

Hovingham Action Group Report – 17th January 2024

Community Speedwatch

- Inactive over Winter. 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)

Litter Pick & Sign Cleaning

- The finger post by Mossburn Bank has now been repaired. Both Hovingham finger posts need painting.
- No update on 2024 litter pick at this stage. Will set a date and publish in the next update. (Giles)

Playground

- Well at last we can report that our new fort is in situ!. We had a meeting with the installers yesterday (Wednesday 10th) to do snagging and discuss timeline for any additional work and we can confirm that once another couple of climbing slats have been installed it will be open and useable! The area will need re-seeding with grass but that will have to wait until March, but it looks absolutely great!. The skip is still awaiting removal but we expect that to have gone by the end of next week and we should be back to normal. An independent inspection has been undertaken also and it has been passed as safely installed and ready for use once the additional work has been done, it will remain cordoned off until that is done.
- The remaining S106 monies have been applied for along with the remaining 50% of the RDC grant which was to cover the fort replacement, hopefully this will be in our account shortly - thanks so much to Phil for helping sort out cash flow whilst this hits the accounts and also a huge thank you to Catherine Dainty for her continued dogged determination to finish what she started! This would never have happened without her work and we are so grateful to her for remaining our project manager despite moving out of the area.
- The artwork which was on the original fort was very kindly removed by Frank and Pat and is being stored until we figure out what to do with it. We would love to re-use them somewhere in the playground if that is at all possible and will report back with any further news.
- We have recently heard from James Skelton who has been keeping the grass mown for quite a few years now saying that he is moving on, he has very kindly given us contact details of someone who may be able to take over the work and we will be contacting them to set up conversations. I would like to take this opportunity to thank James for his many years of hard work and dedication to the playground, it was always a pleasure to work with him and he has done a fantastic job of keeping everything looking tidy and mown and also worked with us to create our wild area at the bottom of the playground. He will definitely be missed.
- On-going work at the playground does include construction of a sail shade and although this has been purchased it has not yet been erected, mainly due to the weather being too wet to sink the foundations for the posts. We are in no rush for this as it would not be put up until the better weather, but it is all set up to be done once the weather brightens up and the ground is a little firmer, giving vital shade from the sun in the summer months and somewhere to shelter from any unexpected rain showers!
- Recent fund-raisers for the Playground include a sponsored walk organized by Martha Vestey in which local children took part - this raised an amazing £ 276.82 for which we are extremely grateful. The village shop also ran a Christmas raffle which raised £180, again we are so thankful to have such fantastic support.
- A grant from Broadacres was applied for at the beginning of December to cover our grass cutting costs and we found out just before Christmas that we have been successful, so that £ 400 will off-set our costs which average approx. £ 800 per annum.
- Copy of our financials to date will be available via the action group.
- Jayne will also be announcing very shortly the proceeds from the Hovingham and Scackleton calendar which has been produced by the snappers, I think we are all in awe of what has happened with this and how many people have contributed, both financially and with their beautiful photographs - thanks especially to our wonderful Jayne who has seen this through from concept to final calendar. Simply amazing.
- Our dates for the Market Cafe are May and October and these will remain our major fundraising objectives for 2024 as a group. It is hoped that once again we will run the very successful Duck Race during the summer holidays which also was a valuable source of funds for us and done in conjunction
- Not much else to report at this juncture, our working bee will be set for Spring again and we would hope to encourage handy-persons from the village to come and help get everything ready for the better weather. A notice will be put into the village diary and Hovingham Matters WhatsApp group once a day has been organized.
- Thanks to everyone who supports us both directly and indirectly, taking care of the playground is totally a team effort to which many, many people contribute. (Debs Catherine & Jayne)

Project Purple

- In December we ran the Repair Café and Community Hub.
- We had 12 items brought in for repair including our first item to be welded. 7 items were fixed and 2 items in the process of being repaired, 2 items where advice was given and 1 item could not be repaired.
- Another industrious morning helping to extend the life of items and prevent them going up the chimney or into landfill!!!!.
- Our next Repair Café's and Community Hub's will be on the 9th March, 11th June, 14th September and the 9th November.
- Everyone is welcome to come and see what goes on and enjoy great coffee and cake!!

We are still offering Thermal Imaging Surveys, subject to right temperature conditions as well as 50% discount on specified loft insulations from Jewsons Malton. Please contact Frank on 07541854765 if you are interested to know more.

Key Project Purple Activities for 2024 will be;

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| a) Web site, Social Media, News Letters | g) Community EV Charger |
| b) 4 Repair Café & Community Hubs | h) Christmas Tree Mulching |
| c) Sewing Workshop | i) Wilding |
| d) Share Shed | j) Path for Everyone Malton - Helmsley |
| e) Recycling Centre Support | k) Review of local Energy Generation – Geothermal and Solar |
| f) Thermal Imaging | l) Running the Market Café in December |

Village Market

- Another successful year.
- We had to buy gazebos and were very grateful of the grant from ANOB.
- It has taken time to get stall holders back and committed to coming regularly but we are still doing quite well.
- Visitor numbers have held up between 600-800 each market and the two December markets were very successful. Sadly, one of our long-time stall holders is retiring and Alison will be missed.
- The market cafes have been good and the Christmas market café run by the Church raised over £1000
- The market has bought a new coffee percolator and as the griddle has to be replaced the market will purchase a new one. Tony Finn is lending his industrial griddle to the café in February to see how it works for us. [this café is being run by the Church].
- Allocating the cafes for the next few years has to say the least been difficult with some organisations only wanting their preferred month, which puts all the others at a disadvantage. To remedy this the committee has decided that as from 2024 the cafes will rotate on a monthly basis year on year, so a café in February 2024 becomes March 2025 etc. If the organisation wishes to change then they can negotiate with the other organisations, as long as they notify the market committee.
- Anyone wanting to join the volunteer team is encouraged to contact themarket@hovingham.org.uk (Graham)

Village Playgroup

- We reopened on 10th January to 32 children and 25 adults! It was also our second birthday which we were delighted with. It continues to be a joy to be a part of and the committee work very hard to keep up the very high standard we have set ourselves.
- In December we had a very successful Christmas party with 42 children in attendance. A very kind volunteer in the village was Santa and we have the most fabulous picture of him with 7 babies at the request of the mothers. Many were so touched by our efforts and I've even got emotional at our efforts. Another one spoke to Debs at the Worsley Arms to say we were her life saver and a third sent a message to Catherine on Boxing Day to thank us all for our thoughtfulness in the gift from Santa. The group is achieving exactly what we set out to do 2 years ago.
- The baby area continues to grow and we are constantly rejigging the layout to accommodate our baby boom. Word of mouth really works for us and we get new members every week.
- At the other end of the age group we have grown our support from schools and now have teachers coming in to do crafts with the toddlers and preschoolers on a weekly rota from Slingsby, Terrington, Foston and Stillington Primary school. This gives variety to the children and starts them and the parents' building relationships with the teachers to help with the transition on their educational journey.
- We are now in the process of refreshing some toys that have got tired over the last 2 years. We had a wooden puzzle give away on Wednesday which project purple would have been proud of!
- Finances are healthy and no further help is required from the parish council at this time. (Catherine)

Newsletter

- This has been replaced by the Weekly Email Diary and WhatsApp Group. Unfortunately, this does not cover those who do not use/have the internet, something which will need attention 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)