

Beeston Regis News

A Periodical Newsletter Published by Beeston Regis Parish Council

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INSIDE ISSUE

46

- 1** VE Day Celebration
- 2** Council Tax
New Bench
Hooke Charities
- 3** Art Exhibition
Council Vacancies
Bus Shelter
- 4** Councillors and
MP details



Beeston Regis Parish Council

Meetings are normally held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Scout HQ by the railway bridge as you approach West Runtun. Please see back page for contact details.

**Parish Council
Website**
Just type
beestonregis.org
into your address
bar and you should
go straight to it.

All the relevant
Council information
is there –minutes,
agendas,
Policies, Accounts,
etc.

The Parish Council will be joining in the National recognition of the 80th Anniversary of VE Day which signalled the end of the war in Europe in 1945. On Thursday the 8th of May at 9.00am there will be a Flag raising ceremony at the Flagpole in the churchyard at All Saints. The official VE80 flag will be raised by a local member of the armed forces. The Chairman of the council will repeat the words of Winston Churchill spoken to the nation when he announced the ending of the war in Europe.

The names of those brave men of the parish that gave their lives in the War will be read, together with those civilians who lived in the ancient Parish of Beeston Regis who died in bombing raids on 27th July 1942. Coffee will be served in the Church at the conclusion of the ceremony. If you have any relatives that served in the War whom you would like to be remembered please let us know.

Later in the day there will be a Concert of celebration in All Saints, starting with a reception on the Church Field at 6.45pm, with the concert featuring the Beeston Regis Jazz Band, specially formed by our resident Richard Fletcher and the local ladies singing group the Shanty Sirens.

At 9.30 pm we will join in the National celebrations with the lighting of our Beacon in the churchyard.

Tickets to the concert are free but we have to keep an eye on numbers do please reserve your place(s) with the parish Clerk, Peter Bullimore on 01263 822864 or email beestonpc@btinternet.com

Parish Council Precept.

We were pleased to be able to hold our share of your Council Tax for the coming year, in fact showing on the bill as a small % reduction. This was enabled to a significant extent by the 100% levy imposed on second homes by NNDC. A Band C property in Beeston Regis now sits at £31.61 per annum, around 60pence per week, one of the lowest in the district. You will note that County Council (5%), Police (4.4%) and NNDC all increased their take. We do have an issue that may affect our finances in the future that we have touched on before: You will be aware that all of the 58 street lights in the Parish belong to the Parish Council. These LED lights have a useful life and they are now all well over 10 years old; at some point we will undoubtedly need to replace them! Also, we have been warned by our electricity supplier of a potential doubling of the standing charge; our contract will be due for renewal in the autumn so we will have to see what can be negotiated at that time.

New Seat (and some new trees!).

Most will probably recall the Norfolk Highways project to renew the footpath alongside the green housing the Village Sign. Road completely closed for several weeks and a resurfaced pavement installed. Residents may have recently noticed that the bench seat by the village sign was also removed a while back. It had become rather decrepit and truthfully was probably no longer safe. We have recently taken delivery of a new and somewhat smarter bench which we feel will enhance the look of the area. It may well have been installed by the time you read this newsletter.

Three new trees have recently appeared on the green by the village sign; hopefully they will take well and add to the scenery. I perhaps shouldn't admit this, but we can take no credit – we have no idea where they came from or who planted them. One suggestion being that NCC planted them by way of mitigating the mess they made of the green whilst doing the footpath!

The Beeston Regis Charities of Edmund Hooke and Unknown Donor.

As we get older, we sometimes need some physical aid to help us get around or make life a little easier but perhaps cannot afford it and we soldier on as best we can. This is in part why the Beeston Regis Charities of Edmund Hooke and the Unknown Donor, started over 300 years ago, were set up - to help people who live in the Parish of Beeston Regis or that part of Sheringham that once was part of the Ancient Parish, (which includes Cliff Road, Priory Road, The Avenue, St Austin's Grove, Nelson Road, Lawson Way and Beeston Common). Please let us know if you are in need of help. If you are in need by reason of financial hardship, age, ill-health or disability these charities may be able to help by providing grants, items and services.

If there is something you, or your family living with you, really need but cannot afford then please ask if the charity can help. Grants may be made for a variety of reasons such as help with the cost of repairing or renewing essential household equipment, unexpected expenses associated with illness or bereavement and the like.

Unfortunately, unless due to sudden and unforeseen problems, the Trustees are not able to make grants for general debts such as Council tax or utility bills.

All enquiries will be treated in the strictest of confidence. Contact Roy Beckley, Clerk to the Charities on 01263 837619 or email to gwroybeckley@gmail.com

WATERCOLOURS AND LINO PRINTS BY JOHN AND JACQUI HURST

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, BEESTON REGIS 3RD, 4TH AND 5TH MAY 2025

By kind invitation of the church PCC, local, professional watercolourist John Hurst, along with wife Jacqui, is pleased to announce that they will be staging a weekend exhibition at All Saints Church, Beeston Regis with part proceeds in aid of the church.

John is well known for his atmospheric, figurative paintings of the Norfolk coast in addition to the original watercolour of the church that featured in his previous successful exhibition here in 2018.

Jacqui derives much pleasure from hand making her delicate, narrative prints depicting the Norfolk landscape and wildlife.

Fine prints and greetings cards will also feature in the exhibition, along with limited copies of John's memoir, *Watercolour Words: Fifty Years*.

John will be on site throughout the exhibition to welcome visitors in his usual inimitable style, explaining his watercolour technique and sharing stories.

Entry is free, there is ample car parking, and refreshments will be served throughout the weekend.

The exhibition will be open from 10.00am to 4.00pm on Saturday 3rd. May and Monday 5th. May, and from Noon to 4.00pm on Sunday 4th. May.

For further details see www.marshlandarts.co.uk

Vacancies for councillors

We are short of two councillors and it is vitally important that we recruit new councillors to bring the council up to full strength. Beeston Regis Parish council meets at 7pm on the second Wednesday of the month at the Scout Headquarters near the bridge on the A149. The dates of the upcoming meetings are 7pm on Wednesday 14th May, 11th June, 9th July and 13th August. So, if you are over 18, live in the parish or within three miles of the boundary why not come along and sit in to find out what being a parish councillor is all about? Why not bring a friend or another family member? The meetings usually last about an hour and you will be able to ask questions. If you decide to give it a try then there will be opportunities for free training. You

Our Bus Shelter "Library".

This seems to be well used and thanks to all those who have donated Books. However, we must ask that magazines and the like must not be left in the bus shelter as they are considered a fire risk (because someone feels it necessary to set fire to them!). So, if you have magazines to dispose of, please put them in your green recycling bin. If you have a pile, take them to the waste paper bank at the Scout Headquarters - they raise about £4000 a year from the collection of paper.

Whilst on the subject the **Norfolk County Council Mobile Library** still calls at Church Close (just over the Bridge) on Thursdays, arriving at 15.50 and leaving at 16.05. The dates for 2025 are: 17th April, 15th May, 12th June, 10th July, 7th August, 4th September, 2nd & 30th October and 27th November

BEESTON REGIS PARISH COUNCIL

as at April 2025

Councillors:

Mike Knowles (Chair)	3, Caxton Close, Beeston Regis, NR26 8SU	01263 825995
Roy Beckley (V-Chair)	Nightingales, Church Close, West Runton, NR27 9QY	01263 837619
Maisie Wright	Heathside, Britons Lane, Beeston Regis, NR26 8TP	
Chris Goodwin	14, Hillside Road, Beeston Regis, NR26 8TT	
Nick Wright	Heathside, Britons Lane, Beeston Regis, NR26 8TP	
Ian Hudson	The Cottage, Church Close, West Runton, NR27 9QY	
Michael Butt	24, Abbey Park, Beeston Regis NR26 8SR	
Peter Thorogate	34, Abbey Park, Beeston Regis NR26 8SR	
Janice McPhail	32, Caxton Park, Beeston Regis NR26 8ST	

Clerk:

Peter Bullimore	24, Beech Avenue, Sheringham, NR26 8NS	01263 822864
e-mail: beestonpc@btinternet.com	website: www.beestonregis.org	

The MP for North Norfolk is Steff Aquarone who represents the Liberal-Democratic party.

You can write to him at House of Commons London SW1A 0AA or email

steff.aquarone.mp@parliament.uk His Constituency office Tel No is 01692 763247

MPs can help with issues that are the responsibility of UK Parliament. They represent their constituents and can help with issues such as:

- hospitals and the NHS
- problems with benefits, pensions and national insurance
- immigration
- school closures and funding
- transport facilities

Devolution.

You will no doubt have heard, and probably read, of the potential plans for Norfolk and Suffolk regarding replacing our County and District Councils with a smaller number of Unitary Councils, with the whole thing headed up by an elected Mayor. Submissions have been put in by the various authorities and we will await the Government's response. We have attached below a brief summary with links to a couple of websites that you can access if you wish to find out more.

Norfolk announced as priority area for new powers and funding

Norfolk is set to receive new powers and funding following a Government announcement, with the County being a key focus for devolution and local government reform.

Ministers are aiming for a devolution deal that covers both Norfolk and Suffolk, including the creation of an elected mayor. They also plan to replace the existing "two-tier" system, where key services are shared between county and district councils, with unitary authorities.

For more details on the story so far, including the Government's devolution white paper and answers to frequently asked questions from the Local Government Association, visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/devolution.

You can also [watch our video explaining devolution and local government reform.](#)