

Spectrum Article March 2016

Clean for the Queen

The Parish Council would like to thank the twenty seven volunteers that made our "*Clean for the Queen*" event on Saturday 5th March so successful. Additional support was appreciated from the Brownies, Rainbows and Fenstanton youth football club.

The response was beyond our expectations and enabled us to complete all our target areas. At the time of writing we now have legible road signs, a revived car park, a spotless play park, and a litter-free zone that extends well beyond the village boundaries.

The photograph on the PC website shows the results of our efforts and a further thank you is extended to the Methodist Church and HDC for their support.

Feedback on the event would be welcome!

Village and Church Grass Cutting

This month the three year maintenance contract was up for renewal. We would like to congratulate John Carter who won the contract, against two other organisations who tendered to win the work. We are confident this outcome achieves the best value for the Parish but also recognises the quality of John's service to the Parish over recent years and his knowledge of the village.

The new contract ushers in some changes to the maintenance regime of the open spaces of the village, in particular restoring more of the Common back to meadow. The Parish Council is grateful for the support of those residents affected by these changes. This work is part of an ongoing commitment of the council to improve the diversity and extent of flora and fauna in this important habitat.

Parish Council Policies and Website

A full review of Parish Council policy documents has been conducted in recent weeks, resulting in some minor changes. The updated documents can be found on Hilton Parish Councils website, which itself has undergone a review and rework.

The Hilton PC map will shortly be available as an unframed, A2 rolled sheet, for the princely sum of £5. Should you wish to purchase a copy of this map, please contact the Parish Clerk; hiltonparishclerk@gmail.com

A14 update

We are somewhat in limbo at this point as we await the recommendations of the Examining Authority which have now been passed to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State's decision will be published on 13th May 2016, after which follows a period of six weeks for any legal challenges to be made. In the meantime Highways England will conduct topographical surveys over the affected area, so do not be surprised to see men and plant at work in the fields around the village.

The Queen's Birthday Celebrations

As part of a village wide celebration of the Queen's birthday involving a variety of groups in the village, we hope to light the re-worked beacon at a site yet to be decided, on the 21st April. The order for the new tripod design has been placed and all being well it will be ready for the big day.

Dog Fouling

We are sorry to say there has been a significant increase in the amount of dog fouling in the village. This a real step backwards as we have a very good record considering the number of dogs walked daily in the village. Can we call on all dog walkers to please pick up and dispose of your dog's mess in an appropriate manner. This is an important issue of public health.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on 11th April 2016 at the Methodist Church.