

AUTUMN/WINTER 2022

# EAST LEAKE PARISH COUNCIL NEWS



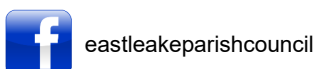
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ARMED FORCES COVENANT

## EAST LEAKE PAVILION

After over 10 years of dreaming, 2 years in the planning, and a lot of stress over funding, we are now so very close! Big thank you to all who donated and/or bought a brick!

The construction of the new purpose-built pavilion is complete as is the renovation and interior redesign of the 2-storey brick-built unit on the site.

Upgraded 3-phase electricity has been installed and all we await now is the installation of a full pressure water main to service the additional shower units we have installed. We are entirely in the hands of Severn Trent Water now but it is hoped that this final item will be completed by the end of October so that we can start to plan for an official opening mid-November.

Keep your eyes on social media for regular updates!

The Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Jonathon Bentley - a resident of East Leake - who, in his professional capacity, gave his time for free to project manage and saw the project through to its recent successful conclusion. The Parish Council would also like to thank Alex Cufflin who did a lot of running around and planning on behalf of East Leake Playing Fields Charity. The charity, managed by Dave Curtis, will be running this facility once it has opened.



## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

The Remembrance Service this year will be held on 13th November with an 'Open Air' service at 11am in front of the War Memorial, led by the Reverend Tim Parker, and attended by many of the uniform organisations.

Please note that Main Street will be closed to through traffic from 10.40am-11.40am between Manor Farm Meadow and Station Road.



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## CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON



Plans are coming together nicely for this year's Christmas Light Switch On on 26th November!

From 10am-4pm there will be a Christmas Craft Fair at the Village Hall with 24 stalls – all local and handmade products, along with coffee and treats by Double D's Coffee. We will be entertained by Charnwood Concert Band from 3.45pm in the village centre. Shops and businesses will be open late. There will be mulled wine, warm spiced cider, mince pies, hot food, hook a duck, and Christmas shopping opportunities at Captcha Photography, Google's, and Quorn Country Crafts. Main Street will be closed from 4.30-5.30pm.

Father Christmas will arrive at approximately 4.45pm, and make his way to the stage in front of East Leake Barber, when he will announce the winner of this year's East Leake Community Award! At 5pm he will start the count down to the big tree lights being switched on. Rushcliffe Phoenix Voices will sing carols to get us in the Christmas spirit. Father Christmas will then retire to his Grotto (near East Leake Hardware) for family photo opportunities.

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### EAST LEAKE HEDGEHOG HIGHWAYS - BY HOLLY DANCE

Autumn is a challenging time for us all, adjusting to the dark nights and cold, wet days. One creature who has adapted to deal with the cold is the hedgehog, one of only three mammals in the UK who has the ability to hibernate, the others being dormice and bats. However, the cold is only one challenge hedgehogs face... Hedgehogs in the UK are under great threat of extinction if we humans continue to blockade our gardens, shutting them either in or out.

Hedgehogs need access to visit a variety of gardens on their 'mile-a-night' walks and if we share our space with them and let them pass, this is one step in the direction to help reverse their fortunes. First and foremost, giving them 'room to roam,' find food, mates and habitat is the single biggest thing we can do. With fencing being one of the biggest threats to their successful survival, we can create channels or 'passing points' for them, which help.

You may have read the fantastic news about our nature friendly neighbours, Wild Things Keyworth and what they have achieved in their village. They worked with Dale Road over the summer to win the title of 'Britain's Biggest Hedgehog Street'. This has increased the number of gaps they have made overall in the village since 2021 to 150.

I want to announce that East Leake Hedgehog Highways is now up and running and offering a free volunteer hole drilling service to East Leake residents too. If you have heavy based fencing, flush to the ground (brick/wood/concrete/wire), please get in touch and we will come and link up your garden with nature again.

To chat through options you can ask for a garden visit by emailing [eastleakehedgehoghighways@outlook.com](mailto:eastleakehedgehoghighways@outlook.com), message on Instagram/Facebook: East Leake Hedgehog Highways or join the FB group East Leake hedgehogs. On these pages you can also see what the rest of the village is already doing to help out our wonderful spiky friends! Let's do this!



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### DOG CONTROL PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER (PSPO)

The Dog Control Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) was introduced in July to tackle irresponsible dog control in Rushcliffe.

Under the new powers dog owners must carry a bag or have other means to pick up dog waste after their pet when taking them for a walk or face a possible £100 fine if unable to produce one on request.

It also allows further action to be taken on those who do not observe dog exclusion zones which will now apply to all children's play areas, multi-use games areas, skate parks and gym equipment zones which are either fenced or enclosed in East Leake and the Borough.



Notices will be going up imminently on our play areas on Gotham Road and Costock Road, plus there will be notices on the new pavilion banning dogs altogether on the sports field.

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## MILLSIDE SPENCER ACADEMY



Millside Spencer Academy opened to children between the ages of 4 and 11 on the 5th September 2022. For our first year, we are based in a temporary learning village at the end of Sheepwash Way with 4 classrooms, an administration block and school hall with catering kitchen attached. During this year our permanent school is being constructed through the trees on the new Skylarks development. Upon completion, our current site will be our school field and additional playground space whilst maintaining the pedestrian access for children from Sheepwash Way.

Millside is a school for everyone and our catchment area spans the entirety of East Leake. We have welcomed children from across the village and they have quickly settled in, developing new friendships and enjoying the excitement coming to a brand new school brings! When asked to describe Millside in one word they used; joyful, happy, marvellous and excellent. Leon, a child in Year 5 said, "Millside is amazing. I love that there is wildlife everywhere". Edward, also in Year 5 said, "Everyone's really nice and all the teachers really care about you." All of this is paramount to our SHINE values which promote for our children to be successful, happy, independent, nurturing and enthusiastic, both during their time at Millside and beyond.

We are very fortunate to have our own woodland area between us and our permanent school which we are developing for our Forest School provision. Forest School is a highlight of every child's week from Foundation to Year 6, with Firelighting Fran from Boots and Brambles. We believe these sessions enrich the children's education through developing key skills such as resilience, team work, decision making, problem solving and perseverance alongside them enjoying the wonders of the outdoor environment. During our latest session, the children were very excited to see the steel frame begin to be pieced together for their permanent school!

Mrs Sophia Thorne - Principal

## YOUNG RESIDENT CONCERNS

"My name is Theo, I am 10 years old, and I live in East Leake. I'm writing this to tell you about the increasing amount of litter and dog poo around the village.

First, I would like to speak about the increasing amount of litter East Leake is owning. Over the last couple of years, litter has become a big problem East Leake is facing. Earlier this year I wrote to the Parish Council about my worries and joined them in one of their meetings. They agreed to help me make East Leake cleaner and I hope you can help too. Also, in East Leake - especially in Meadow Park - the amount of dog poo is disappointing. Now in Meadow Park it feels like every 50 yards is another unscooped poo. So please, if you have a dog, scoop their poo. Thank you for reading this and, if you have any ideas on how to make East Leake cleaner, just contact East Leake Parish Council".



Theo, age 10 (pictured with Cllr Lynn Forsyth)

## HEDGES AND HEDGEROWS - BY CLLR LESLEY WAY

In September we took a motion to Rushcliffe Borough Council to introduce measures to protect, preserve and increase hedges and hedgerows in the Borough. There has been a huge decline in these over the last few decades as green areas and farmland are used for housing and householders move to more easily maintained gardens. Hedges are a vital habitat for a huge variety of wildlife including insects, birds and small mammals. They enhance the visual aspect of the village and the countryside and are a valuable contributor to carbon reduction. They provide privacy, noise reduction and help to reduce the effects of bad weather and strong winds. We are hoping that residents will engage with these positive moves and we can point people to sources of help and advice to achieve these aims.

We are pleased to say that this was passed unanimously.

This follows our success with previous motions to encourage and promote the protection of hedgehogs and reducing the use of pesticides. We will continue to encourage positive changes to improve our environment and our climate.

# CLIMATE ACTION EAST LEAKE

The East Leake Parish Council Climate Action Working Party (known as Climate Action East Leake) has met several times over the spring and summer this year.

The group have discussed all manner of topics related to Climate Change, its affects and how we, as a community, can respond to changes and work to reduce our contribution to it.

From the green environment; wildlife and biodiversity; single use plastics; domestic energy and travel and transport, the group have heard from a variety of local individuals, groups and businesses.

Over the coming months, the group will start to draw the strands together in order to put forward a Climate Change Action Plan to East Leake Parish Council for their consideration.



We would now like to widen involvement and invite ALL our local schools (primary and secondary), youth groups and young people (individually) to join us and inform us from your perspectives. Contact the group via the Parish Clerk - [parishclerk@east-leake.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@east-leake.gov.uk).

Cllr Jason Billin  
Convenor – Climate Action East Leake

*Some recyclable & compostable alternatives to single use plastics for takeaways.*

## TREE WARDEN UPDATE

The Trees in East Leake are beautiful this time of year, the leaves changing colour and trees producing seeds to grow more trees. We're nearing the end of Seed Collection time, So get gathering!

Going out to gather seeds, fruits and nuts ahead of the winter tree planting season is a great way to help us all grow a greener, tree-filled future.

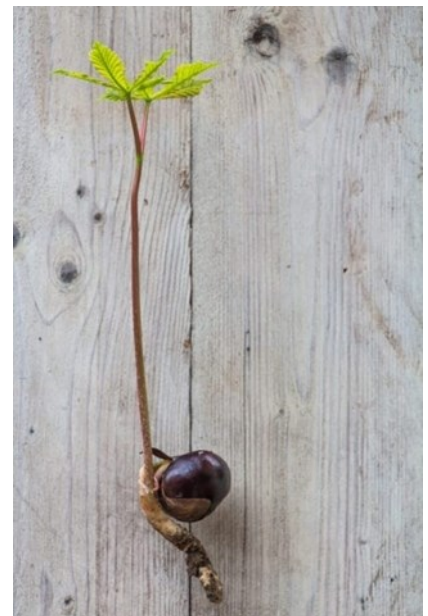
Trees and hedgerows do so much for us. They store carbon, reduce pollution, improve our health and more. By gathering seeds (and growing them into trees!), you can help make sure that our treescapes continue to thrive in the future.


Seed gathering is fun, free and easy. Wherever you live, whatever your age, you can get involved. You don't need to be a tree expert or have any special equipment – just a love of trees and nature and lots of enthusiasm! If you gather conkers or acorns, place your conkers/acorns in a container of water, discard the ones that float as these have dried out. Using only the conkers that sink, plant them about 2cm deep individually in pots of soil/compost, between now and the end of November. Water well and place in a sheltered spot outside.

We're always happy to receive donations of trees grown from seed. I'll be planting the ones that have been grown by Brookside children and residents that are now ready to plant.


If you'd like to get in touch with any tree related questions, please feel free to contact me Wendy Thompson by emailing [eastleaketrees@gmail.com](mailto:eastleaketrees@gmail.com)

Cllr Wendy Thompson - East Leake Tree Warden



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