

Flag Flying Dates

9th - Birthday of the Princess of Wales
20th - Birthday of the Duchess of
Edinburgh

Bin Collection Dates

Brown (Fri): 3rd, 17th & 31st*

Silver (Mon): 6th & 20th

Green (Mon): 13th & 27th

Teal (Tue): 21st

*There will be no brown bin collection on 3rd and 31st

HALAM NEWS

January 2025

If you would like to contribute to a future edition of Halam News please send your article (as you would like it to be printed) using the details below by the 25th of the month for inclusion the following month. All content is included at the discretion of the Editor.



New Editor of Halam News!!

Well the time has come after 7 Years and 4 Months (88 Editions) for me to hand over the reigns as Editor of Halam News. It has been both an honour and a privilege to carry out this role and would like to wish Kate Taylor every success for the future as she takes the baton for next month and becomes only the 6th person to take on this role. I would not be stepping down if it was not for the decision for my family and I to relocate to Hayle in Cornwall in July 2025. While this is a very exciting time for our family it will also be heart rending for us to leave the village that we love. We will visit regularly and promise to stay in touch.

Halam News was started in July 1979 by Steven Brown and there has never been a missed edition in its over 45 year history. Long may this tradition continue.

Janet Hannah Davis 'Ann' nee Donson, 1941 - 2024.

My beloved wife Ann passed away on the 11th of November. She was diagnosed with inoperable pancreatic cancer last Christmas. She was born at her parent's home 'Gray Home' in Gray Lane.

She was christened in St Michael the Archangels church Janet Hannah Donson, she went to Halam school where she was known as Ann. Her mother Betty was a Kemp.

Afternoon losing her mother she regularly sat in Halam church because she felt close to her and her Aunt Margaret who are buried there.

She had a very enjoyable childhood playing in Gray lane and by the stream. She sung in the church choir, confirmed at Southwell Minster and was a member of the Halam girls friendly club.



We were married for over 45 years. Ann worked at Nottingham co-op department store on Parliament Street for 35 years where she was very well liked. My heart is filled with sorrow when I think of all they love we shared and all the fun we had. I miss her terribly, although I cannot see her, in my heart she'll always be for true love lives forever and goodbye I'll never say. Christopher.

Halam Marquee Update

Now that we have had the chance to clear the marquee frames and take stock of the situation, I am confident that between us we should be able to get 3 of the 4 marquees back up and running with little or no cost. The question will be, how much will it cost to get the 4th one up and running, the enquiry has been made and a decision will be made in due course, and we will update you then.

Halam WI

Happy New Year from Halam WI! As usual, there is no meeting this month, but we are looking forward to welcoming our members to a new year of WI on Tuesday 4th February at 7:30pm for a wine tasting event at the Village Hall - more information to follow soon. For more information and news from WI please follow us on Facebook and Instagram @HalamWI or email halamvillagewi@gmail.com

Halam Christmas Lights Switch On

Thank you to everyone who braved the horrible weather and came to the Village Hall to watch Santa's Tractor Run, support Young Farmers, and enjoy a glass of mulled wine and mince pies. The hall was festive and cosy and it was great to see so many people chatting and enjoying themselves long after the tractors had gone. It was a shame that the weather prevented the 'Lights Switch-on' but maybe next year it'll be a crisp, dry and bright evening.

Halam Parish Council

Editor: Chris Bevans **T:** 07967 132014 **E:** halam.news@hotmail.co.uk
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RotaTree Collection

If you live in Southwell or the surrounding area, Southwell Rotary Club will collect and recycle your Christmas tree in the new year for a donation of £5 or more to Charity.



Just email RotaTreeCollect@post.com or Call 07749 260207

With your name, Postal Address and Phone Number and we'll take it from there.

Trees will be collected between 6th & 22nd January

Thank you for your support – Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



Halam School News



We have been involved with lots of exciting Christmas activities:

On 28th November, choir performed, with Mrs. Speed, at the Late-Night Shopping event in Southwell. The streets were bustling with local people, and it was lovely to have such a huge audience. Our KS1 Christmas performance, 'The Nativity' was performed on 2nd December; it was a whole school performance, which showed off our talents! We made a range of cards and decorations on Christmas Craft Day. The glue gun was very busy, and we can't wait to bring home our creations to hang on the tree. On 9th December, we enjoyed a whole school visit to the Palace Theatre in Newark, to watch their production of Aladdin. Grandmas and grandads were invited to our 'Carols and Mince Pies' concert on 11th December. We sang a huge range of traditional carols as well as some of our production songs; some children played a song on a musical instrument to showcase our talents. Following this, Mrs. Speed took choir for another performance – this time, it was at Edingley Care Home. The children were delightful, impressing the residents and spreading their infectious good cheer throughout the care home. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all. This week, we delivered a beautiful church service, along with Reverend Mary and Chris to a full congregation – what a super event. Santa Claus has just visited all children this afternoon (18th December). Although he is very busy at this time of the year, he popped in to deliver a Christmas gift to every child – he said that he'd heard just how well-behaved our Halam children are! Phew! We have almost made it to the end of a very busy term, parties are still to enjoy tomorrow.

We would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all the staff and children and Halam School.



St Michael the Archangel



Happy New Year to everyone. January is a time when we make resolutions and review what we intend to do during 2025, there is always a place for everyone in church. It is not necessary to commit a great deal of time but, as with the churchyard clear up sessions, a short time makes a huge difference. So, if you think you could spare a little time to clean the church, to make a flower arrangement or help with services occasionally then please contact the churchwardens.

On 19th January there will be a Christingle Service when oranges decorated will be distributed, after the service coffee and biscuits will be at the back of church.

January services everyone is welcome.

5th January	11.00a.m.	Morning Prayer
12th January	11.00a.m.	Holy Communion
19th January	11.00a.m.	Informal Christingle Service followed by refreshments
26th January	11.00a.m.	Sung Eucharist

Contacts: Priest - Rev. Mary Foden Currie 01623 479838 Wardens - Glenys Herbert 01636 812335 – Penni Wells 01636 813491

Food Bank: There is a collection point in the Church porch. Very many thanks to all who contribute during these very difficult times.

Message from Rev. Mary

Happy New Year!

I wonder if you have been on a journey over Christmas – maybe to see family or friends, or on holiday. My sister has been on a Mediterranean cruise and found the sun!

So, pause on the threshold of this new year. At school I used to love a new exercise book – a fresh start.

January reminds us of some more people who went on a long journey, probably from the then Persia or Arabia. They were wise men who were astrologers, the strange star in the sky excited them and led them to Bethlehem to worship the Christ child.

We call this time of the church's year Epiphany which means a moment of great revelation when all came to worship, represented by the wise men. The special prayer for Epiphany says this: 'Lord God the bright splendour whom the nations seek! May we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light, discern the glory of your presence in Your Son the word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.'

The wise men brought special gifts. The carol 'In the Bleak Midwinter' asks 'what can I give Him? Give my heart!'

Thank you for your ministry to each other

Thank you to Hills for letting us sing carols on a wet and blustery day.

Every blessing, Rev. Mary

Dingbats – Last month's answers were "5 o'clock Shadow" & "Split Personality"

Job in Job

Head Heel Heel

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Report for Halam News: Halam Parish Council Meeting

7.30 pm Wednesday 12th December 2024

held at Halam Village Hall



*Please Note: Official parish council minutes will be available after they have been approved at the next parish council meeting.
Click the QR code to link to the website.*

Present

Catherine Blackburn (Chair), Chris Denyer (Vice-Chair), Chris Bevans, Simon Bust, Andrew Paris and Charlie Wright

Apologies

Ganesh Subramanian

Matters Arising from Previous Meeting

- .gov.uk emails for the parish council and councillors – £100 government funding available. Chris Bevans and Financial Officer to complete the process.
 - Damaged fingerpost at crossroads – a Section 115 Notice will be required for the parish to take ownership and replace the current sign post. Waiting for Notts County Council to advise what their replacement proposal would be. Financial Officer researching what types of signs are available commercially.
 - Overhanging hedge, School Lane, alongside the golf course – has now been completed.
 - Banking – Unity Bank is the favoured solution; the Financial Officer to check signatory process (requirement for two parish councillors to sign). Signature mandate and I.D. checks will be needed.
 - Code of Conduct – date for training session for parish councillors set – 7 p.m. on 30th January.
- Update on Information from the Monitoring Office – the Chair stated that Monitoring Officer had ruled that no action was required.

Open Meeting

A parishioner thanked the council for organising the Christmas mulled wine and mice pie event during the Young Farmers' tractor run. They suggested that the YF Just Giving link should be included in Halam News.

Update from District Councillors

A 'new bridge' across the Trent is planned to facilitate inter town cycling to Newark - rather than using the narrow and potentially dangerous Kelham Bridge.

Village Hall

- Hall floor – a quote has been received to strip, sand and reseal the floor. It was agreed that the floor should be given a good cleaning before any final decision is made.
- Village Hall Wall – lowering the wall has proved not to be an option. Clerk to obtain quotes for (i) rebuilding the less secure section of the wall, and (ii) a gate to secure the side passage of the village hall.
- Bus shelter and area round the phone box and crossroad bench – Catherine Blackburn volunteered to tidy up these areas.

Allotments

Title - Nothing further to report this month
Grants – Severn Trent have declined to help with any funding as they believe that allotment improvements would not benefit the majority of villagers.
Improvements – all allotment holders to be invited to a meeting new year (date T.B.C.) to discuss next e.g. clearance of the overgrown unlet allotments, possible wildflower meadow?

Roads & Hedges

The Internal Drainage Board have inspected Halam Beck from Gray Lane to the River Greet. There is still an amount of silt build-up under the road bridge over the beck. Chris Denyer to send photos to Financial Officer to forward to Notts County Council for further action.

Christmas Event – Saturday 7th December

The event was a success with around 70 people attending. Thanks were recorded to Chris Denyer, Catherine Blackburn and Adrian Blackburn. It was agreed to ask the Young Farmers to dispose of the Christmas tree early in January. A donation of £5 will be made.

Handover of website and hall bookings from Chris Bevans

Village website – to be taken on by Catherine Blackburn
Hall bookings – to be taken over by Charlie Wright
Flag Officer – suggested that Ganesh Subramanian could take this over

Correspondence

A letter had been received from Halam C of E Primary School thanking the parish Council for its donation towards the outdoor classroom. An invitation to the official opening on Saturday 18th January at 2 p.m. was included.

Lengthsman Scheme

Chris Denyer to investigate further.

Best Kept Village

A prize of £125 had been received in honour of Halam winning its section.

Halam Christmas Charities – parish council involvement

It was explained that the Charities are independent from the parish council. The Charity Commission manages the Charities' money. Simon Bust reminded the council that two parish councillors are elected each year in May as representative to help distribute the Charities' money at Christmas.

Biodiversity Policy

Nothing further to report this month.

Planning

The Manor House, Radley Road - Detached Garden Shed
Agreed unanimously to support the application

Planning Decision

None this month

Finance

An updated budget was circulated. Further update and next year's budget and the village precept to be discussed at next meetings.

- Agreed to pay for:
- Lock for porch cupboard
- Christmas tree
- Food and mulled wine
- Christmas lights and decorations
- Road salt

Date of next meeting

Thursday 9th January 2025 in the village hall at 7.30 p.m.
Members of the public are reminded that they are welcome to attend any parish council meeting to find out about the work of the council. There is an opportunity to raise issues with the parish council at the meeting during the open part of the meeting.





Flag Flying Dates

There are no official flag flying dates in February

HALAM NEWS

February 2025

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Bin Collection Dates

Green (Mon): 10th, 24th
Brown (Fri): 14th, ~~28th~~*
Silver (Mon): 3rd, 17th
Teal (Tue): none this month
*There will be no brown bin collection on the 28th



Parish Pump



Note from the editor

When the Halam News first dropped through my letterbox the day after my family and I moved to Halam in September 2019, it was clear this newsletter reflects Halam's fantastic sense of community so I am delighted to continue the tradition of keeping our village informed and connected.

On behalf of everyone in Halam, I would also like to say a huge thank you to Chris Bevans for his hard work and dedication as Editor for the last seven years. His commitment, and that of the team of distributors who deliver the Halam News through your letterbox, has helped make this newsletter a vital part of our community - I have some big shoes to fill!

If you have any ideas or suggestions of what you would like to see in the Halam News moving forward, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Many thanks for your support, Kate Taylor

Tim McEwen

As a family, we would like to thank everyone for their messages of warmth and sympathy, which has been a great comfort since Tim's death. Tim and Rosemary moved to Halam in 1973 with daughters Jill and Jo. He spent most of his career training maths teachers at Nottingham Trent University. He supported the village by auditing the books for Halam Church and being a member of the school PTA for a while. He loved dogs and could be seen walking a succession of dogs over the years.

Tim achieved his life's ambition of designing and building his own home South Beck, Gray Lane in 1986. As his mobility worsened, he kept mentally active working through sudokus and other puzzles. After a severe stroke the last two years of his life were spent at Lancaster Grange, a superb care home where he enjoyed daily visits from family and friends. We miss him so much.



Halam WI

Our first meeting of 2025 will be held on Tuesday 4th February at 7:30pm when Ganesh Subramanian will host a wine tasting event. Looking ahead to March (on the 4th at 7:30pm), we will be hosting our AGM followed by a Beetle Drive games evening with wine and nibbles. If you would like to find out more about Halam WI, follow us on social media (@HalamWI) or drop us a line at halamvillagewi@gmail.com.

Carol Singalong brings joy for Parkinson's UK

A carol singalong was held in The Plough at Farnsfield on Sunday 15th December to raise funds for Parkinson's UK. The evening was organised by Keith Binley and a packed pub responded magnificently with lots of fun and jollity enjoyed by all. As well as carol singing a charity auction was held hosted by Lawrence Weaver, supported by local businesses who donated wonderful prizes.

The grand total of £1,537 was raised on the night for Parkinson's UK from auction bids topped up by customers in the pub who donated cash into a collection bucket. A big thank you goes out to Bob Reeves and the staff at The Plough and to all those that attended the evening and gave so generously and helped to make the night so enjoyable.

Bruce McDowall



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Halam School News



After four years in the making, Halam C of E Primary School officially opened its newest teaching space last weekend, with a ribbon cutting ceremony attended by schoolchildren, parents, teachers, and village residents. The new space will be named after the Acorn, as our classes are themed around trees, and the name chosen by children in the Head Team and Eco Warriors club. Dozens of fundraising events took place at the school over the past few years, including concerts, raffles, film nights, discos, sports days, and stalls at their summer and winter fairs. Several organisations have donated funds to the building, including Halam Parish Council, Farnsfield Trust, Southwell and District Lions Club, Southwell Rotary and Newark and Sherwood District Council among others. LLT Civils also donated and laid the concrete foundations free of charge. A huge thank you to all involved!



St Michael the Archangel



A huge thank you to everyone who attended the Carol Service and the Crib Service especially the children who sang beautifully during the Carol Service and read clearly in the Crib Service. The collections taken during the two services totalled £465 and cheques for £232.50p have been sent to Reach Learning Disability and the Teenage Cancer Trust which were our chosen charities for 2024.

St. Michael's is a church to serve everyone in the parish but, ensuring we have regular services and keeping the building and the churchyard in good order can be time consuming and could not be achieved without those who are willing to give their time. The informal service on the 16th February is a 'Thank You' to all those who help during services by doing readings, carrying the box containing the bread to the altar, taking collection or clearing up after services. As important are those who help with caring for the building, cleaning or providing floral arrangements and those who keep the churchyard looking so beautiful. Please come along to accept thanks and to show your appreciation for all the work that goes on in our church especially that done by the clergy, the readers and the churchwardens. There will be coffee after the service

February services everyone is welcome:

2nd February Candlemas: 11.00am Morning Prayer

9th February Fourth Sunday before Lent: 11.00am Holy Communion

16th February Third Sunday before Lent: 11.00am Informal Service 'Thank You' followed by refreshments

23rd February Second Sunday before Lent: 11.00am Sung Eucharist

Contacts: Priest - Rev. Mary Foden Currie 01623 479838 Wardens - Glenys Herbert 01636 812335 – Penni Wells 01636 813491

Food Bank: There is a collection point in the Church porch. Very many thanks to all who contribute during these very difficult times.

Message from Rev. Mary

Welcome to winter! As I write the ground is covered with snow. Yet my sister told me she has a brave snowdrop out. I have a white hellebore braving the weather. The 2nd February brings us to Candlemas when the church's year changes direction; we stop looking back to Christmas and begin to look forward to Lent, Good Friday and Easter. It is the growing season of the year, it is also the time Jesus was presented in the Temple, part of the prayer for Candlemas bids us.

'Come freshly to us now, Lord God.

Kindle again the light of your love in our hearts as we remember Jesus.

Set us on fire; burn from us all that dims your light.

Kindle an answering flame in lives around that darkness may be driven back and the whole world come to live in your light.'

Thank you for all you do in these cold days for our food bank and for each other.

Stay safe. Every blessing, Rev. Mary

P.S. It was good to welcome baby Florence, we baptised at St. Michael's after her operation.



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Report for Halam News: Halam Parish Council Meeting 7.30 pm on Thursday 9th January 2025 held at Halam Village Hall



Please Note: Official parish council minutes will be available after they have been approved at the next parish council meeting. Scan the QR code to link to the website.

Present

Mrs Denyer (Vice-Chair) sitting in as Chair, Mr Bevans, Mr Bust, Mr Subramanian Mr Wright

Absent

Mr Paris and Mrs Blackburn apologies accepted by the PC

Open Meeting

A member of the public asked if any building work was taking place in the copse opposite Pepperbox Cottage School Lane – the PC will look into this

Village Hall

The clerk has obtained a price for a gate at the side of the Village Hall he is going to look into obtaining 2 more prices to compare. Awaiting a price for the overhead heater to repair or replace

Allotments

Agreed to invite the allotment holders to the February meeting to update them on how things are going

Roads & Hedges

The clerk is going to contact the Footpaths Officer to see if we can get the footbridge no 7 between the fields opposite the Village Hall re-instated

Minute book replacement

The PC have agreed to go forward using a ring binder as opposed to a book

Hand over of Halam Website and Village Hall bookings

Mr Bevans is awaiting the return of Mrs Blackburn to handover the website and has scheduled a meeting with Mr Wright who is taking over bookings

Mr Subramanian is now the flag officer

Correspondence

NALC training – the RFO is to attend 2 training courses on Parish Council matters

Lengthsman scheme

Mrs Denyer has received information on this - put on the next agenda

Planning decisions

The Manor House – approved NSDC

Finance

Budget for 25/26 and budget update 24/25 circulated

Precept for 25/26 was set

Agreed to pay:

Fire check and Christmas tree disposal

Date of next meeting

Thursday 13th February 2025 in the village hall at 7.30 p.m.

Members of the public are reminded that they are welcome to attend any parish council meeting to find out about the work of the council. There is an opportunity to raise issues with the parish council at the meeting during the open part of the meeting.





District Cllrs Karen Roberts and Peter Harris Report for January 2025

Details are on the Council's website - see The Council - Calendar of Meetings for links to each of the papers and reports. There have been few meetings since our last report in November



Cabinet meeting Dec 10

The Cabinet agreed to foster more choirs and music groups across the district'

Existing Activity: such as numerous community choirs and music groups across the district, a thriving Brass Band scene and Festivals such as Gate to Southwell and Lost Village have been identified

The Cabinet agreed to:

- Map all current providers and identify gaps
- Collaborate through Music Forum, encourage the use of N&SDC's new event web pages to maximise promotion, and identify opportunities to showcase local talent
- Explore feasibility of growing / expanding community-led music in areas with few or no active groups

Significant Government funding is being provided to provide significant funds for Ollerton and Clipstone

Council Dec 17

The Liberal Democrats and Green Groups have withdrawn their support for the joint administration. There may, as a consequence, where the leading groups [Labour 10 and the Independents for Newark 6] no longer command a majority on the Council of 39 members, so there may be changes at the annual meeting in May.

A motion supporting farmers and agriculture was agreed.

A question querying the progress in meeting the objectives of the United Nations Sustainable Goals as a framework for the Council proposed by Keith Melton and agreed in October 2023, was tabled. Since that time Cllr Keith Melton was removed from the Cabinet and Cllr Emma Oldham has resigned, both having the portfolios for delivering these important matters

Planning Committee Jan 16

No local decisions were on the agenda, although the Committee is awaiting the implications of the Government's new Planning Framework. It is likely that the N&SDC will have to build well over 700 houses up from the previously agreed 340.

The implications on Southwell and the villages is unclear. However, as there is not a land supply of >5 years identified, developers will have a 'free hand' to apply for development - which may be objected to by the Council but will be very likely to be allowed on appeal to the Government's Inspectors

Cabinet Jan 21

The Cabinet will be considering the Government's recent announcement of changes to local government - which will mean the creation of very large unitary authorities with >500,000 residents.

It will also be pressing ahead with the sale of an undeveloped and ecologically important land in Balderton for development.

Karen Roberts and Peter Harris

Dingbats

Last month's answers: "In Between Jobs" / "Head Over Heels"

by **LITTLE**

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laurencesugarman133@googlemail.com**

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DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT 22nd JANUARY 2025

CLLR PENNY RAINBOW

(Ward member for Southwell)



Future First 2024

November 14th 2024 saw another very successful Future First Expo take place at the Lady Eastwood Centre at Newark Showground.

The Expo is aimed at schools around the District, catering specifically for year groups 10 and 11, considering their career choices.

Local schools make good use of the opportunity for students to participate in the event.

The Expo saw 67 exhibitors attend the event, they ranged from local employers ; Barcode Warehouse, Boots, Ringrose Law, Newark College, Nottingham College, Nottingham University and Bakkavor, to exhibitors from Royal Navy, Royal Air Force, National Horseracing College and HM prison and probation service.

Southwell Minster School again, had the highest attendance, sending 245 students from years 10 and 11.

Transport to and from the Showground is at no cost to schools, it is paid for by the exhibitors. Feedback has again been very positive, a date for a Future First 2025 Expo is already being planned by the economic development team at NSDC.

Kidney Stones

A decision was taken at December's NSDC's Cabinet meeting to uphold an earlier decision to display the Kidney Stones outside Castle House.

Cabinet considered the public consultation which enabled residents and stakeholders to have their views heard.

The Kidney Stone tablets have been stored at Newark cemetery on London Road for approaching 40 years. They comprise of 12 pieces of stone forming 4 panels. The individual tablets measure 2m in height and 1m in width.

The carved sandstone tablets were originally commissioned and installed at Wilford Power Station. When the power station closed the tablets were given to Newark Town Council.

The public consultation sparked a lot of interest and had a huge response with in excess of 800 participants. Looking at the responses 57.32% participants were unsupportive of the proposals. The main reason cited was money should be better spent and, a waste of public money.

Some respondents who were supportive of the proposal stated that the intended location was not suitable, and would attract little interest and attention.

Only 19% of responses were supportive of both the project and location.

NSDC Cabinet, with 1 against (Cllr Jack Kallas, leader of the opposition) and 1 abstention, voted to disregard the public consultation and vote in favour of the project going ahead,

The Kidney Stones will remain the property of Newark Town Council.

The revised cost to display the stones has now risen to £87,430.

Cllr Penny Rainbow
Southwell ward member NSDC



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Two Courses £24 Three Courses £27

Starters

Bowl of Soup, Homemade Bread & Butter

Orange & Chicory Salad, Honey & Chilli Marinated Feta

Smoked Bacon BBQ Beans & Poached Egg on Toast

Smoked Haddock & Salmon Fishcake, Thai Red Curry Sauce & Asian Slaw

Crispy Fried Cauliflower Ginger, Chilli & Coriander Glaze, Pickled Radish & Sesame

Mains

Cider & Apple Braised Ham, Chips, Fried Egg, Peas & Pineapple Salsa

Roast Chicken Supreme, Boulangère Potatoes, Buttered Winter Greens, Roast Carrot,
Red Wine & Shallot Gravy

Fresh Homemade Tagliatelle, Portobello Mushroom, Chilli, Garlic, Lemon Olive Oil & Parmesan

Stoppard's 7oz Rump Steak, Mushrooms & Onions, Skinny Fries & Peas
(Steak £2.50 Supplement)

The Waggon's Twice Baked Cheddar Cheese Soufflé, Spinach Sauce, Fries & Salad

Shin Beef, Real Ale & Chestnut Mushroom Pie, Homemade Flaky Pastry, Chunky Chips, Peas & Gravy

Waggon's Steak or Crispy Chicken Burger, Onion Slaw, Dill Pickles
Barbecue Sauce & Chips (Add Bacon & Cheese £1)

Seared Salmon, Mash Potatoes, Crushed Peas, Citrus & Dill Butter Sauce
(£2.00 Fish Supplement)

Beer Battered Haddock & Chips, Chunky Tartar Sauce & Minted Mushy Peas

Side Orders

Mixed Seasonal Vegetables £3.50 · Beer Battered Onion Rings £3.50
Hand Cut Chunky Chips £3.50 · House Dressed Salad £3.00 · Fries £3.00

Please note set menu prices are per person. If choosing a one course meal this will be charged individually so prices may vary. All our products are locally sourced whenever possible. All food is freshly prepared to order so your patience is appreciated. If you have any allergies or dietary requirements, please let us know and we will do our best to adapt the menu to your needs.



Desserts

Raspberry Bakewell Tart & Vanilla Ice Cream

Warm Profiteroles, Honeycomb Ice Cream & Dark Chocolate Sauce

Chocolate Orange Steamed Pudding & Vanilla Custard

Caramelised Apple Crème Brûlée & Brandy Snap Biscuit

A Selection of Thaymar's Luxury Ice Creams & Sorbets

Wedge of Cheddar or Stilton, Marinated Onions & Homemade Bread

To Accompany

Château Loupiac Gaudiet 75ml £5.50

Taylors LBV Port - 50ml £3.95

To Finish

Americano £2.90

Espresso £2.50

Cappuccino £2.90

Double Espresso £3.00

Liqueur Coffee £6.00

LaZe £2.90

Hot Chocolate £2.95

English Breakfast Tea, Earl Grey, Peppermint, Green Tea

All £2.50 Each

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Flag Flying Dates

1st March: St. David's Day

10th March: Commonwealth Day & Duke of Edinburgh's Birthday

17th March: St Patrick's Day

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Green (Mon): 10th, 24th

Brown (Fri): 14th, 28th

Silver (Mon): 3rd, 17th, 31st

Teal (Tue): 18th



Parish Pump



Halam WI

We are looking forward to welcoming all of our members to our Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 4th March at 7:30pm in the Village Hall. We aim to get official business completed swiftly to allow time for a Beetle Drive game enjoyed with wine and nibbles - we will also be sharing the new 2025/6 programme of speakers at this meeting - as always, new members are very welcome! If you would like to find out more about Halam WI, follow us on social media (@HalamWI) or drop us a line at halamvillagewi@gmail.com.

Flood Management Update: January 2025 Meeting Summary

A previously postponed meeting from November 2024 was held at the end of January between the Halam Flood Action Group (FLAG) committee and the Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC) Flood Officer. During the meeting, the Natural Flood Management (NFM) model was presented, highlighting key areas where measures could be implemented to slow water flow into Halam. Discussions with landowners have already begun to explore potential locations for mitigation efforts.

The initial NFM feasibility study is expected to be completed by March/April 2025. Once there is greater clarity on costs and design, a follow-up meeting will be scheduled with the Flood Officer to discuss the next steps. The scale of NFM interventions will be influenced by an economic appraisal, which considers the number of properties affected by flooding. Increased investment is more likely if a greater number of properties are impacted. Therefore, it is crucial that any instances of flooding in the village are reported to NCC or through Halam FLAG. All reports will be handled confidentially and will only be used to shape future mitigation plans—insurance companies will not be notified.

FLAG was also informed that flood warden training will commence once 50 volunteers have been recruited across the region.

Additionally, the NCC Flood Officer intends to engage directly with Severn Trent Water following concerns raised by FLAG regarding plans to divert additional water into local watercourses from the pumping station. NCC will also follow up with the Internal Drainage Board (IDB) regarding recent survey work conducted in the area. Further updates will be shared as more information becomes available.

Music at Halam Court

Music at Halam Court (Back Lane) re-commences in April, with a concert each in April, May, June and July (x2), spanning a wide variety of styles and interests. Members of the Halam community are especially welcome to any or all of these. Entry is free and so are the refreshments!

Briefly for now, the dates are usually Sundays, always at 3 p.m:

13 April: Organ recital by David Butterworth

Saturday 24 May: The Bramley House Trio

15 June: Song recital by William Burn with Peter Shepherd (piano)

6 July: The Jayne Walker Trio

20 July: Piano recital on the Steinway concert grand by Jill Crossland



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Join Us for the Annual Parish Meeting – Have Your Say!

We want to hear from you! The Annual Parish Meeting (APM) will be held on Thursday, 3rd April, on a separate date from the usual Parish Council meeting to encourage more parishioner engagement. This is your opportunity to shape the future of our village. The Parish Council has Community Infrastructure Levy (C.I.L.) funds that must be spent on community projects by the end of the year. We want your input on how this money should be used to benefit Halam.

In addition, there will be an update from the Chair on the work that has been undertaken by the council over the past year. We have also invited our local police beat officer to attend and hope they can make the meeting and provide updates and answer any questions.

We'll also be providing tea, coffee, and biscuits—so come along, have a chat, and get involved - we look forward to seeing you there!

Farnsfield Walk For Parkinsons

A “Farnsfield Walk For Parkinsons” event is being held this year on Saturday 26th April. The walk will take place over an 8.3 mile route commencing at The Plough, Farnsfield at 10.30am. Families and dogs on leads are welcome to join in.

The walk will break at Norwood Park Golf Club at approximately 12.00 to 12.30pm where a light BBQ meal will be provided. Additional refreshment stops will be held at The Waggon in Halam and at The Old Reindeer in Edingley. The return to The Plough will go along the Southwell Road to arrive at approximately 3.30pm.



A registration fee of £17 is required to participate in the walk which will provide a donation direct to Parkinsons UK and cover cost of the food at Norwood Park Golf Club. Registration for the walk can be made on the “Eventbrite.co.uk” website on the “Farnsfield Walk For Parkinson’s” page. A cap of 200 walkers has been set with places on the walk available on a first come first serve basis. This is necessary to ensure the maximum enjoyment and the safety of walkers is maintained on the day.

If you are unable to attend the walk but would still like to support this great cause we would be delighted if you could sponsor the walk by way of a donation through the “JustGiving” website page or to the one of the organisers in person. Last years event was a great success which raised £4,700 bringing the total raised in excess of £15,000 over the past 4 walks.

More information or queries can be raised through John Butler on 07870 948297 or Bruce McDowall on 07759 137634.



Halam School News



During Mental Health Week (WB 3rd February) we worked in House Groups to find out more and to make a rosette with a green themed ribbon attached. The theme this year was, ‘Know Yourself, Grow Yourself’.

On 10th February, year 5 children visited the Edingley Lodge Care home. The children shared their favourite books with the residents and read extracts to them. This was a highly enjoyable afternoon for all involved. Film Night, arranged by our PTFA, took place on 12th February. We watched Hotel Transylvania III and enjoyed drinks and popcorn snacks.

All of Halam children completed a questionnaire which we received from the Sherwood Observatory. We recorded what school is like now and wrote what school and life might be like in the future. We drew lots of pictures showing some amazing inventions that might happen. All of our entries will be entered into a time capsule and opened in the year 2086. We wonder who will be around to see them!

By Mia, Amelia and Holly.



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St Michael the Archangel



As we reach the spring equinox many of us come out of hibernation and start looking around to see what we can do! There is always something that you can join in with at St. Michael's whether it is actively taking part in services, for example doing a reading, or more behind the scenes, cleaning or arranging flowers, all contact details are below for more information. If any of the children who read and sang so beautifully at Christmas would like to read or sing during the informal services, again please use the contact details below.

March services everyone is welcome.

2nd March - Sunday before Lent: 11.00a.m. Morning Prayer

9th March - First Sunday of Lent: 11.00a.m. Holy Communion

16th March - Second Sunday of Lent: 11.00a.m. Informal Service 'Pet Service' followed by refreshments

23rd March - Third Sunday of Lent: 11.00a.m. Sung Eucharist

30th March - Mothering Sunday: 9.30a.m. at St. Giles Edingley

Contacts: Priest - Rev. Mary Foden Currie 01623 479838, Wardens - Glenys Herbert 01636 812335 – Penni Wells 01636 813491

Food Bank: There is a collection point in the Church porch. Very many thanks to all who contribute during these very difficult times.

Message from Rev. Mary

As I write, there is a keen frost but nature is telling us that Spring is around the corner. Crocus, daffodils and green shoots herald the coming event. March 5th is Ash Wednesday and there is a service in St. Giles, Edingley at 10.00a.m. to start the beginning of Lent. A Lenten collect reads 'Holy God, our lives are laid open before you.....bring us healing and make us whole in Jesus Christ our Lord.' Lent is a time when we can do some 'spiritual' spring-cleaning as we prepare for Holy Week and Easter, Resurrection Day.

On 19th March the church calendar remembers Joseph the carpenter and husband of Mary. Jesus most likely helped him in his carpenter's workshop. That morning our team will be taking assembly at our wonderful church school in Halam. Sunday 30th March is Mothering Sunday when we thank God for Mother Church and all who 'mother' us. It is also known as 'Refreshment Sunday' because the fasting rules for Lent were relaxed on that day – so you can eat your chocolate biscuits!

Thank you for all you do ministering to one another and by supporting our food bank. Every blessing, Rev. Mary

Exploring Faith: A course for enquirers with Bishop Paul and Sarah Williams at Bishops Manor 12th March – 9th April at 6.30p.m. For more details contact: Rev. Mary 01623 479838 or 01636 817990





Report for Halam News: Halam Parish Council Meeting 7.30 pm on Thursday 13th February 2025 held at Halam Village Hall



Please Note: Official parish council minutes will be available after they have been approved at the next parish council meeting. Scan the QR code to link to the website.

Present

Catherine Blackburn (Chair), Chris Denyer (Vice-Chair), Chris Bevans, Andrew Paris and Charlie Wright

Apologies

Simon Bust and Ganesh Subramanian

Matters Arising from Previous Meeting

- a. .gov.uk emails for the parish council and councillors – now set up. Andrew Paris needs log in details. Agree communication will continue on both personal and gov emails until there is confirmation that all gov emails are working for all councillors.
- b. Damaged fingerpost at crossroads – Notts County Council have advised that they will replace the existing sign boards and retain the current concrete post.
- c. Banking – last details of mandates etc. being sorted.
- d. Building work in the copse on School Lane – Simon Bust to make further enquiries.
- e. Footbridge linking the fields from the pub through to St Helen's Lane – County Council will now be repair this in the new financial year, however exact date is yet to be confirmed and the commencement of the works will require permission from the landowner for access.

Village Hall

1. Outside painting of the doors - will be completed once the weather has improved.
 2. Outside wall – waiting for further quotes from builders.
 3. Gate at side of hall – wooden gate has been ordered and will need paying for on installation.
 4. Over-head heater – agreed to repair.
 5. W.I. cupboard – agreed that the W.I. can use the lockable cupboard.
- Agreed to look into removing the hallway curtains and tidy paintwork and cover exposed pipes.

Allotments

A group of allotment holders were present at the meeting; they were informed that a grant application to Severn Trent Water has been unsuccessful. The aim of the grant money was to be used to create parking inside the allotment boundary. However, the application was rejected as a result of the money benefiting minimal people in the village. Agreed that the County Council will be contacted to understand whether some lane verges can be cut back to create parking along Gray Lane. Hedge cutting on the allotment side will also take place following bird nesting season. Further clearing of the allotments will be looked at, and the availability of plots can be publicised once cleared to try and encourage more allotment tenants.

Title – the documents are with the specialist solicitor to apply for Absolute Title. The solicitor now requires some further details from the parish council Chair and Clerk. Mr Croston will send the Clerk a list of the information needed.

Roads & Hedges

A complaint has been received about some of the hedges in the village overhanging the pavement. The Clerk will speak to the householders. Andrew Paris reported that some of the kerb gulleys on Radley Road are clogged with mud. To be raised with County Cllr Bruce Laughton for action.

Annual Parish Meeting

How to have more parishioner engagement at the Annual Parish Meeting was discussed. It was agreed to hold the APM on a different date to the usual April parish council meeting – The APM will be held on Thursday 3rd April, an advert will be published in Halam Village News and letter box drop to take place. The parish council has an amount of Community Infrastructure Levy (C.I.L.) money which needs to be spent on community projects by the end of the year. It was agreed that this would be discussed and input taken from the village to decide how this money should be spent. The local police beat officer will be invited to speak at the meeting. It was also agreed that tea, coffee and biscuits would be provided for the meeting.



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C.I.L. money

A proposal to spend the C.I.L. money on planters and furniture in the village was put on hold until further discussions at the APM (see above).

Flood Local Action Group (FLAG)

The group requested that the parish council support their application to receive grant money for flood response equipment, and permission to store at the village hall. As this will be entirely funded by Notts County Council, the request was supported unanimously.

Neighbourhood Watch

It was unclear as to how much support this now receives from the police. Clarification will be sought from the district councillor Penny Rainbow.

HR committee report from 15th January

This had been previously circulated and was accepted. One point raised: the employee Sexual Harassment Policy may need to be separate from the overall policy.

Handover of website and hall bookings from Chris Bevans

Village website – has been taken on by Catherine Blackburn

Hall bookings – has been taken over by Charlie Wright

Correspondence

1. Information about the 80th anniversary of VE Day has been received. An event similar to that for the D Day commemoration was proposed for Thursday 8th May. A VE Day anniversary flag has been bought.

Agreed to move the parish council to Wednesday 7th May

2. Armed Forces Week – 22nd-28th June – it was suggested that a celebratory flag should be purchased.

3. NALC training: Employment Essentials – Charlie Wright to attend

Lengthsman Scheme

Resolved to apply for funding for a lengthsman scheme for next financial year.

Biodiversity Policy

Nothing further to report this month.

Planning

None this month

Planning Decision

None this month

Finance

Agreed to pay for:

1. NALC annual subs
2. NALC training event
3. NALC 2x meetings (RFO)
4. Pack of printer paper
5. Overhead heater repair

Re-issue of cheque to VIA for road salt (lost cheque)

Send deposit to new bank (Unity) to open new pc account

Objectives for financial year 2025-2026

Proposed that it would be good for the council to have a clear goals and objectives in place for the next financial year to enable the meetings to be focused and concise. Newark and Sherwood's objectives to be circulated to all councillors as an example. Councillors asked to present their ideas for objectives in March's meeting and agree.

Date of next meeting

Thursday 13th March 2025 in the village hall at 7.30 p.m.

Members of the public are reminded that they are welcome to attend any parish council meeting to find out about the work of the council. There is an opportunity to raise issues with the parish council at the meeting during the open part of the meeting.



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DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT FEBRUARY 2025

CLLR PENNY RAINBOW

(Ward member for Southwell)



LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

The Minister of State for Local Government and English Devolution has written/mailed NSDC asking for comment on 'our' vision for the proposed reorganisation of local government. The same has also been sent to Ashfield, Bassetlaw, Broxtowe, Gedling, Mansfield, Rushcliffe as well as Nottingham City Council and Nottingham County Council.

While the expectation is for local authorities to work together and arrive at a consensus, individual Councils can submit their own proposal jointly with any of the Councils invited to respond. All proposals that are submitted must have regard to the laid out criteria and the timeline for this process. The criteria includes 'sensible' geographical and economic areas, they must be the right size in order to achieve; efficiencies (a minimum 5000,000 population); secure 'crucial' services such as social care, Children's services and homelessness; and demonstrate plans to make sure that communities are engaged.

Interim plans are to be submitted on or before 21st March 2025.

The full and final proposal is to be submitted on or before 28th November 2025.

Once a unitary proposal has been agreed, the Government will progress elections to new 'shadow' unitary councils as soon as possible.

NSDC councillors and Town clerks are due to attend a further briefing on Wednesday of this week.

POLICY & PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

The PPI Committee is due to hear a review of the Bassetlaw and Newark Community Safety Partnership at its meeting this week. The existence of a Community Safety Partnership is a statutory requirement, a number of authorities make up the partnership; The District Council, The County Council, The Chief Officer of Police, The Fire and Rescue Authority, The Integrated Care Boards.

The above authorities meet on a quarterly basis. Performance reports are produced each month on all crime and antisocial behaviour. The performance for crime for 24/25 when compared to the previous year shows that Newark and Sherwood experienced a 1.6% increase in all crime compared to a 4.5% reduction in the county. However, Newark and Sherwood experienced an 14.5% reduction in anti-social behaviour compared to an 8.3% reduction in the county.

The safety partnership are looking at five key themes for the coming year;

- Serious violence, violence against women and girls, and domestic abuse
- Anti-social Behaviour
- Vulnerability and Contextual Safeguarding
- Community Cohesion
- Neighbourhood Crime

The CCTV control room currently based at Police headquarters in Sherwood is due to move to an NSDC location within the Beacon building on Beacon Hill, Newark. This was a cabinet decision and a two year notice period was triggered last year.

A camera replacement programme has been agreed and to date 14 cameras have been installed, 13 cameras in Newark and 1 at Southwell Leisure Centre.

NEWARK CASTLE - GATEHOUSE PROJECT

In March 2017 NSDC was successfully awarded a Heritage Lottery Fund to carry out a feasibility study to enhance the Castle Gatehouse project. The Gatehouse is, in the opinion of Historic England, 'the most complete example of a Romanesque gatehouse in England'.



A master plan has now been developed;
Work is due to start late March early April for a 12 month project.
A roof will be put on the gatehouse.
The gardens will remain open, albeit limited, to the public during works.
A lift will be incorporated to the first floor for greater accessibility.
A welcome area and larger room will be available for functions.
An extensive education programme will be on offer for school groups.
16 trees have been felled, 2 were grade A.
Replanting scheme included in plans.
Entry price for NSDC residents will be at half the price that tourists will be expected to pay.

Cllr Penny Rainbow
Southwell ward member NSDC

Dingbats

Last month's answers:
"Little by little" / "London Underground"

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Flag Flying Dates

9th April: His Majesty's
Wedding Anniversary

23rd April: St. George's Day

HALAM NEWS

April 2025

If you would like to contribute to a future edition of Halam News please send your article (as you would like it to be printed) using the details at the bottom of this page by the 25th of the month for inclusion the following month. All content is included at the discretion of the Editor.



Bin Collection Dates

Green (Mon): 7th, 21st

Brown (Fri): 11th, 25th

Silver (Mon): 14th, 28th



Parish Pump



Sharon Davison: Obituary

Sharon and Graham moved to Halam village in November 2018 and from that time onwards they met and made some good friends and neighbours in the village. Sharon was a member of Halam WI and particularly enjoyed attending the monthly meetings and the special organised events.

Although Sharon endured a long illness she always found time to socialise and enjoy her hobbies of gardening, reading, crafts, cooking and walking her cocker spaniel dog along the many paths and bridleways in and around Halam and further afield. Sharon will be sadly missed by her family, friends and all those who knew her and had the pleasure of meeting her.

Halam WI

Our April meeting will take place on Tuesday 1st April at 7:30pm when we will welcome Liz Fleuty from Nottinghamshire Wildlife to talk to us about "Growing a Wilder Nottinghamshire" As always, new members are very welcome! If you would like to find out more about Halam WI, follow us on social media (@HalamWI) or drop us a line at halamvillagewi@gmail.com.

Southwell Music Festival

Southwell Music Festival takes place in Nottinghamshire from 22 – 25 August 2025. This year's programme includes performances of work from Duke Ellington's Sacred Concerts, Bach's B Minor Mass, and acclaimed folk artist Kathryn Tickell. Come to Southwell for a jam-packed bank holiday weekend of classical, folk, and jazz music at venues across the historic town. Tickets are on sale from Monday 9 June.

Join Us for the Annual Parish Meeting – Have your say!

We are pleased to invite you to the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) on Thursday, 3rd April, this will be held on a separate date from the usual Parish Council meeting to encourage more community engagement.

While we had hoped to welcome our local police beat officer to present at the meeting, they are unfortunately unable to attend. However, we are delighted to announce that representatives from Halam Church, the Halam Women's Institute, and the Halam Events Team will be present to offer valuable updates. Additionally, the Parish Council Chair will provide an overview of the council's work and ongoing initiatives that have taken place over the past year.

Join us for a relaxed and informative evening. Tea, coffee, and biscuits will be served - so come along, have a chat, and get involved!

We look forward to seeing you there!



Halam Lancaster Bomber Memorial

To mark the anniversary of the
Avro Lancaster crash in Halam,
a memorial service will be held on
Thursday 10th April, 2025
at 10.45 a.m.

at the Lancaster Memorial, School Lane
(Halam church if weather is bad)

All are very welcome to attend

"We will remember them"





Halam School News



In March we have been busy with some lovely activities. On 5th March, Maple class had a 'Roman' visitor to link their learning with an experience day. They looked at a few Roman artefacts, played Roman games and made Roman shields throughout the day. Maple class have also begun their annual swimming lessons on Friday afternoons at Calverton Leisure Centre. They are learning and practising different swimming strokes and techniques, becoming stronger swimmers and having fun over the next 10 weeks.

Liz Hopkins came to invite the school community to a community tree planting event at Thorney Abbey, near Oxtun. There have been 3 events, all free to attend, on the 15th, 16th and 22nd March. Some families from school enjoyed this event. We wore warm clothes and sturdy footwear and took some equipment with us, such as spades and forks. We helped plant some saplings, got muddy and enjoyed 'doing our bit' to help the environment.

Friday 21st March was Red Nose Day. Some children chose to wear Red Nose items and we had a giggle when we came to school with a joke that we could share with our classes as well as give a little to the charity. Some of the jokes were terrible but made us laugh!

By Amelia, Mia and Holly.



St Michael the Archangel



After a very interesting and lively informal service in March when some members of the congregation brought their pets to be blessed (see photograph). We move into April and the events leading up to Easter and the Resurrection, the most important time in the church's calendar. As is traditional on Palm Sunday we meet in the pub car park before processing to church behind Squirrel, who plays the role of the donkey. On Saturday morning there is decorating the church in preparation for the joyful celebrations of Easter Day, everyone is welcome to help make our church beautiful; if you are able to help, please contact the churchwardens who will advise on which windows or areas require a small display.

April services everyone is welcome.

6th April - Passion Sunday: 11.00am Morning Prayer

13th April - Palm Sunday: 10.45am Holy Communion – Meet in pub car park.

17th April - Maundy Thursday: 6.00pm Holy Communion and stripping the altar

18th April - Good Friday: 10.00am Good Friday Devotions

20th April - Easter Day: 11.00am Sung Eucharist

27th April - First Sunday After Easter: 11.00am Informal Service



Contacts: Priest - Rev. Mary Foden Currie 01623 479838 Wardens - Glenys Herbert 01636 812335 – Penni Wells 01636 813491. **Food Bank:** There is a collection point in the Church porch. Very many thanks to all who contribute during these very difficult times.

Message from Rev. Mary

April is one of my favourite months; I was married in April. I think of William Wordsworth's poem 'The Daffodils' when I see them. He probably beheld them in the Lake District as this line came to him, "I gazed and gazed, but little thought what wealth to me the show had brought." April helps us to enjoy the moment as nature gives and gives. The church's year gets deeper into Lent with Passiontide as Jesus nears the cross. Then to Palm Sunday when he rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, the symbol of peace. The prayer invites us 'to know you and love you, that we may be found beside you on the way of the cross which is the path to glory.'

Maundy Thursday reminds us of Jesus' last supper with his friends – followed by Good Friday – the crucifixion. Then on Easter Eve we light the Paschal candle and proclaim, 'the light of Christ. April 20th is Easter Sunday – Resurrection Day 'the way to life stands open' proclaims the prayer. So do join us if you can. I am sure the Easter Bunny will deliver Easter Eggs for the children!

Thank you for your ministry to one another and to our food bank. Every blessing, Rev. Mary



Report for Halam News: Halam Parish Council Meeting 7.30 pm on Thursday 13th March 2025 held at Halam Village Hall



Please Note: Official parish council minutes will be available after they have been approved at the next parish council meeting. Scan the QR code to link to the website.

Present

Chris Denyer (in the Chair), Chris Bevans, Simon Bust and Andrew Paris

Apologies

Catherine Blackburn, Ganesh Subramanian and Charlie Wright

Matters Arising from Previous Meeting

- a. .gov.uk emails for the parish council and councillors – now set up, but there seems to be an issue with opening attachments. The provider is investigating.
- b. Banking – new bank account with Unity is now set up. Financial Officer is setting up the new mandate with the bank.

Open Meeting

1. A parishioner had raised the issue of a broken kerb by the Beck railings on The Turnpike. This is a dangerous trip hazard. Clerk to raise this with County Council. Anyone finding issues with pavements or kerbs should report this to the County Council - www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/roads/report-a-road-or-pavement-problem
2. The kerb gulleys along Radley Road are still blocked – Clerk to report to County Council.
3. A complaint had been received that many hedges in the village are overhanging the pavements making it very hard to walk on the pavements with a pushchair or pram. Householders are reminded that it is their responsibility to make sure that their hedges do not restrict the footpaths and pavements.

Update from District Councillor

District Cllr Penny Rainbow reported that the district's council tax will rise 1.94% this year. Cllr Rainbow also outlined the plans to create a Nottinghamshire Unitary Body, under which district councils, including Newark & Sherwood, will be scrapped. The final details are still being worked on.

Village Hall

1. Hallway curtains have been removed, but the pipe cover and painting are still to be done.
2. Outside wall – quotes received were discussed, and the contract was awarded.
3. Gate at side of hall – wooden gate is to be fitted imminently, and will be paid for on installation.
4. Overhead heater – has been repaired.
5. Projector – agreed to allocate up to £200 for a replacement. Chris Denyer to liaise with Charlie Wright to recommend one, possibly wall mounted or a trolley version.

Allotments

Clerk to send further information to Mr Croston to progress title filing.

Roads & Hedges

The pavement up Halam Hill has now been cleared.

Annual Parish Meeting

Thursday 3rd April 2025 in the village hall at 7.30 p.m.

This will be the Annual Parish Meeting where the work of the parish council over the past year is reviewed, and the public will have the opportunity to discuss village issues and concerns.

Churchyard Bench

This was installed to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of VE Day, but the bench needs repairing or replacing. Parish councillors to investigate, and the Clerk to obtain information regarding a replacement.

Flood Local Action Group (FLAG)

Waiting for further information regarding the reimbursement of costs.

Neighbourhood Watch

There is now little police support for these schemes. The village WhatsApp group and Facebook page can be used to give out any relevant information.

HR Committee

Nothing further to report at this stage.

VE Celebrations

8th May – A beacon will be lit (James Bust) and a social event will be held in the village hall. A village certificate has been received to acknowledge Halam's participation on the day.



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Correspondence

1. Information about the 80th anniversary of VE Day has been received. An event similar to that for the D Day commemoration was proposed for Thursday 8th May. A VE Day anniversary flag has been bought. Agreed to move the parish council to Wednesday 7th May
2. Armed Forces Week – 22nd-28th June – it was suggested that a celebratory flag should be purchased.
3. NALC training: Employment Essentials – Charlie Wright to attend

Lengthsman Scheme

Confirmation that Halam is included in the scheme has been received. Further information is now needed as to what the scheme entails – contractor vs. employee, etc.

Planning

1. The Manor House Radley Road - Application for variation of condition to remove windows from SW elevation and rooflights from rear elevation of extension no longer required attached to planning permission 24/00268/HOUSE; Single Storey Side Extension

Planning Permission and Listed Building Consent – agreed to support unanimously

2. New Holbeck Farm Radley Road - Application for variation of conditions 02 (Turbine Details) and 11 (Turbine Life Period) to substitute previously approved turbine model and extend the life period of the wind turbine attached to planning permission 10/01310/FUL; Installation of a wind turbine, control house building and ancillary works

Agreed to support unanimously

Finance

Agreed to pay for:

1. NALC meeting cost (Charlie Wright – Employment/HR training)
2. Overhead heater repair
3. WaterPlus – allotments water bill
4. Laptop for Clerk
5. Clerk's salary

Objectives for financial year 2025-2026

Agreed to hold over to next meeting.

Date of next meeting

Thursday 10th April 2025 in the village hall at 7.30 p.m.

Members of the public are reminded that they are welcome to attend any parish council meeting to find out about the work of the council. There is an opportunity to raise issues with the parish council at the meeting during the open part of the meeting.

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Dingbats

Last month's answers:

"Broken Promise" / "Ice Cubes"

POFISH_{ND}

**GIVE GET
GIVE GET
GIVE GET
GIVE GET**



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DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT MARCH 2025

CLLR PENNY RAINBOW

(Ward member for Southwell)



FULL COUNCIL MEETING 6th MARCH 2025

The last full Council meeting at NSDC was given over to discuss and set the Council Budget for 2025/2026, The Council is required by the Local Government Finance Act of 1992 to set a Council Tax for the coming financial year.

The Council Tax Base along with the Council Tax Base for all Parish Councils had been calculated and contained within the agenda. These figures are then added to those received from Notts County Council, the Nottinghamshire Combined Fire Authority and the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner.

The current administration at NSDC, made up of the Labour Group and the Independents for Newark Group, were proposing to increase council tax by the maximum allowable of 2.99%. The leader of the Conservative Group, Cllr Jack Kallas, proposed an amendment to the budget ; The amendment - 'Council reduces the proposed increase in council tax from the maximum increase allowable of 2.99%, to a lower and more conservative increase of 1.94%.'

The amendment was successful. The first time in 14 years that an amendment to the budget has been approved.

NEWARK and SHERWOOD GIFT CARD

A new initiative has been introduced by the NSDC Economic Growth Team. NSDC has previously committed, as part of its response to the cost of living crisis, a Gift Card solution to support traders in Newark, Balderton, Edwinstowe, Ollerton and Southwell. With high street footfall in decline the gift card programme is being trialed to hopefully provide opportunities to divert online spend back into the local economy.

We are told the programme is up and running in Lincoln, and is reasonably successful. The launch of the NSDC Town and City gift card, a prepaid Mastercard, went live on Monday 10th March.

Both national brands and independent businesses with card machines or digital readers can easily sign up to accept the gift card. The scheme is also available for hospitality, accommodation and health and beauty providers. The card encourages consumers to shop local. Gift cards can be ordered online via NSDC website. Cards are spent in store, encouraging a visit to the town centre. The card can be tapped or swiped or stored on a phone.

MAJOR NEW PLANTING SCHEME

A report went to Cabinet to agree an investment of £300,000 to create a new capital scheme in relation to the contribution to Nottinghamshire County Council for two major, tree planting schemes in the district. NSDC have already planted or given away 6324 trees.

Nottingham County Council, through its trees for climate project, have purchased 2 large parcels of land within the Newark and Sherwood District. The first site is in Little Carlton, around 18ha and is former arable land. The second site is Thorney Abbey Farm, near Southwell. This site is 48ha, it lends itself to a range of habitat restoration and is capable of accommodating 87,000 trees.

Cllr Penny Rainbow Southwell Ward Member





District Cllrs Karen Roberts and Peter Harris

Report for March 2025

Details are on the Council's website - see The Council - Calendar of Meetings for links to each of the papers and reports. There have been few meetings since our last report in November



Council Tax

Decided on an increase of 1.94%, well below the rate of inflation. At a time when many Councils are making cuts in services, NSCD is in a privileged position of continuing to invest, but only because we're continuing to identify efficiencies and generate additional income. Investment plans include:

£15m towards regeneration of Yorke Drive, £300,000 towards Lowdham flood alleviation scheme, £8.5m towards creation of a new industrial park in Clipstone, £669,000 to improve Brunel Drive depot, facilitating future new recycling schemes, £2m towards new sports pitches, £100,000 to strengthen staff training and development

Update on Local Government Re-organisation

At a meeting of all Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Leaders and Chief Executives, it was agreed to submit to Government three options, all of which involve replacing our current 9 Councils with 2 unitary Councils. Before being submitted, these options will be considered at an Extraordinary Meeting of our Full Council on 19 March. The three options are: Nottingham City, Broxtowe and Gedling; Ashfield, Bassetlaw, Mansfield, Newark and Sherwood and Rushcliffe; Nottingham City, Broxtowe and Rushcliffe; Ashfield, Bassetlaw, Gedling, Mansfield and Newark and Sherwood; Nottingham City; Nottinghamshire County (single County unitary)

PPI

NSDC received notification that it will receive £1.427m in Extended Producer Responsibility payment from DEFRA for 2025/26, in relation to estimated net efficient costs associated with collection of household packaging waste from kerbside and communal collections. It is expected this funding will be used for the food waste collection service that is due to be rolled out across Nottinghamshire from October 2027. The Council also received (during 2024/25) £983,377 from DEFRA in respect of the capital funding to purchase the refuse freighters and other equipment necessary to roll out the food waste service. Latest assumptions are that the capital cost would equate to £1.570m being £0.586m short from the capital grant.

Industrial Units at Crew Lane, Southwell

Corporate Property project: This project has been reviewed by officers and it is currently not viable from a financial perspective, & hence would not generate a return to the Council. Therefore, this project has been ceased for the time being.

Tree on Halloughton Road

A tree was removed from NCC land (not by NCC). The provision of a Tree Preservation Order (TPO), while it is indeed possible, NSCD generally consider NCC to be good custodians of the land and trees. Any works to remove trees would typically be undertaken only when absolutely necessary. Investigations by NCC are ongoing.

Simpler Recycling: responding to new food waste legislation for businesses

In 2018, the former government laid its plans to revolutionise the way local authorities collected and managed recyclable waste through the National Resources and Waste Strategy. This is now being progressed under the title of 'Simpler Recycling'. One of the key parts of this strategy is the move to create consistent waste and recycling collections across the UK and to mandate local authorities to collect food waste on a weekly schedule. For Newark and Sherwood, this will mean items such as foil, food and beverage cartons and plastic tubs, pots and trays will be acceptable in the silver bin alongside the existing range of materials. Food waste collections will be taking place from October 2027 and plans are underway to determine round sizes, vehicle numbers, disposal points, bin colours, staff requirements and depot requirements. Discussions with NCC and Veolia are still taking place to determine the viability of varying the environmental permit to allow food waste to be taken to Veolia's transfer station on Brunel Drive. If this can be arranged, it will not be in place until October 2027 and is not an option for commercial food waste disposal.

April 2025: Trade waste customers with 10 or more employees will be obliged to separate food waste and recyclable materials – and arrange for this to be collected separately. Schools and educational establishments are also required to separate and arrange collections for an extended range of recyclable materials.

April 2026: All households will be able to recycle an extended range of materials in their silver bin. As this service is legally mandated NSDC have made provision in the Capital Programme Budget 2025/6 to 2028/9 for the purchase of a food waste vehicle and funding for one additional driver.

Community Grant Scheme

The current criteria for the Community Grant Scheme was agreed by Cabinet in October 2023, it has now been amended to allow smaller parish and town councils to apply for funding. It is proposed to re-open the community Grant Scheme to those smaller parishes and parish meetings with less than 100 homes within the parish in recognition of their limited ability to raise a precept annually due to the low number of properties within the parish. This means 22 additional parishes will now be eligible, to include in our area: Halloughton, Winkburn, Hockerton

In addition to changes with the grant criteria, this report requests approval to carry over unclaimed grant from previous years into the grant scheme for 2025-26. These grants have gone unclaimed as the projects for which they were allocated have not gone ahead and include:

Community grant scheme 2022/2023: Southwell Football Club awarded £2,500

Community grant scheme 2023/2024: Reach awarded £10,000

Total value: £29,000 of unclaimed grants to all small parishes.

A further £102,250 was allocated to the Community Grant Scheme for 2024/25 with carry forwards from the previous year bringing the total budget to £227,128. Carry forwards in each year are generally in response to grant being allocated in year to a group but not yet claimed.

In the 2025/26 budget there is £104,300 and a management carry forward will be requested for any unspent funds at the end of the 2024/25 financial year. As before, the majority of these funds will be committed to projects, with the £29,000 identified as uncommitted.



Flag Flying Dates

6th May: Coronation Day

8th May: VE Day

HALAM NEWS

May 2025

If you would like to contribute to a future edition of Halam News please send your article (as you would like it to be printed) using the details at the bottom of this page by the 25th of the month for inclusion the following month. All content is included at the discretion of the Editor.



Bin Collection Dates

Green (Mon): 5th, 19th

Brown (Fri): 9th, 23rd

Silver (Mon): 12th, 26th

Teal (Tues): 13th



Parish Pump



Save the Date for Halam Tempting Fete 2025

Halam Events Team invite you to save the date for "Halam Tempting Fete 2025" to be held on 12th July 2025 from 2pm and will include, a Dog Show, Duck Race, Scarecrow Competition, Welly Wanging, Tug of War and much much more. There will also be entertainment into the early evening with a Ceilidh Band. More details to follow next month and on social media.



Halam WI

Our May meeting will take place on Tuesday 6th May at 7:30pm in the Village Hall. We are excited to hear from Nina Thomas from Bridgford & Bingham Nutrition. Nina will be sharing her insights on hot nutrition topics such as gut health as well as how we can all ensure optimum nutrition in our day to day lives.

Looking ahead to June we will be celebrating all things Wimbledon in time for the 2025 Championships as we welcome Alan Gray - who spent 25 years as a line judge and an umpire at the All England Lawn Tennis Club.

As always, new members are very welcome! If you would like to find out more about Halam WI, follow us on social media (@HalamWI) or drop us a line at halamvillagewi@gmail.com.



Halam School News



We enjoyed our break but are pleased to be back at school after the Easter holidays.

On Friday 28th March, we took part in a 'Break the Rules Day', which was organised by our PTFA. Most children broke at least one rule and paid 50p for each opportunity. For example, some children wore items of clothing which weren't school uniform, some sat in the wrong places in the classroom and some ate their pudding before their lunch!

Annual Egg Rolling and Egg Decorating competitions both took place on Thursday 3rd April. One child from each of our classes won an Easter egg for each of the competitions. Egg rolling in the playground was as entertaining as always and our egg designs were imaginative and creative – with egg designs in all sorts of shapes, sizes and themes.

On Friday 4th April, Oak class went on an Educational visit to Perlethorpe. In the morning, the children were Anglo-Saxons and in the afternoon were Vikings. It was wonderful to share our knowledge, learn more interesting facts and look and use artefacts in the Anglo-Saxon and Viking homes. The weather was lovely and we managed to collect themed clues on an orienteering trail too.





St Michael the Archangel



Many thanks to all those who helped make the church beautiful for Easter and those who worked so hard to make all the services in April so inspiring, especially the school children's service.

The topic for Informal Service for May will be 'Creation' and will be a celebration of all that is wonderful in our world, afterwards there will be refreshments. In May we have our APCM, this is the time when the village residents can vote for your churchwardens and those on the church electoral roll elect members to the Parochial Church Council, the meeting will be in church at 6.00p.m with coffee available before.

May services everyone is welcome.

4th May - Third Sunday of Easter: 11.00am Morning Prayer

11th May - Fourth Sunday of Easter: 11.00am Holy Communion

18th May - Fifth Sunday of Easter: 11.00am Informal Service – 'Creation'

22nd May - Annual Parochial Church Meeting: 6.00pm Coffee available from 5.45pm

25th May - Sixth Sunday of Easter: 11.00am Sung Eucharist

29th May - Ascension Day: 10.00am at St. Giles Edingley

Contacts: Priest - Rev. Mary Foden Currie 01623 479838 / Wardens - Glenys Herbert 01636 812335 and Penni Wells 01636 813491

Food Bank: There is a collection point in the Church porch. Very many thanks to all who contribute during these very difficult times.

Message from Rev. Mary

As I sit writing this in the garden the magnolia is in full bloom and the pear tree's white blossom heralds good fruit in the Autumn. A purple anemone even grows among the pebbles by the side of the path. Nature is certainly good for our well-being.

May in the church's year brings us to Rogationtide when we ask God to bless the crops. Part of the prayer says, 'make us wise and faithful stewards of your gifts that we may serve the common good ... and seek that justice where all may share the good things you pour upon us!' We ask God to bless the labours of all who work on the land and sea.

May 29th is Ascension Day – Jesus' coronation when He ascended into heaven. There is a service at St. Giles at 10.00a.m.

This month we remember V.E. day and thank God for all who gave so sacrificially for our freedom. Thank you for your ministry to one another and to our food bank.

Every blessing, Rev. Mary

Dingbats

Last month: "Big Fish in a Small Pond" / "Forgive & Forget"

ONCE



→ Mermaid
Mermaid
Mermaid
Mermaid

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BR aged 72 years

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- Weight loss
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Qualifications: GP Referral Exercise Instructor, Fitness Pilates, Level 3 Personal Training



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Report for Halam News: Halam Parish Council Meeting 7.30 pm on Thursday 10th April 2025 held at Halam Village Hall



Please Note: Official parish council minutes will be available after they have been approved at the next parish council meeting. Scan the QR code to link to the website.

Present

Catherine Blackburn, Chris Denyer, Chris Bevans, Simon Bust, Andrew Paris, Ganesh Subramanian and Charlie Wright

Matters Arising from Previous Meeting

- a. .gov.uk emails for the parish council and councillors – now set up, but there still seems to be an issue with opening attachments. The provider is investigating.
- b. Banking – NatWest mandate has been updated, Unity Bank have been informed.
- c. Projector – Chair to contact W.I. to check that the PC can borrow this when needed, and to ask if the W.I. would be prepared to hire it to other hall users.

Open Meeting

A parishioner commented that they thought the Annual Parish Meeting was interesting and well presented. They agreed that it was a pity that the local Beat Officer was unable to attend.

Village Hall

1. Pipe cover and painting are still to be done.
2. External door painting – to be done shortly
3. Car park – raised bricks to be removed & filled with stone (Charlie Wright) & Clerk to organise repair to the concrete path
4. Bookings – Charlie Wright and the Financial Officer to liaise on payment method – QR Code – to speed up payments
5. Cleaners – agreed to reinstate cleaning every two weeks. Clerk to source suitable cleaners/cleaning company.

Allotments

Title - all the Clerk's required information is with the specialist solicitor. Chair to complete.

Roads & Hedges

The broken gully by the Beck railings has been covered by a cone, tarmacked in place, as a temporary measure.

Annual Parish Meeting

The Chair thanked all for their attendance and gave a special thanks to the W.I. for lending the projector for the meeting. Also, a special mention and thanks to Ann Reid from the W.I. Chris Bevans from the Events team and Briony Dickinson from the church who delivered great speeches to support the event. Closer cooperation between the PC, church, and events committee was discussed.

Churchyard Bench

Agreed to replace the bench at the top of the churchyard. Original VJ plaque will be kept and a new VE plaque will be added. Clerk to circulate further information on replacement benches.

Parish Council Notice Board in Front of Church

Needs maintenance – Clerk to look into what is needed to make board sound. The board also needs the lettering “Halam Parish” at the top (was never replaced when board was last restored) – Clerk to sort.

Website

The ownership of the website account is to be changed from Chris Bevans to Halam Parish Council.

Order of the Parish Council Meeting Agenda

Agreed to move “Finance” further up the agenda for future meetings.

HR Committee

The Clerk has had an annual appraisal. Nothing further to report at this stage.

VE Celebrations

Thursday 8th May - A beacon will be lit (James Bust) at 9.15 p.m. and a social event will be held in the village hall. From 7.30pm prosecco and strawberries will be served (and soft drinks will be available). 1940s music will be played, the hall decorated with bunting, and the archive of village photographs will be on display. Agreed to apply for the District Council grant of £150 to help cover expenses.

Correspondence

A letter had been received thanking the parish council for their persistence in getting the footpath up Halam Hill cleared, and for also for not increasing the village precept.

Lengthsman Scheme

1. The parish would be given £950 to cover the costs of works.
2. It was agreed to join the lengthsman scheme for 2025-2026.
3. It was also agreed that using a contractor(s) would be simpler than employing someone to do the work.



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Biodiversity: Nothing to report this month

Planning: None this month

Finance: None this month

Objectives for financial year 2025-2026

Agreed to set objectives as part of the budget setting exercise in October.

Resolved to pay:

1. Cost of website address
2. Repair cost of village hall wall
3. Annual Parish Meeting expenses (printing)

Date of next meeting

Wednesday 7th May 2025 in the village hall at 7.30 p.m. – **please note CHANGE OF DAY/DATE to accommodate the VE Celebrations**

Members of the public are reminded that they are welcome to attend any parish council meeting to find out about the work of the council. There is an opportunity to raise issues with the parish council at the meeting during the open part of the meeting.



DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT APRIL 2025

CLLR PENNY RAINBOW

(Ward member for Southwell)



LOCAL GOVERNMENT RE-ORGANISATION

NSDC held an extraordinary full Council meeting on Wednesday 19th March, to discuss the preferred option/options to go forward to Government by way of an Interim Plan. All Council's in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire were consulted and asked to propose a plan to reduce the number of Councils from 9 to 2. The Interim Plan sets out a series of options to this effect.

First option; One new unitary council combining Nottingham City, Broxtow and Gedling with the other combining Ashfield, Bassetlaw, Mansfield, Newark and Sherwood and Rushcliffe.

Second option; One new unitary council combining Nottingham City, Broxtowe and Rushcliffe with the other combining Ashfield, Bassetlaw, Mansfield, Newark and Sherwood and Gedling.

Third option; Nottingham City Council remaining as a unitary council on its current boundary with a new unitary Council being created for the rest of Nottinghamshire by combining Nottinghamshire County Council, Ashfield, Bassetlaw, Broxtowe, Gedling, Mansfield, Newark and Sherwood and Rushcliffe.

The above options were reported to the Government Minister. An acknowledgment has been received and NSDC, will formally hear back, with a final decision being expected around November/December this year.

The new system will be implemented after April 2028.

COMMUNITY PLAN REFRESH - 2025-2027

The Community Plan covers the period up until May 2027 and sets out what the Council intends to achieve and how it will go about doing that.

The NSDC Cabinet meeting held on Tuesday 1st April saw an updated Community Plan on the agenda, to be considered for approval. The slimmed down plan see's a reduction of workload as suggested by the Corporate Peer Challenge Report, which addresses concerns over capacity and the implications it has on staff time and morale. 'Objectives' in the plan have changed to 'Ambitions'

There are 7 ambitions in the community plan all relating to Cabinet members portfolios. A good number of the ambitions are part way through. The Community Plan can be accessed on the Council's website.

CLlr Penny Rainbow
Southwell Ward Member





Flag Flying Dates

14th June: King's Birthday Parade (Trooping the Colour)

21st June: Birthday of the Prince of Wales

HALAM NEWS

June 2025

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Bin Collection Dates

Green (Mon): 2nd, 16th, 30th

Brown (Fri): 6th, 20th

Silver (Mon): 9th, 23rd

Teal: none in June



Parish Pump



Pub Quiz – 7 p.m. Friday 13th June – The Waggon

Most of us already know that Chris Bevans and family are moving to Cornwall this coming July. Chris will be much missed; in the seventeen years he has been living in Halam he has been very much immersed in village life. He has been a stalwart of the Events Committee organising summer fetes and Christmas fares, an enthusiastic member of Halam School's PTFA, and a parish councillor for fourteen years. Chris diligently edited Halam News for eight years, set up the village website AND Facebook page, and he kept us all up to date with the village WhatsApp group. And who can forget him entertaining us during Covid, broadcasting from Radio Strickland Farm!

The quiz we are holding in the pub this June is a kind of tribute to Chris in recognition for all he has done for Halam, and the questions have a corresponding theme. The quiz flyer MAY contain a clue or two...Thank you, Chris, for being such a big part of community life here in Halam!

Halam WI

Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday 2nd June at 7:30pm in the Village Hall. We will be hearing from Alan Gray - who spent 25 years as a line judge and an umpire at the All England Lawn Tennis Club at Wimbledon until he retired in 2012. Expect fascinating anecdotes, behind the scenes insights & even some strawberries and cream!

Looking ahead to July we will be venturing outside of the village on a summer's evening visit to Norwell Gardens - logistics to be discussed at our June meeting. This promises to be a lovely outing on a summer's evening (weather dependent!) so we hope to see all of our members there!

As always, new members are very welcome to Halam WI. If you would like to find out more about Halam WI, follow us on Instagram (@HalamWI) or Facebook or feel free to drop us a line via email at halamvillagewi@gmail.com.

Southwell Music Festival

Southwell Music Festival takes place in Nottinghamshire from 22nd – 25th August 2025. This year's programme includes performances of work from Duke Ellington's Sacred Concerts, Bach's B Minor Mass, acclaimed folk artist Kathryn Tickell and jazz rising star Inês Loubet. Come to Southwell for a jam-packed bank holiday weekend of classical, folk, and jazz music at venues across the historic town. Tickets are on sale from Monday 9th June, with Priority Booking available for Festival Friends www.southwellmusicfestival.com

Dingbats

Last month: "Once Upon A Time" / "Little Mermaid"

LOOK ULEAP

BLUEBOTTLE
HADRIAN'S





Halam School News



All children at Halam had the opportunity to take part in two tennis taster sessions, which were delivered by James from Cauntton Tennis Club. We had a great time taking part in the sessions – some children already attend the club, but more children are looking to join and impress everyone with their skills.

We celebrated the 80th anniversary of VE day on Thursday 8th May. We had a whole school Collective Worship to learn about and celebrate the importance of the anniversary and then held a two-minute silence at 12 noon. In the afternoon, we worked in house groups to complete VE activities, such as, making Union Jack flags, designing medals and making bunting.

Last week, (WB 12.5.25) was SATs week for all Y6 children. We worked hard to complete our daily tests and then celebrated when they were over. We had a special visit from the ice-cream van on Friday, which was arranged by the PTFA. Thank you for this treat! It also happened to be 'Mental Health Awareness week'. We all enjoyed Cosmic yoga sessions during our Thursday PE sessions.

This week, on Tuesday 20th May, we invited parents in for an 'open morning' so they could see what we are learning about Fairtrade. We served Fairtrade coffee and cakes to raise the awareness of ethically produced and sourced foods from around the world. All donations will be given to Christian Aid.



St Michael the Archangel



At the APCM held in church, Glenys Herbert stepped down as churchwarden after more than ten years' service, she was given warm thanks for all the work she undertaken to ensure the church runs smoothly and is available to all. For the coming year your elected churchwardens are Penni Wells and Briony Dickinson.

Thank you to all those who turned out to help with the church yard clear up day, your hard work has made a huge difference. A reminder that it is not necessary to wait for an advertised day, anyone can, at a time convenient to them, help either in the church yard or in cleaning the church, although would you please contact one of the wardens first to avoid any difficulties that may arise.

In June there are five Sundays therefore, on the 29th June, we will be holding an outdoor service in the church yard followed by coffee and biscuits. This will be a joint Halam/Edingley service all are welcome to join in or take a moment as you walk your dog along the footpath.

June services everyone is welcome.

1st June - Seventh Sunday of Easter: 11.00am Morning Prayer

8th June - Day of Pentecost: 11.00am Holy Communion

15th June - Trinity Sunday: 11.00am Informal Service

22nd June - First Sunday After Trinity: 11.00am Sung Eucharist

29th June - Second Sunday After Trinity: 11.00am Outdoor Service in Church Yard

Contacts: Priest - Rev. Mary 01623 479838 / Wardens Briony Dickinson 01636 812569 / Penni Wells 01636 813491

Food Bank: There is a collection point in the Church porch. Very many thanks to all who contribute during these very difficult times.

Message from Rev. Mary

Nature in June appears like a wedding. May blossom adorns the hedgerows along with cow parsley. It is a busy time for gardeners; however, it has been so dry it is hard for our farmers growing their crops.

On June 7th at 7p.m. in Southwell Minster there is a confirmation service; we have a confirmation candidate – Kay. Please pray for her as she takes this important step in her spiritual journey.

June 11th is the feast of St. Barnabas who was a great encourager, especially of St. Mark, his special prayer encourages us to 'be generous in our judgements and unselfish in our service.'

As I write the Roman Catholic Church has elected a new pope. We pray for Pope Leo XIV as he begins his ministry. He has a heart for the poor like Pope Francis.

June 29th is the Feast day of Saints Peter and Paul. Many people are ordained at Pertetide and so we pray for all who are called to ordained ministry.

Thank you for all you do, especially supporting our food bank. Enjoy these lovely sunshine days. Every blessing, Rev. Mary

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BR aged 72 years

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Parkinson's UK walk tops £5,000 target.

A Farnsfield Walk For Parkinson's was held on Saturday April 26th and raised the magnificent amount of £5,100 for the charity Parkinson's UK. This is the fifth year that the walk has taken place, starting in 2021 and over this period in excess of £23,000 has been accumulated.

The circular walk took place over an 8.3 mile route commencing at The Plough, Farnsfield. Refreshment stops were held at Norwood Park Golf Club where a light BBQ meal was provided followed by stops at The Waggon in Halam and The Old Reindeer at Edingley before returning to The Plough.

125 walkers, many with their dogs, took part. As well as the funds raised by the walkers who pre-registered, collections were made on the day and donations were received through the JustGiving website page. The amount raised was also boosted by a very successful raffle with 22 prizes donated by local businesses to which we are extremely grateful to. Thanks also to the Farnsfield Trust for their support for this community based event, Mark Tomlinson who donated £500 (match funded by Lloyds Bank) and Sarah Vardy from PIB Community Trust who donated £600.

John Butler a local resident of Farnsfield who is living with Parkinson's planned the walk assisted by a small team and has been absolutely delighted with the generosity of everyone involved. John said, "Special thanks must go out to Bob Reeves and his team at The Plough, all the volunteers, Katie Thomas from Parkinson's UK and to William Brown from The Rotary Club of Southwell and his volunteer stewards for. Also to the pubs and the golf club for their hospitality."

The event was held to encourage people to get together with their friends, family or colleagues to enjoy an outdoor activity while raising vital funds to support people living with the condition. This year we were also joined by Adrian and Judith Wriggley from Teeside who are major fundraisers for Parkinson's UK in the North East.

Parkinson's is the fastest growing neurological condition in the world, and currently there is no cure. It affects around 145,000 people in the UK and every hour two more people are diagnosed. There are over 40 symptoms, from tremor and pain to anxiety.

We hope to see all this years' walkers return and hopefully some new participants in April 2026 when we will continue the fight against this debilitating disease. **Bruce McDowall**



Report for Halam News: Halam Parish Council Meeting 7.30 pm on Wednesday 7th May 2025 held at Halam Village Hall



Please Note: Official parish council minutes will be available after they have been approved at the next parish council meeting. Scan the QR code to link to the website.

Present: Catherine Blackburn, Chris Denyer, Chris Bevans, Simon Bust, Andrew Paris, Ganesh Subramanian & Charlie Wright

Election of Chair & Vice-Chair

Catherine Blackburn elected Chair

Chris Denyer elected Vice-chair

Election of Other Officers

Christmas Charities – Simon Bust & Andrew Paris

Press – Andrew Paris

Transport – Ganesh Subramanian

NALC Representative – Chris Denyer

Snow/Flood Warden - Catherine Blackburn

Flag - Ganesh Subramanian

Crime Reduction – Andrew Paris

Internal Auditor – David Dixon

Financial Officer – Mandy Rickett

Chris Denyer queried whether all these positions were still relevant, and whether any extra named roles should be considered. To be discussed further at the next parish council meeting.

Matters Arising from Previous Meeting

a. Banking – Unity Bank are working on the switch Catherine Blackburn, Chris Denyer and Andrew Paris to be signatories.

b. Projector – ongoing

c. Planters – agreed to purchase planters for the bus shelter and village hall. Pots to be placed by the bench on the verge outside of the church, subject to Highways consent.

d. Noticeboard outside the church – to be repaired in situ shortly, and "Halam Parish" lettering to be routed in the top of the board mount.

Open Meeting

1. A parishioner queried why the County Council had been mowing verges in the village despite the publicity given to "No Mow May". Support for such schemes to be discussed at the next meeting.

2. It was reported that an individual, dressed in black and wearing a balaclava mask had been seen riding a high-powered electric bike, speeding through the village, and doing "wheelies" down the street. Residents are asked to report any such sightings to the police on 101.

Finance

Agreed to pay:

1. stone chippings for village hall carpark
2. flowers (neighbour thank you for village hall wall work)
3. flower planters
4. village hall external door painting

The list of direct debits was reviewed. All accepted, except the village hall internet costs; Financial Officer to check alternatives.

Reviews and Adoptions

As there had been some recommended changes, the following were reviewed and adopted:

Financial Regulations

Risk Assessment – financial and physical

Assets Register (once purchased, the planters will be added)

Some further information was needed regarding the changes to the Standing Orders – this will be circulated and discussed next meeting.

Parish Council Insurance – policy renewal documents reviewed by Andrew Paris, now waiting for comparable quote.

Financial Officer was authorised to renew with current provider or alternative depending on cost difference.

Village Hall

1. Pipe cover has been done, some internal painting still to be done.
2. External door painting – completed
3. Car park – trip hazard and repair to the concrete path - completed
4. Bookings – Charlie Wright and the Financial Officer to liaise on payment method
5. Cleaners – Charlie Wright to organise cleaners for hall every 2 weeks.

VE Day 80th – 8th May

Invites had been sent out. Village hall event organised – Ganesh Subramanian to organise sparkling wine and Catherine Blackburn to organise strawberries and cream. Simon Bust to organise bonfire in field opposite the hall.

A small grant had been received from Newark & Sherwood District Council to cover some expenses.

Allotments

Nothing to report this month.

Roads & Hedges

Some hedges in the village still obstruct the pavements. The Clerk to speak to householders to ask them to cut back their hedges.

Correspondence

Information had been received regarding the Public Consultation on the Draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) for Nottinghamshire and Nottingham. During the 6-week Public Consultation period, from 6 May to 16 June 2025, the County Council want as many people as possible from across Nottinghamshire to look at the draft strategy and to comment on it. For further information look at the consultation website – www.notts naturerecovery.co.uk

Churchyard Bench

Design approved – now to be ordered. Andrew Paris to source suitable commemorative VE Day plaque

Lengthsman Scheme

Agreed to get quotes to:

- (a) clear the weeds and vegetation from the village railings by the Beck on The Turnpike
- (b) clear the weeds and paint the railings
- (c) clear the weeds, paint and repair pillars and rails

It can then be seen what can be afforded under the scheme.

HR Committee

It was reported that the Clerk's appraisal had been completed. Report accepted.

Biodiversity

Nothing to report this month

Planning

None this month

Planning Decisions

The Manor House Radley Road - Application for variation of condition to remove windows from SW elevation and rooflights from rear elevation of extension no longer required attached to planning permission 24/00268/HOUSE; Single Storey Side Extension

Planning Permission granted by District Council

Date of next meeting

Thursday 12th June, 2025 in the village hall at 7.30p.m.

Members of the public are reminded that they are welcome to attend any parish council meeting to find out about the work of the council. There is an opportunity to raise issues with the parish council at the meeting during the open part of the meeting.



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District Cllrs Karen Roberts and Peter Harris Report for May 2025



Details are on the Council's website - see The Council - Calendar of Meetings for links to each of the papers and reports. There have been few meetings since our last report in April. Cabinet decisions - often taken by just one Portfolio holder - are also on the website.

Leisure Centre Trustees: Councillors will have seen the recent agreed Press Release from the Trustees and N&SDC. The date for the transfer of the release has passed but the N&SDC Councillors have been given no public [but one secret communication] information of the process - or received any indication of a Cabinet Member decision of the matter.

The Cabinet have agreed to spend £500,00 on the town centre in Ollerton and £200,000 in Clipstone.

The small amount of money agreed by the Council to agree on reducing plastics going into the seas and other issues relating to the ocean have been removed

Audit and Governance Committees Wed April 16 and May 7: The Committee, under the previous Chair of Peter Harris, asked to change its meetings to Mondays as a number of Councillors could not attend. The new Chair has reinstated Wednesday as the meeting date. As a consequence the meetings were not well attended, albeit just quorate.

The Annual Council meeting is on Tues May 13: The agenda has not been published but Peter Harris has asked a question on how the equivalent of £136,950 for capital expenditure in Southwell on the Bus Improvement Grant-allocated by the Mayor of the East Midlands Combined Authority - will be monitored and challenged by the Leader of the District Council.

We are also asking a question of the impact of the overnight cessation of the Sustainable Farming programme, in March, will have on the local environment. The SFI supports farms to implement environmental improvements such as herbal leys and beetle banks on their land. Applications for new SFI programmes was withdrawn without notice - although farmers in the process of application were told they would have six weeks to submit their applications. There are a number of farms locally that were looking to submit their bids.

Planning

The plans for houses on the Rolleston village hall's adjacent grassland, had been refused by the N&SDCs Planning Committee. We were very surprised to find that N&SDC had appealed that decision. The Certificate for Lawful Development acquired by the Village Hall relating to that land provided a full stop to such development. This appeal must have had a proper process initiating it involving a portfolio holder as well as officers of NSDC in making it. Keith Melton has asked where this decision was minuted and, thus far, he has not received an answer to that query and is pursuing this issue with a written question to full council

Various

NSDC have temporarily closed the housing register from Tuesday 22 April until August 2025, to enable all applicants to register under the revised Allocation Scheme following go live of the new housing management system (NEC) in May 2025.

We are currently contacting those on the register to keep them informed and will be regularly updating them as we work through the data transference from the old system to the new, and to request applicants re-register onto the new system before the register goes live again in August.

When the new system is live we will have a service that:

- is user friendly with improved self-service functionality giving applicants more control
- has improved security for personal information
- can work well on various devices.

All applicants should keep themselves updated by visiting the website for the latest on the project: <https://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/housingmanagementupdate/>

The National Employers have made an offer of a 3.2% pay increase for Council employees from 1 April 2025. Unions will now be discussing the offer and deciding on next steps.

Developed the DRAFT Sustainable Economic Growth Strategy 2026-2031

The next steps after 30 May 2025 will be:

- To consult with key partners and stakeholders including the East Midlands Combined Authority, Nottinghamshire County Council, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Federation of Small Business.
- To bring a completed Strategy to Cabinet in Autumn 2025.

Karen Roberts and Peter Harris



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