing
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Fine Art

I work primarily with oils and I have a particular interest in painting flowers, light and reflections. I am very happy to take on commissions. For more information on my work and commissions please get in touch.

Bespoke Picture Framing

I offer a bespoke framing service from my workshop in Farthinghoe, by appointment. Choose from a wide range of moulding, mountboard and glazing options, including specialist Artglass. Give me a call or send me a message to arrange a time to discuss your ideas.

Find me on Social Media!

 @bethellisonart

 Beth Ellison Art and Framing

ISSUE 829 – PHOTO CHALLENGE

THE EDITOR HAS BEEN RELIABLY INFORMED THAT THE INCIDENT DEPICTED ON THE FRONT COVER OF LAST MONTH'S ISSUE OCCURRED IN SEPTEMBER 1998 AND FEATURED OUR VERY OWN BARRY WILLETT.

FROM KATHARINE HOUSE HOSPICE, ADDERBURY
For inclusion in your March/April edition
(By email)



Remember a loved one

Celebrate the life of a loved one at our special Rose to Remember event this June. More than 350 roses will form part of a stunning temporary installation at popular National Trust property, Upton House and Gardens from 18 to 30 June. Each white rose will be hand-crafted especially for Katharine House by British Ironworks and dedicated to the life and memory of someone special. Find out more here: www.khh.org.uk/rose-remember.

Start your day differently

Looking for an unforgettable micro-adventure this year? Then join us for our Snowdon (Yr Wddfa) Sunrise Challenge this September and trek the highest mountain in England and Wales by night. An experienced mountain leader will guide the Katharine House team throughout the trek and you'll be rewarded with spectacular mountain views and lasting memories. Find out more about our brand-new fundraising challenge here: www.khh.org.uk/snowdon.

Where there's a will...

Is making a will sitting unticked on your to-do list? Then we've got great news... We've partnered with expert online will writers, Octopus Legacy, to offer you the chance to write your will for FREE. Many people who use this service choose to give a gift in their will, but there is no obligation to do so. Gifts in wills are a vital source of funding for Katharine House. In fact, one in ten people are cared for due to the generosity of those who leave the hospice a gift in their will. Find out more about writing your free will here: www.khh.org.uk/wills.

Community Ambassadors

We are delighted to now have a team of six incredible Community Ambassadors ready and waiting to represent the hospice. Our Community Ambassadors can: give talks, receive cheques at presentations, attend fundraising events and hold awareness stands. If you are hosting a community event or are part of a local group, school or business who would like someone to attend, you can now book a Community Ambassador by completing a form on our website: www.khh.org.uk/request-a-CA.

Having a spring clean?

If you're having a clear out and have good quality clothes that need a new home, how about donating them to one of our seven charity shops across the area? Rather than throwing out your pre-loved unwanted items, donating to a charity shop is more sustainable and helps raise money for our hospice. Find the details for all our charity shops here: www.khh.org.uk/retail.

Digital monthly newsletter – keep up to date with your local hospice

Sign up to receive our Katharine House digital monthly newsletter and keep in touch with all our latest news and fundraising events at the hospice. www.khh.org.uk/newsletter

Astwick Vale Benefice
April 2024

7th April			Acts 4.32-35
2nd Sunday after Easter	11am Holy Communion	Evenley (CP)	1 John 1.1 - 2.2 John 20.19-31 Psalm 133
White			
14th April			Acts 3.12-19 1 John 3.1-7 Luke 24.36b-48
3rd Sunday after Easter	10.30 Benefice Holy Communion	Hinton (TR)	Psalm 4
White			
21st April	9.30am Holy Communion	Farthinghoe (ML)	Acts 4.5-12 1 John 3.16-24 John 10.11-18
4th Sunday after Easter	10am Morning Worship	Aynho (LL)	Psalm 23
White	11am Holy Communion	Croughton (JD)	
	6pm Evensong	Steane (TR)	
28th April			Acts 8.26-40 1 John 4.7-21 John 15.1-8
5th Sunday after Easter	10.30 Benefice Holy Communion	Aynho (TR)	Psalm 22.25-31
White			