

Hovingham Action Group Report – 22nd November 2023

Community Speedwatch

- After a three month break over the summer Hovingham Community Speed managed to have 8 sessions in October before stopping for the winter. We reported 56 speeding cars. This is an average of 8 per session. It is noticeable that traffic flow has increased slightly with a minimum of 300 cars in 40 minutes.
- We have asked for some feedback from North Yorkshire Police but have not heard back from them.
- We need to recruit new people in the Spring., action@hovingham.org.uk (Helen)

Defibrillator checked every two weeks, all ok (Phil)

Email Diary & Hovingham Village Website Subscribe via website, diary@hovingham.org.uk to receive diary. We need to encourage more residents to sign-up so we can contact them easily when needed. (Phil)

Grass Cutting A team of volunteers help supplement the cutting of grass verges. If you are interested in helping out it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the Hovingham Action Group (action@hovingham.org.uk) if you are interested, thank you.

Litter Pick & Sign Cleaning

- A number of the traditional signs in the village have been expertly refurbished by Adrian Wass. These include Church Street outside the Bakery, The Green and High Street on the old Blacksmiths forge. Many thanks to Adrian for donating his time and skills to this.
- A request has gone to both Highways and the AONB to repair and refurb the traditional finger posts outside the Worsley and at the bottom of Potticar Bank. The part of the sign pointing to Malton has broken off and this has been provided to Highways for repair. The AONB are then looking to get these refurbished using their budget.
- A request has gone to highways for replacement of a number of signs in the village including Mossburn Drive and 30mph signs at the entrance to the village. No evidence that these have been actioned as yet despite NY stating that the request has been fulfilled.
- No update on 2024 litter pick at this stage. Will set a date and publish in the next update. (Giles)

Playground

- The first thing to report is that we have, at last, been Allocated the 106 monies and 50% has already arrived giving us the funds to start the fort project. Unfortunately, the quotation given to us back when we started this project was no longer valid and we had to ask for a re-quote. This came back to us with an increase of nearly £4,000 and we simply can't afford it, so it was once again put out to tender and a quotation came back from ESP Play who matched our original quotation, we decided to go ahead with them and they have been to do a site survey and we are looking to get the work done in December. We just need to remove the artwork plates which are in the tunnel of the fort so that we can relocate them, I believe these were done by the school children? Jayne and I have looked at possible sites for them to still have a place at the playground - we are happy to have input about this, these predate us both but I believe they are loved and admired and we both feel they have a life within the playground somewhere. Our sincere thanks go to Catherine for the hard work and tenacity she has displayed both with keeping at the Old RDC for the 106 monies and also obtaining a new quote, as well as liaising with ESP.
- We have applications in for 2 further grants, one from Broadwater which could cover our grass cutting and hedge cutting fees and the other from the government which is a grant for suicide awareness and will enable us to buy a piece of equipment for shared play, I will report back when and if we hear back from either.
- We are grateful to everyone involved in the production and sale of the calendar which is amazing and will bring us an incredible revenue, and we have also just heard that the village shop will once again do a Christmas draw which will benefit the playground, added to that Martha Veseys sponsored walk which she and her friends do this coming weekend- we are doing great in the fundraising field! Our current position is £6295.35, this includes 50% of both grant and 106 monies.
- Everything else is much the same. Thanks to everyone who is helping to keep the playground functioning, Jayne especially for keeping an eye on everything and coordinating checks, and with a healthy bank balance. (Debs Catherine & Jayne)

Project Purple

- In September the Repair Cafe and Community Hub had 37 visitors through the doors in 2 hours bringing 22 items to be fixed, a massive 13 items were repaired on the day, 6 are in progress to be repaired, 3 items where further advice has been given. Fixed items ranged from a herb dryer, strimmer, much loved jumper, shirt and a clock. In appreciation for everyone's efforts this morning not just fixing items, but for our Supporters and Cake Bakers!!, our very kind and generous Visitors donated £83.36.
- We had two unexpected guests from Utrecht, Netherlands. While on holiday, they had seen the Repair Cafe advertised and wanted to come. Our Repair Cafe is affiliated to the International Repair Cafe founded in the Netherlands, so we felt honoured that they were interested to come and see us. They are both part of the Utrecht Repair Cafe Community.
- We also had a number of people attend the Community Hub to speak with our experts from Watermark and IWE. They were able to provide guidance on installation and grants available for retrofitting Air Source Heat Pumps, Solar Panels and Battery Storage.
- Hovingham Project Purple organised a sewing workshop held on two consecutive Saturday 23rd and 30th September from 10am - 1pm. The workshops were led by Ann Wilson and Jocelyn Hudson our Repair Cafe Sewing Fixers. They kindly gave their time to share their skills with 8 Participants over the two days.
- We had sewing machines hauled out of their cases, some for the first time in 10 years! Garments repaired, first steps in quilting learnt to make a dog bed, unpicking a dress to resize to start again, machine problems resolved, quilted cushion completed, alterations to a sari and repair of a quilted jacket. Both mornings were a hive of activity, new acquaintances made, great conversations and much knowledge shared!
- We hope that we will have the opportunity to offer further workshops next year.
- Project Purple Team and Volunteers ran the Market Cafe and provided some fabulous cakes in November which raise a very healthy £738.40. A very special thanks goes to all of them.
- Our next Repair Cafe and Community Hub is on the 9th December.

Everyone welcomes you to come and see what goes on and enjoy great coffee and cake!!

Recycling Area

- Level of fly-tipping appears to have diminished, may be due to camera and new signage

Village Market

- The Market continues to operate well
- The credit card terminal is working well, contact Graham if you would like to borrow.
- Anyone wanting to join the volunteer team is encouraged to contact themarket@hovingham.org.uk (Graham)

Village Playgroup

- The Playgroup continues to be a joy to be involved with and it is going from strength to strength. The numbers have risen so much so, that we do not put our sign out on the front wall anymore. We had 39 children one week and some parents mentioned it was too busy; so we decided to run a pole on whether we should cap the numbers. The members felt quite strongly that turning people away if full could have a detrimental effect on mental health and so it was concluded that the best option was to rearrange the toys and chairs to allow more space, and to reduce one of the activity stations. Everyone has said this has improved the space and noise.
- We are in the throws of planning the Christmas party and already have 35 children booked in to see Santa.
- Terrington school is supporting us with crafts when they can. Slingsby school do not have the capacity to attend.
- We do require any assistance from the action group or the Parish Council at this time. Thank you for your ongoing support and encouragement. (Catherine)

Newsletter - Anyone interested in help editing, formatting or writing articles should contact annc@apcp.com

Volunteering

- There is something for everyone- Get involved and benefit your community - it's often surprisingly good fun. Please contact action@hovingham.org.uk, or Ann or Phil Chapman on 627171 to get involved.

Thank You (Thank you to all those who contributed to this report, consolidated by Phil Chapman – 17th November 2023)