

## WETWANG FOCUS

Welcome to the Summer edition of the Parish Council newsletter. We hope to keep you up to date with projects, local events, advice and information. Content is welcomed and can be e-mailed to the Parish Clerk. The newsletter will also be posted on the Parish Council website: [www.wetwangparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.wetwangparishcouncil.org.uk)

### Our Noticeboard has moved.

The Parish Council noticeboard has been replaced with a new watertight version and can now be found under the porch of the Community Hall.

Meeting agendas and minutes along with other information can be found there.

### Burial Ground Access Road

The new access road has now been completed and also serves the Cricket & Bowls club. This was mostly funded by a grant of £10,000 from East Riding of Yorkshire Councils '4Goodfund'.

New hedging has been planted surrounding the burial ground and a rainwater collection bin added to the storage shed that can be utilised by those leaving fresh flowers or plants on graves.

The Parish Council hope to plant additional bulbs in the area as well as in other public places around the village this Autumn.

## VILLAGE POND

Did you know that Wetwang used to have two ponds?

The ponds, sometimes called meres or marrs, were possibly the remnants of hollows lined with glacial clays left behind during the later stages of the Ice Age.

The "top" pond was situated near to the modern day "The Paddock" and drained along a ditch, at times described as an open sewer, to the "bottom" pond which sometimes stretched across to nearly reach Wetwang House.

The quality of the water was poor and in summer was full of frogs, toads and water 'beasties'. The numerous frogs and toads often fell through the cellar gratings of the nearby "rents" close to the "top" pond.

On a Sunday morning it was a regular occurrence for the village fire engine to fill up at the "bottom" pond, before a run-down Station Hill to charge the batteries. The Fire Station is now the fish and chip shop.

Most of the drinking water came from two wells, one near the site of the sewage treatment works and the other at the bottom of Station Hill. It was only with the arrival of the railway in 1853 that the cottages could install cheaper slate or pantile roofs and begin to collect rainwater in large brick lined underground cisterns. Several pumps can still be seen around the village today.

Clean water was precious and mains water only came to the village in 1938 (information kindly provided by Mrs Ward of Wetwang History Group).

I'm sure many of you agree that the pond area needs a good tidy up. Councillor Dixon is an ecologist and is leading the pond project but she needs some willing volunteers. Jobs will include litter picking, planting, general labour and anything else in between. Volunteers must be over the age of 18 for insurance purposes.

If you are interested please send your details to the Parish Clerk and we will keep you informed about any dates

arranged. The aim is to encourage wildlife and make the pond into a focal point to be proud of.

May we remind you that the ducks should not be fed chips, bread or battered fish; foods such as these left on the floor also encourage vermin. They do like frozen sweetcorn and peas though.

## PLAYGROUND

Our playground area belongs to Sledmere Estate and the Parish Council are trying to negotiate an extension to the existing lease. Without a sufficient extension we unfortunately can not secure grant funding for new equipment that we desperately need. Therefore the playground may need to be relocated; a full consultation with residents will be carried out before a decision is made.

### **Parish Council partnership with ERYC Dog Wardens**

Residents of Wetwang are encouraged to keep an eye out for fouling problems and report any dog owners who are not picking up after their dog to ERYC dog wardens on **(01482) 396301** or through the East Riding of Yorkshire Council website. ERYC Dog Wardens visited Wetwang recently and noted areas of particular concern and new warning stickers have been placed on all of the village lamp posts pointing out the penalty. Removal of dog faeces from public footpaths can be requested by telephoning (01482) 393939.

### **Entrance Planters**

Brick planters are to be constructed at the entrances to the village on Beverley Road, York Road and Drifffield Road. The Parish Council will fund the purchase of plants each year; we have had a number of residents offering to care for them but please let us know if you wish to help as well.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Wetwang Village Show - The twenty-second annual village show takes place on Saturday 28th July 2018. The show will be open to residents of the Wetwang Parish and immediate surrounding area (in the case of children, those living in the above area or who attend Wetwang School, Pre-school group or another Nursery Group). Staging will be on the Saturday morning from 8am to 10am. Judging will be at 11am and viewing will be from 2:30pm to 4pm. Admission will be free but we hope you will all buy refreshments to help boost the funds. There will also be a raffle.

Garage Sales - Sunday 19th August. From 8am till approx 2pm. The Village Hall will be open from 8am for maps, drinks and bacon butties!

Wetwang History Group - Tuesday 18th September, Wetwang Village Hall at 7 p.m. David Lunn 'The Vikings in Wetwang' £3 to include refreshments.