

Hovingham Action Group Reports – 23rd September 2026

Defibrillator • Checked every two weeks, all ok, new sign received and to be installed. (Phil)

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

Litter Pick, Rail Painting and Sign Cleaning

- Mowbray finger post repaired and has been re-installed by NYC Highways
- Various rails will be painted once repairs completed and weather permits (Giles)

Neighbourhood Watch

- New signs, for both villages, are to be installed.

Newsletter

- The Market are sponsoring a bi-monthly newsletter to be electronically distributed with the village diary with paper copies to those not receiving the email diary. (Steve Martin and Murray Stewart)

Playground

- The summer has gone well at the playground with plenty of families enjoying the space and fine weather we have been having.
- The warmth did bring with it a couple of issues - one being a wasp nest which was a ground nest and needed to be dealt with. Stu Batty did a great job of dealing with this for us. The nettles have also been on steroids this year and especially around the fort and small slide have had to be cut down a few times. To try and keep the grass cutting costs down We decided to only have the park strimmed every 3rd cut so this could be part of the reason.
- There are a couple of small jobs which will need doing at some point in the near future- most will wait for a working bee which will be organised for spring but one which I am guessing will come up as needing immediate attention in the annual inspection is the gazebo. This gazebo was gifted to the playground I am presuming when it was re-sited to this field and bears a plaque commemorating Sir Marcus. The gazebo has been shored up annually but we have always presumed it was not sat on a firm foundation as the floor has been unstable for years.
- The floor is now beyond repair and the seating has not been replaced since it was torn out when vandalised last year, Stephen from Scackleton had looked and said it's just not repairable. I am not sure what our next step needs to be. Does this have to go through the PC/Estate ??? I am expecting it needs to be demolished and removed and a new one will have to be quoted for. In order for it to stand the test of time I wonder if a concrete base needs to be layed??? There are many questions which I do not have the answers for and would appreciate input from the PC regarding next steps. Obviously safety is a priority and so sooner rather than later would be preferable.
- The recent duck race was again a resounding success with £318.55 added to our funds. Huge thanks especially to Rob for his help in facilitating this and also Mark, Graham and Bob for clearing the stream prior. It was a perfect day.
- The finances continue to look healthy with just over £11,000 in the coffers!
- Our next fundraiser is the community cafe at the first December market.
- I have printed out flyers to be posted through letterboxes appealing for volunteers to help run the playground group and will keep hoping that some people come forward prior to the new year. (Debs)

Playgroup

- We have started the year with a very healthy bank balance and have bought quite a lot of new toys.
- We had our first session of the week this week and it was very well attended with quite a few people mums and grannies.
- As ever we couldn't do this without everyone in Hovingham who supports us and keeps us on track! (Em)

Project Purple

Repair Café and Community Hub 12th September

- Another successful morning at the Repair Cafe and Community Hub!
- We had 30 people through the door. 21 items were brought in, 16 were fixed, 2 where advice was given and 3 items that could not be fixed. We had lots of textile items one of which was a 40 year old favourite flannel shirt with a frayed cuff which was lovingly and successfully repaired.
- We also had residents from Malton and Settrington visit to seek some ideas for setting up their own Cafe's.
- We received kind donations of £115.21!
- A special thank you to all our supporters for their time, cake baking and expertise.
- Our next Repair Cafe and Community Hub will be on 13th March and 11th September 2027.

EV Charger Installation Update

- The charger is on order. The installation will take in the next couple of weeks.
- We plan to have it up and running by mid-October.

PP/ SS/ RC e mail addresses

- The e mail addresses have been shut down temporarily on my lap top for security reasons, due to continual unsolicited email.
- Will continue to work with Phil to find a more secure solution (Frank).

Village Market

- The market is running well and making a meaningful impact in the village. (Steve)

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 21st Sep 2026)