



POTTO PARISH COUNCIL

Newsletter

June 2005

All Change at the Parish Council

The Annual General Meeting of the Potto Parish Council was held on the 16th Of May and the first item of business was the election of a new Chairperson following the resignation of the previous Chairman Ian Grieves. District Councillor Bridget Fortune presided over the election process and Councillor Amy Mazingham was duly elected to the post of Chairperson of Potto Parish Council. Andrew Wilde was subsequently elected to the post of Vice Chairman and the Parish Council Secretary Ann Pyle was duly re-elected as Treasurer.

With his breadth of experience Ian will be missed as Chairman, and the Parish Council was unanimous in wishing him the very best for the future. Ian has penned his final Chairman's Chat which appears on page two. Ian's resignation leaves a vacant position on the Parish Council and the vacancy has been advertised on the notice board, so if you feel that you want to help make a difference in the running of the Parish Council please get your applications in now.

Another new face was welcomed to the Parish Council meeting, our newly elected County Councillor for North Hambleton, Tim Swales, welcome Tim and good luck.

Did You Know !!



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Potto — also known as Pothau or Pothowe originates from the old English for “howe or burial mound where pots were found”.

The first recorded mention of the village of Potto was in 1392 as Pothau.

Potto is mentioned in all of the census through the years

with 1891 being a particularly bad year with nine Paupers being listed in Potto. In more recent times , (1939) Potto was listed as having twenty one houses and a Windmill, with the old chapel still in used for church services; the “new” church not having been completed. Changing times in Potto !!!

Chairman's Chat



Well this is my last contribution to Chairman's Chat – last month, I stood down at the annual meeting for electors, after 8 years on the council.

So I thought I'd start by capturing some of my unfinished business.

My first agenda was road safety in the village. Residents, particularly those with young children, were concerned about the speed of traffic entering the village. I share that concern. It seems ridiculous that traffic is legally permitted to drive through a country village at 60 mph. We eventually secured some advisory 20mph signs approaching the corner, but the official speed limit remains unchanged. A recently published report has highlighted that children in rural communities are more at risk of road traffic injuries than those in urban areas. I hope this will help overcome the unhelpful guidelines our County Highways Officers have felt constrained by in the past.

Our verges have been taking some considerable damage. For this reason we have been asking

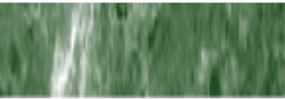
for additional kerbing in the village. Although the County Council have so far rejected our requests, they have been swift to take enforcement action over one of our resident's creative alternatives of placing stones on the verge. I'd prefer our rates to be used on more positive actions.

So let me turn to the positive –

I was delighted that so many parishioners turned out to help our survey of the footpaths and bridleways in the parish. These rights of way are an inheritance we must preserve. I'm grateful to John Hallett who has undertaken to prepare a report for the Footpaths Officer in the near future. The Parish Council are also actively involved in monitoring progress on the restoration of the foot-bridge across Potto Slack – an important and historic track between the parishes of Potto, Sexhow and Hutton Rudby.

I was delighted to see the innovation last year of a splendid Village Christmas Tree. I hope such community enhancements and communications such as this news sheet will continue.

May I wish the Parish and their Council well for the future. Thank you for letting me be your representative over the years.



Mobile Library

09.30—09.50

JUNE 7TH

JUNE 28TH

JULY 19TH

The library van stops outside Chimes Cottage



On The Beat

The crime statistics for the area including Hutton Rudby, Rudby and Potto for the first part of 2004/5 remain similar to those for 2004. However the overall trend for the year shows a decrease in the number of crimes committed and an increase in arrests.

Your local police officers for the Hutton Rudby beat include PCs Jim Hunter, Carol Gordon & Helen Kay. They can be contacted on 01609-783131 ext 4521 or 4522.



	2003	2004
Violent	0	1
Burglary	3	0
Auto Crime	3	1
Total Crimes	6	3
Total Incidents	21	21

New Notice Board

If you have overlooked making your donation, it is not too late . The Parish Council will be pleased to hear from you.

Hambleton Black Poplar Scheme

The black poplar (*Populus nigra*) is one of the UK.s most Endangered and rarest timber tree. It is a large and distinctive tree whose full scientific name is *Populus nigra var. betulifolia*. Black poplars were probably never very numerous. They do not form woodlands, but grow as individuals or in small groups in open situations. As part of the Hambleton Bio Diversity policy Black Poplars have been given a position of priority. A number of saplings have been cultivated in an attempt to reintroduce them back into the countryside. Potto has been allocated one of the saplings. We are proud to be part of this environmental scheme.



Village Hall, Chairman's Report

Regular bookings, including Lady Painters, Bowls Club and Ballroom Dancing have continued this year. Private bookings have continued and do not seem to have been put off by the rise in hire charges or the introduction of the returnable deposit. The Village Barbeque enjoyed it's second year of re-birth, this time with suitably fine weather and no mishaps ! This year we had the added bonus of being entertained by "Pete and Ron" - a musical duo booked by Phil Harper. Everybody seemed to enjoy themselves and the food and drink went down well.

We have also had a busy year of theatrical and other productions which have a variety of entertainment for the

Future events include;

03.07.05—Village BBQ

16.12.05 - Festive Frolics

22.03.06 - Great Expectations

Property and Maintenance

A few improvements have been carried out this year, including the purchase of a shed to store cleaning materials and other bulky items out of the meeting room. The boiler control has been replaced with a digital timer which is a great improvement and a number of minor electrical works have been completed.

The hall suffered some storm damage during the year and

also a flood both of which were repaired with out recourse to the insurance. An ordnance survey map of the Parish has been purchased and displayed in the hall. Ongoing issues include;

Disabled access - further research required on our obligations and possible grants

Licenses - new licensing laws introduced for public entertainment etc to be complied with this coming year.

Weed spraying - this has become a problem due to legislation and a better, regular solution is required to keep the car park from looking neglected

Thanks

It is with regret that we must say goodbye to Ian Grieve who is standing down from the committee and his position as treasurer after many years. We welcome Pam Fanthorpe who joined the committee during the year .

We also welcome Arthur Smart who take over as treasurer. I would like to add my personal thanks to all the members of the Committee and booking clerk, Amy Mazingham, for their hard work and continued efforts throughout the year.

Steve Agar

Chairman PVHC

The Dog & Gun

Is now under new management, Esmond and Jeanne Watson are the new hosts. We wish you all the best of luck in your new venture.



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Village Hall, Treasurers Report

The accounts are in good health with a closing bank balance of £4193.03 an increase of £525 over the previous year. The total receipts were £5656.38 with total expenses of £5131.78.

The revenues from Hall Hire (£2323) is an increase of £659 over the previous year. This was largely due (£420) to the temporary relocation of the Mothers & Toddlers group from Hutton Rudby during refurbishment of their village hall. The regular costs of insurance, electricity, oil, water, cleaning and repairs have however soared from £1470 to £2591. Virtually all the costs have increased: Water, electricity and insurance have added £113, but the main increases have been in cleaning £167, Maintenance £412, and oil £315.

Despite this the revenues and regular running costs are reasonably in balance. There were exceptional maintenance costs as a result of the January storm and work on the car park. The main concern is the large increase in oil costs largely due to increased consumption. A more conservative approach to frost protection via timer programming is recommended

There were drawn out discussions with the electricity company 'Npower' yet again but these have been resolved. It is important that charges are based on readings rather than estimates. The meter

is outside so should not present a problem. Any quarterly bill significantly more than £50 should be questioned. My confidence in Npower is not yet sufficient to cause me to reinstate the direct debit system.

Profits from events showed an excellent increase from £275 to £936. The decision to increase ticket prices and run bars when possible has proved successful.

The Village Barbeque continues to be enjoyable and successful, attracting many residents and making a profit of over £300.

The Hall has once more benefited from the 100 Club profits of £260 and we are most grateful to Amy Mazingham for this support.

As this is my last year as treasurer, may I wish the committee every success in the future. I am delighted to hand over the healthy balance of £4193.03.

Ian Grieve
Hon Treasurer

Remember to lock up your sheds and outbuildings.

Do not encourage the opportunist thief

**SUPPORT YOUR
VILLAGE HALL**



**Village BBQ
July 3rd**

Borders

This was an independent booking by the Northern Lights Theatre Co. A captivating play with a twist in the tail, which kept the audience guessing right to the end, another triumph for the NLT Co.

100 Club

April Draw: -

1st Prize Mrs D Appleby
2nd Prize Mr & Mrs A Wilde

May Draw: -

1st Prize Mr P Black
2nd Prize Mr & Mrs M Waller

June Draw -

1st Prize Mrs Cousans
2nd Prize Mr & Mrs I Shinwell

Forthcoming Events

Sunday July 3rd

Village Bar-B-Que

Friday December 16th

Festive Frolics - family comedy
from The Grand Theatre of Lemmings

Village Hall AGM

The annual general meeting of the Potto village hall committee was held on the Monday 9th of May. The Chairman's report and the Treasurers reports are on pages 4 and 5. The previous treasurer Ian Grieves stood down and his position has been filled by Arthur Smart, welcome to the committee Arthur.

BBQ

The ever popular village Bar-B-Que will be held on Sunday the 3rd of July. There will be live music, games and a raffle. There will be a selection of Steak, Chicken and Vegetarian food. Tickets are £6.00 and £3.00 for kids.

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Hall Hire Rates

Functions, Parties, Events, make use of your village hall.

Potto Residents per hour	£ 5
Regular Bookings per hour	£ 7
Non Residents per hour	£12

Please contact Andy Wilde at Gibson House (Tel 700077) or E-mail awilde@tiscali.co.uk if you would like to contribute to the newsletter.