

THE *Moreton Morrell* VILLAGER

February 2022



The Village Hall
Then and Now

Sponsored by  WCG

The Parish Council

Chair: Robert James | Vice Chair: Gerry Slora

*Councillors: Eileen Edwards, James Gordon, Bernard Keavy
& Claire Monks*

County Councillor: Penny-Anne O'Donnell

District Councillor: Anne Parry

The next Parish Council meeting

will be on

Monday 15th March at 7.30_{pm}

and all are welcome to join

For more news from the Parish Council visit

www.moretonmorrellpc.co.uk

*The Village Welcome Pack is available to anyone who is
new to the village or is perhaps returning after a spell
away.*

If you would like to obtain a copy please contact

Jane Cleeton: cleej1@btinternet.com

Or call 01926 651529

Or visit www.moretonmorrellpc.co.uk to download.

News from the Parish Council

Thank you to everyone who came to the parish council meeting on Monday.

Village appearance and amenities

It is good to see that the playing field continues to be used well, even in the winter. We know that the entrance from Farm Drive is very muddy, so will be laying some matting there to help combat this.

Thank you to the landowners who have cut back vegetation on footpaths, particularly from Middletown to Little Morrell, as this makes a real difference to walkers.

Unfortunately there seems to have been an increase in the amount of litter in the village, on the roads and also on verges. There are lots of bins, so please do use them. Thank you to Emily Monks who has been collecting rubbish her volunteering for her Duke of Edinburgh Award – for any other young people needing a volunteering opportunity this is a really great way of giving something back to the village.

Village Hall meeting, 9 March 2022

There will be a meeting at 7pm on 9 March, at the Village Hall, for anyone who is interested in helping to make the most of this important asset. We need people willing to organise events and activities, even if they do not want to be involved in running the hall itself.

Pop Up Shop and Café – Yellow Brick Bakery – 10am- 12pm, Saturday 5 March, Saturday 2 April

Following the success of the pop up bakery event and refreshments in December (those mince-pie brownies were scrumptious!), the Yellow Brick Bakery will be returning on the first Saturday of each month, selling brownies, cakes, bread and other baked goodies.

Supported by the Parish Council, we will be serving refreshments so come along, have a drink and sample some delicious baked goods. If you would be interested in having a stall at this regular event then please get in touch with Claire Monks on clairerm@live.com or via the Parish Council website.

Save the date, Queen's Jubilee Party, 5 June 2022

Following the success of the picnic in September, we will be organising a similar event to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee on 5 June 2022. Volunteers to help always welcome, watch this space for more information.

Thank you to everyone who completed the questionnaire for the Parish Plan. We had over 120 responses which really helps to inform our thinking. The full minutes of the meeting are available on www.moretonmorrellpc.co.uk. The next meeting is on 15 March at 7.30pm and all are welcome to join.

KEEP UP TO DATE

www.facebook.com/Moretonmorrellpaddox



Save the Date

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE: 9TH MARCH 2022 @ 7.30PM

MORETON MORRELL VILLAGE HALL.

THE PRESENT VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE ARE
SEEKING NEW MEMBERS TO BRING FRESH
IDEAS & SUPPORT.

WE ARE LOOKING TO RESTART TABLE TENNIS, COFFEE
MORNINGS, PARENT & TODDLER, CHARITY BINGO & QUIZ NIGHT.

WE WOULD LIKE TO START A YOUTH GROUP, DO YOU HAVE THE
SKILLS NEEDED TO SUPPORT THIS IDEA.

THE POP UP BAKERY WILL BE AT THE VILLAGE HALL ONCE A
MONTH, DO YOU HAVE PRODUCE TO SELL IE: JAM'S & CHUTNEYS,
FRESH VEG OR MAYBE CRAFTS THAT YOU MAKE.

THE VILLAGE HALL NEEDS YOU, PLEASE COME ALONG ON
WEDNESDAY 9TH MARCH SHARE YOUR IDEAS, OFFER YOUR HELP
& ENJOY A CUPPA & A SLICE OF CAKE

Pop-Up Bakery and Café

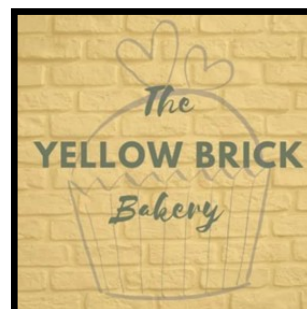
First Saturday of every month

10am - 12pm at the

Moreton Morrell Village Hall

Bread, cakes, brownies and other savoury and sweet
baked goodies on sale from the Yellow Brick Bakery,
Leamington.

Tea, coffee and soft drinks provided by the Parish
Council.



District Councillor Report

It's budget time at Stratford District Council and the proposed increase in respect of Council Tax is £5, which would make the council tax bill for a Band D property be £154.12 per annum which represents less than 8% of the total council tax bill.

In preparing the 2022/23 Base Budget, the over-riding principle is to budget for the continuation of services at the existing level. In terms of garden-waste the charge is proposed to increase to £42 for 2022/23 and then by £2 per annum. Car parking changes are planned to remain unchanged.

South Warwickshire District Council

Following the vote by both Stratford District Council and Warwick District Council to progress a merger to form South Warwickshire District Council both councils have embarked in the strategic process that has resulted in the development of a submission document to the Secretary of State for review on the 'how' and 'outcomes'.

Call for Sites Consultation

All of the responses to the initial Scoping and Call for Sites consultation have now been published online. This includes all of the responses to the questions

within the Scoping Document, a Consultation Statement, and a complete list of all the sites submitted as part of the 'Call for Sites' exercise. In particular, this includes two land areas one off John Taylor Way and another off Brook Lane

As Stratford District Council currently has a healthy Five Year Housing Land Supply of 8+ years – neither development can come forward without extensive local support or until it is included in the new Local Plan/Core Strategy.

Local Plan

This is to advise that Sian Maher together with Matthew Neal at Stratford District Council will be working with the parish council providing advice and guidance on the development of the Local Plan. The findings of the extensive survey will be analysed in February and used in the drafting of the document over the next few months. My thanks are extended to everyone who took the time to complete the comprehensive questionnaire.

Anne Parry

Ward Member for Wellesbourne East

From the Allotments

This is always a less busy time on the allotments. A former allotment holder of some years used to say that it was the time when many growers seemed to go into hibernation, to emerge in the spring! Having said that, there are still jobs to do and over recent times, there has been quite a bit of activity, digging, planting of fruit bushes, canes and trees and no doubt quite a few hours perusing seed catalogues and drawing up plans for the new season. My seed potatoes have just arrived and are now in their chitting trays waiting for the Spring.

As reported last time, we now have 100% take up of plots which is really good but we are always interested in hearing from potential new tenants. You may have to go on a waiting list initially but, if on the list and a plot is given up, you will be the first I contact. So let me know and my email is below.

Growing your own vegetables and fruit are always the core reason for taking an allotment but the added benefits of being out in the open air, exercise and listening to nature are also key. Tending an allotment involves a great deal of work but the rewards are there if you have the interest.

As for me, I look forward to another year of growing. There will be successes and there will be disappointments. It is all part of the lot of a gardener.

I believe that it was Alfred Austin in a 2008 gardening book who said "The glory of gardening: hands in the dirt, head in the sun, heart with nature. To nurture a garden is to feed not just the body, but the soul"

John Moverley

john@dunmovin.co.uk

Moreton Morrell is on



Discover your neighbourhood!

Visit [nextdoor.co.uk](https://www.nextdoor.co.uk)
or download the app

Nature Watch

By Steve Harvey

On a clear frosty night, Orion twinkles as it rises in the south-east, two Tawny Owls call to each other near the cottage. Haven't heard that for a couple of weeks. If they've survived this far the three Owlets should be well able to look after themselves now. Across the field a Fox gives its four bark call. Mating season is well under way. Always like to have them near the cottage.

Now its colder I regularly hear Rats scurrying about after dark. They rarely give me any problems but with Foxes about the numbers will probably be kept down a bit.

Its mid January as I scribble this and around first light we now have a proper dawn chorus. Most people associate it with Spring but its off in January and gradually builds through to May.

Robins just keep singing defending territories now joined by Wood Pigeon, Song Thrush, Mistle Thrush (Storm Cock) and a Blackbird, my favourite of all with its velvet tone. As I've said before three singing contract doesn't really start until mid Feb but I heard them in December, probably young males staking their claim. Maybe its because its was a mild start to the Winter.

Even heard one singing loudly on a light in Sainsbury's car park. (other supermarkets are available).

The other early bird is the Greater Spotted Woodpecker. I hear them drumming in early Feb as a rule but they were drumming away in December. The drumming, often on a hollow branch especially selected for great acoustics, is their version of a song to stake their claim on territory. I often hear two males having a 'drum off'. Is it another sign of global warming - all this early action?

By 7.30am the Jackdaws (my lot) arrive home. They leave here about dusk and I reckon they head off to a nearby wood to roast. They arrive back with their usual clatter, often zooming around the trees here with a real sense of excitement before settling down. Always nice to see them home. I'm soon out there, often to be met by a couple of them looking down at me from the outhouse roof. They know the drill. I give the usual call and am soon joined by 30 to 40 Jackdaws ready for breakfast. A group of female pheasants emerge from the bushes to join in. I've got 6 of them here at the moment.

Just a thought. In this cold weather the birds need water as

Nature Watch

much as food. If a bird bath is frozen then an empty tin filled with hot water soon melts the a patch when stood on the ice.

Some Snowdrops, Crocuses and Daffs are starting to push their way through and a pair of Blue Tits are already in and out of the nest box, casing the joint ahead of the game.

It seems to take forever but Spring is only a few weeks away. Well that's what I'm telling myself!



*Follow me on
Instagram -
steviespics56*



Pick it up!

*Whatever some people may believe, there's no such thing as the dog poo fairy. So dog walkers, bag that poo - any rubbish bin will do.
(This includes Box Field)*

Together let's put an end to this offensive, harmful litter.

Your Church in Your Community

Despite the challenges created by COVID, your church has been active and, as for the building, always open every day for you to visit or take time out from the stresses and strains of everyday life. Of course we now also have the community bookshop in the church and it is pleasing to see it being used, with borrowing, some sales and gifts of more books. A number of us have plans for further increasing the community use of your church building – watch this space. In the run up to Christmas, we held a well-attended carol singing event in the churchyard, and a traditional carol service. Building on the success of our Craft Fair, the group responsible have more exciting plans for events focussed on the Room so again keep watch for details. Our services are at 10.30 on the first and third Sundays. On the third Sunday we label it Prime Time, an informal family service. You are always assured of a warm welcome, refreshments afterwards and time to chat. As I never fail to say though the church is not just about the building and certainly not just for Sunday. Whilst you as a reader may not be a church attender or indeed have no faith, it is important that your church continues to reach out to all and, if we can help, do so. Like all churches, certainly in rural areas

there is the continuing challenge of maintaining the property which is a significant financial burden but the role of the church in the community must never be overlooked because of this. The pandemic has created real challenge and hardship; yet it has also strengthened community fellowship. I meet many now who have engaged with other villagers in a much stronger way during lockdowns. That support and engagement is so important and perhaps we will all prioritise it a little more going forward. At the start of the year, I received the following from a Christian friend. It made me think and so I share it with you below. Whatever 2022 throws at us, I wish you all well.

“As we embark on the adventure of a new year, let us give thanks for all we hold dear; our health, our family, our friends and our community. Let us release our anger, grudges and our pains, for these are nothing but binding chains. Let us live each day in the most loving ways”

*John
Moverley
Church
Warden*



The College Update

College group launches new university centre

WCG has launched a new university centre to operate its growing Higher Education provision.

Warwickshire College and University Centre (WCUC) will oversee the degree-level education at the college group, which includes Moreton Morrell College.

The new university centre follows on from WCG becoming the first college group in the UK to be granted both Bachelor degree awarding powers by the Office for Students, alongside the Foundation degree awarding powers already in place.

Prospective students that now apply to study a Higher Education course with WCG can now be enrolled on Warwickshire College awards under the new Warwickshire College and University Centre banner.

Steve Taylor, Dean of Higher Education at Warwickshire College and University Centre, said:

“Warwickshire College and University Centre degrees have a strong technical focus and are designed to support the Government’s drive to develop skilled individuals who can make

an immediate positive impact on the economy after graduation.

“As part of launching the new centre, we have been working across each college to enhance our offer and facilities to meet the relevant industry and sector standards.”



Warwickshire College and University Centre (WCUC)

Industry accreditation for duo of degree-level courses

Moreton Morrell College has been awarded accreditation for two of its degree-level courses from a major industry body – further increasing the stellar reputation of its veterinary physiotherapy and animal therapy graduates.

BSc Veterinary Physiotherapy and BSc Canine Therapy and Rehabilitation courses have been accredited by the Animal Health

The College Update

Professions Register (AHPR).

More than 30 students are currently studying on the pair of courses and tutors say the new AHPR accreditation will future proof students as practitioners, also improving employability prospects and visibility to potential clients.

Helen Coleman, Subject Lead in Higher Education at Moreton Morrell College, said: “To have been awarded AHPR accreditation is the highest-level of recognition possible for our courses and it is testament to our staff striving to deliver the best quality training for students.

“It put our students in a good position for when these do become protected titles by law, they will tick all the boxes.

“Both courses will be subject to annual monitoring by the AHPR and as a college we will continue to invest time and resource to ensure our courses are hitting and surpassing benchmarks set by the accrediting body.”



Students at Moreton Morrell College

Popular lambing weekend set to return

Members of the public are being invited to meet the first lambs of spring at Moreton Morrell College as a popular event is live once again.

The college’s annual Lambing and Animals Weekend is set to be held at Nethermorton Farm on March 19 and 20.

The college will welcome visitors in-person again after the event was held virtually for two years due to Covid-19.

This year, visitors will be able to meet the newborn lambs, sit on a tractor and speak to Henry Dingle, manager of the 750-acre farm, about how the animals are cared for.

They can also visit the college’s Animal Centre to see meerkats, porcupines and other exotic animals, enjoy the Farmer’s Market and explore an adventure trail.

Mark Whittaker, from WCG, said: “We’re extremely excited to hold our Lambing and Animals Weekend live once again.

“It’s an extremely popular event which attracts hundreds of visitors, and we look forward to welcoming everyone to the farm in March.”

Advanced tickets are available at www.wcg.ac.uk/lambing and priced £15 for a family ticket

The College Update

(two adults and two children), £6 for adults and £3 for children. Under 2s go free.



Lambing at Moreton Morrell College

New bursary and scholarship scheme launches

A new scholarship and bursary scheme has been launched at Moreton Morrell College thanks to a generous donation from the widow of the college's first ever foreign student.

Madame Gertrude Marsh-Looi passed away at the age of the 92 last year and left a sum of money to support students in their studies at the college, which is part of college group WCG (formerly Warwickshire College Group).

The Looi Trust has been set-up to manage the distribution of funds, and students enrolled from

September 2022 will be able to apply for either a £500 scholarship or for a bursary.

The scholarship will be available for gifted students studying any subject at the college, and applicants will need to demonstrate excellence, exceptional commitment to their chosen subject and dedication to their chosen career path.

Meanwhile, the bursary aims to support students with residential fees, course related costs or to provide further support to students in financial hardship.

Angela Joyce, CEO of WCG, said: "Throughout her life Madame Gertrude Marsh-Looi was a passionate supporter of Moreton Morrell College and the new scholarship and bursary scheme means she will continue to positively impact the college for years to come."



From left to right - Steve Wood, Madame Gertude Marsh-Looi and Angela Joyce

The Seeds of Bloom

The Seeds of Bloom

Coming soon....freshly grown British seasonal flowers. Grown right here in Moreton Morrell. We started our flower farm late last year and so this is our first full growing season. We have all our spring bulbs and roses planted and will be starting seed sowing in February. The foxgloves and Sweet Williams are already growing outside and the snapdragons, ranunculus and lupins are all tucked up in the greenhouse ready for some warmer weather.

*From spring 2022 we will be designing and picking a seasonal bouquet for delivery every Friday. Choose from weekly, fortnightly or monthly. We also make wreaths, jam jar posies, funeral arrangements and DIY wedding flowers as well as bespoke items on request. Follow our flower growing story on Instagram **@the_seeds_of_bloom** or on our website **www.theseedsofbloom.co.uk**. We live in the village and are passionate about fresh local produce. 90% of flowers in the UK are imported from countries such as Kenya and South Africa, as well as Holland, so will not be as fresh or last as long as one picked the day before. We will be taking spring orders soon, and would really appreciate the support of the local community.*



Transport

Dial a Ride UBUS service in Moreton Morrell

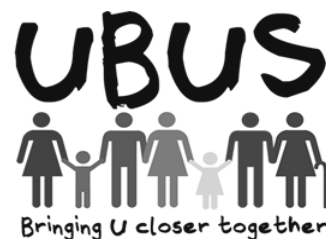
The UBUS dial a ride community transport service operates in Moreton Morrell and surrounding areas on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays between 09:30 - 14:30.

UBUS is available to anyone who struggles to access public transport due to mobility issues, health problems or due to infrequent or no public transport.

Travel locally or into Stratford upon Avon to go shopping, visit friends or attend social groups.

Single journey fare: £2.90 | Return fare: £5.80

To register with UBUS or for more information please call 01789 264491 between 09:30 - 14:30 on weekdays.



COMMUNITY TRANSPORT SERVICE

Our volunteer drivers can take you to medical appointments, lunch clubs, groups, activities and to visit family and friends.

01789 262889

transport@vasa.org.uk



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vasa

reducing isolation within our communities

RELIABLE SERVICE

All our volunteer drivers are enhanced DBS checked, referenced and carry ID.

WHAT DOES IT COST?

You pay your volunteer driver **45p per mile** and a **£3 admin fee** to help us sustain the service. **Two hours of waiting time** is included in the cost of your booking.

HOW TO BOOK A JOURNEY

Our booking line is open Monday to Friday between 9.30am & 3pm.

01789 262889

transport@vasa.org.uk

WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEER DRIVERS!

Have you got some spare time during the day? Could you help this invaluable service in your community? You can choose to do as many journeys as you like each month. 45p mileage costs paid.

Call 01789 262889 or email volunteer@vasa.org.uk.

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Lyndon Bufton

Mobile: 07531005579 Phone: 01926 737079

We need your clothes and shoes

Don't forget the school has a hungry clothes monster... or a recycling bin if you prefer!

Have your children outgrown their clothes or shoes or perhaps you need some space for your summer wardrobe! If you have any bedding, clothing or shoes that no longer fit or you simply no longer want or can be bothered to repair! why not feed the blue bin located opposite the main reception entrance to school.

The bin is emptied by an external company and the school is paid an amount depending on the weight of the clothing.



The Silver Line is a helpline for older people that offers information, friendship and advice 24 hours day, 365 days a year.

Originally founded by Dame Esther Rantzen, it is the only national, free and confidential helpline for older people in the UK.

The Silver Line also offers telephone and letter befriending by matching up a Silver Liner to a volunteer for regular conversation.

So if anyone is lying awake at night - or feeling lonely at anytime - or is worried about a problem that they have - and think that a chat with someone friendly who cares might help, **please call The Silver Line on 0800 4708090** www.thesilverline.org.uk



Community



The Room

**This new facility is suitable for
small gatherings, meetings and regular events.**

To make an enquiry or to book The Room please contact
contact.tramm@gmail.com

or visit the website for more details

www.midfosse.co.uk/moreton-morrell-holy-cross/the-room

The Church of the Holy Cross, Main Street, Moreton Morrell, Warwick CV35 9AL

Help us make The Villager!

Please continue to send your news, events, letters, photos, stories
and comments by email to cleetonjane@gmail.com

The deadline for the next edition is

1st April (no joke) 2022

This is your magazine, please do contribute in any way you can.

Extra copies of The Villager are left in the church

and a copy is online at www.moretonmorrellpc.co.uk