



## East Hunsbury Parish Council

# Parish Council Elections

**Y**ou would have been hard pushed to miss the notorious parish council meeting that has been doing the rounds recently – but thankfully most parish council meetings are not like that at all! What is has done is encourage more people than ever to take an interest in their parish council and consider whether they could Make a Change and become a councillor.

The Government has confirmed that elections will go ahead on Thursday 6th May 2021. All parish and town councils in Northamptonshire will elect councillors, at the same time as elections for councillors to the new unitary councils and the election of the Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner.

You can find out more about the services and initiatives that East Hunsbury Parish Council already run on our social media or website, and our aims for the future. As a passionate parish councillor you could help to shape the

## Become a Councillor

priorities for your local area, become a voice for your community and make a change to help improve the lives of residents.

If you are interested in finding out more about becoming a parish councillor please get in touch! We can help you to decide if it's for you, and provide information about applying to stand in the parish council elections.

If you want to find out anything about the parish council or East Hunsbury, the best place to start is our website.

**www.easthunsburyparishcouncil.gov.uk**  
**Contact: Caroline Holgate,**  
**Clerk to the Council by email:**  
**clerk@easthunsburyparishcouncil.gov.uk**  
**or on 01604 708429**

## Budget 2021/22

The Precept is the element of your Council Tax that is paid to East Hunsbury Parish Council. Every year, we agree a budget to deliver services for the next financial year and our precept demand is then submitted to Northampton Borough Council (NBC), who co-ordinate the demands from other services and determine the Council Tax rate to be paid for the new financial year.

This year has been a challenging one for us all, and we have had to think about the ongoing impact of Covid-19, as well as the impact of Local Government Reorganisation, and the transfer of assets from NBC to the parish (which includes Blacky More Community Centre, and many of the parks and open spaces in East Hunsbury). We will be pleased to take these assets on to ensure that they are maintained to a high standard for the residents of the parish, but also recognise that there will be immediate and ongoing costs in doing so.

In setting the budget we have strived to ensure that we can still provide services and initiatives for residents, and to allow for parish events to go ahead where possible. We will continue to build on our Community Engagement commitment and will grow our health and wellbeing programme.

For the year 2021/22 the Parish Council has agreed a total budget expenditure of £300,602, although it has demanded a precept of £205,000 with the balance coming from any income received and general reserve funds. Using these figures, a property in Band D will pay £59.29 towards the precept - that's just over 16 pence a day.

## 2021 Early Plans for the year ahead

**Happy New Year to NN Pulse readers. At our January meeting of the Community Engagement Committee, it was clear that keeping people connected, and a focus on being outdoors, should be a priority, for the first part of 2021.**

**Whilst Covid-19 still gives us many challenges, we are here to continue to support our local community.**

**If you are interested in any of the projects outlined here, please get in touch for more information. We look forward to continuing to link with our community groups, schools, and local venues, to make the best of the year ahead, and we will keep you updated with new activities and plans.**

## ECO Projects – Wildflowers – Bee Friendly

Another aspect of focussing on the outdoors, we have been listening to the community, and looking at how we make East Hunsbury more eco-friendly. Residents have told us how much they enjoyed the wildflowers and poppies in Stone Pit Hollow, and in March we will be readying the site for replanting with British wildflowers.

We aim to work with our friends at East Hunsbury Primary School, and their gardening club will



be able to use the area for their projects, and locals and walkers will see a lovely display come Summer.

To tie in with our wildflowers, we are also asking residents if they would like to join in our **BEE FRIENDLY** campaign!

We have invested in 100 bee bombs and are inviting people to register to receive one. The bombs contain seeds for the garden and will help us to create a bee friendly patch here in East Hunsbury.

It is easy to take part – just email or call us, and the first 100 households will get a bomb of their own! We just ask that you keep us updated, with a photo of your wildflowers and tell us about your bee visits over the Summer!



**> 100 bee bombs will be given away to local households – email or phone us to reserve yours! BEE Friendly East Hunsbury!**  
**Email admin@EastHunsburyParishCouncil.gov.uk Phone 01604 708429**

## Walking it off and places to meet!

Our new East Hunsbury Walking Maps are now ready! Available to download from our website, these have been created by The Adventure Geek – Northamptonshire walking guru, Julia Doherty.

There is something for all levels of fitness, with routes for 1.3 miles, 3 miles and 5 miles which all start at Penvale Park. For a copy of the maps, please go to our website:

**www.easthunsburyparishcouncil.gov.uk/get-active-east-hunsbury-walks**



**East Hunsbury Walks will restart as soon as possible – led by local volunteers and The Adventure Geek**

We know that group walks cannot take place at the moment, due to Covid-19 restrictions, but when we are allowed to bring groups back together, organised walks, led by volunteers, will restart.

Also, to come this year – from April we will be working on a new map of all our green spaces, including play equipment, benches, bluebell woods, and other points of interest. This will link into the siting of new exercise equipment and more benches for the area. A new seating area will be installed in Spring for Blacky More Open Space, and we know we can make good use of it, as the community already does at our memorial bench site at Grange Wood.



**East Hunsbury Walking Maps – now ready to download from the Parish Council Website**



**More benches are being planned for installation in the Spring – Grange Wood memorial benches are hugely popular with our local community**

## East Hunsbury Seniors

We are keeping our Seniors connected, with regular newsletters, and developing new projects.

This month's newsletter contains a wealth of information, including ways to combat loneliness, and how to keep active and fit at home.

We are delighted that our local WI, crafters, quizzers, and Library team are now writing regular pieces for them.

The newsletter is also available to download from our website – for anyone to read – you don't have to be a member. Simply go to **INFORMATION WEB PAGE**\*\*\*Details to follow



**Regular newsletters are keeping our Seniors connected**



**School of Life Project brings different ages together in the community**

### School of Life Project

Our intergenerational project has been on hold for the past year, but a new partnership with Wootton Park School is set to change that. A group of our seniors will be sharing their Covid-19 experiences with a group of pupils, talking to each other about how they have found the last year, and these extraordinary times. We look forward to seeing how the project progresses. Keeping the generations connected!

Other projects in the pipeline include Senior Strollers, a walking club for the group. Plus, we continue to plan towards organising our coffee mornings and trips, when Covid-19 restrictions allow us to.

Do you want to join the Seniors Club or find out more about it? If you are over the age of 65, and a resident of East Hunsbury, you can join. If you would like more information, please do get in touch.

**Email: community@easthunsburyparishcouncil.gov.uk**  
**Phone 01604 708429**



**When we can restart our Seniors meetings – lots of smiles and chat to be had!**



## WHO FANCIES BEING A WOMBLE?

Over the past 18 months, we have worked to support the ever-growing band of fabulous litter picking volunteers, including the East Hunsbury Litter Picking Facebook group.

Sadly – again due to Covid-19, we are unable to organise our group community picks. We will restart as soon as we can. **HOWEVER**, the Parish Council are still looking to support our community, and we are inviting families and individuals, to apply for litter picking kit. You can become Wombles in your own little patch of East Hunsbury.

Do you want to join our growing band of East Hunsbury Wombles? Get in touch – we can supply litter pickers, gloves, and bags. Help to make your patch of East Hunsbury, litter free!

**Email admin@EastHunsburyParishCouncil.gov.uk**  
**Phone 01604 708429**

## Our East Hunsbury Community Groups & Organisations

Working in partnership is so important to us. So much of what we achieve, cannot happen, without local input.

In the coming year, we are looking forward to continuing to work with East Hunsbury WI, East Hunsbury Rocks and Litter Pickers, with Hunsbury Library, the Abbey Centre, our local schools, the Social Prescribing Team at Danes Camp Surgery, and our local Policing Team.

And finally – thank you to the volunteers who are still supporting us, our Seniors Reps, Phone Buddy Crew, litter pickers, envelope stuffers, tea makers, walkers, you know who you are! Thank you for continued support, in challenging times.

Stay safe all.

**www.easthunsburyparishcouncil.gov.uk**

**Contact: Caroline Holgate, clerk to council by email: clerk@easthunsburyparishcouncil.gov.uk or on 01604 708429**