

THE HEXPRESS

May 2017



YOUR FREE HEXTHORPE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

thehexpress.co.uk

News Extra

This is a Hexpress News Extra. The next Hexpress will be a special one – it will be the one hundredth edition.

We are hoping to have a bumper edition. This will be published towards the end of June. It is timed to be available for the next **Hexfest**.

THE HEXFEST

The festival is to be held on **Saturday, 8 July 2017**. There will be a full day of music at various venues in the community. This follows the successful first **Hexfest** held last year.

Book the day and look out for details of all the events.

UPDATE:

DANGER ON THE STREETS

“The Council is working hard to try and find alternative parking in Hexthorpe and the surrounding area.”



Read the article on page 2

SOME HARDY SOULS

This group of hardy souls were braving the cold weather on one winter's day at the Dell cafe.



They were celebrating the 80th birthday of one of their number. The group first met at the Maltings Sports Club and after their sessions in the gym, they then recovered at the Dell Cafe!

The Sports Club is now closed. The gym has moved, but the group still visits the cafe.

CAR PARKING IS STILL A HUGE PROBLEM CAN NOTHING BE DONE?

“Today is Monday and it has been a terrible start to the day. I have had customers who have driven off due to the lack of parking.”

These are the words of Attif Nazir, the Hexthorpe Post Master.

“The situation is getting worse by the week; grass land is now being used by the workers which has left the land churned up, resembling a farmer’s field. My business sales have fallen on a daily basis by £150 - £200. Other businesses have also had a decline in their sales. I seem that I am a voice that has fallen on deaf ears.”

Attif is concerned for the Hexthorpe community; selfish people from outside, who have no thought for their actions, are causing deep concern for many local people. It is not safe to cross the road. People are unable to park outside their own property.

In our last edition of the Hexpress we highlighted this problem. There seem to be more cars than ever parked at every angle by the pavement edges and across street corners. The photographs shows cars parked on the grass opposite the Junction and in front of the shops. Most of the cars belong to the workers in the rail-way companies – mainly Wabtec and some from Unipart – based in Hexthorpe.

Attif has contacted M.P. Rosie Winterton and also our councillor Glyn Jones.

Glyn says “The parked traffic at the lower



end of Hexthorpe is horrendous. I have been to visit Wabtec management to try and resolve issues over their employees parking on the

surrounding streets. However, Wabtec have told me that their car park is at maximum capacity.

Wabtec have issued instructions to their employees not to park illegally or in a manner that causes distress or concern to residents or local businesses. They have worked with SYPTE on public transport travel; introduced a car share scheme; tried unsuccessfully to negotiate a reduced parking rate with nearby car parking providers. Additionally, I am seeking a meeting with Unipart rail. The Council is working hard to try and find alternative parking in Hexthorpe and the surrounding area.”

Concerning parking on the grass, Glyn adds, “I am told that if it isn’t bounded by yellow lines (single or double) then they can access the area.”

Here is what is what was like on Easter Tuesday when the works were closed.



This is what it once was like and what it should be now. It shows clearly who is responsible for the present situation.

Hexpress Comment

What can be done? The selfish drivers should have a guilty conscience and change their ways. There seems to be little chance of that. Perhaps the solution would be to put time restricted parking outside the shops? Residents could be given parking permits – the cost being borne by the railway companies! They say that they are concerned for the community. Here is a chance for them to show it.

ACTION IS NEEDED URGENTLY

GOOD NEWS

Dear Hexpress

Last summer I wrote to the Mayor, Ross Jones, stating that Hexthorpe has been forgotten. Though people were encouraged to be active, there was no place to walk for exercise or for walking dogs - everything was overgrown. Her response was to arrange for me to meet the wardens and take them to see the areas I was on about. They agreed there was a problem.

The area causing concern was the access from Old Hexthorpe and Bramworth Road to the Crimpsall Ings, the river bank and the old Eden Grove field. The environment officer, Kelly Hope, got her team to do a lot of cutting back of the growth on the paths. The path by the Ings to the river was cleared and also the bank on the river.

The old wood was thoroughly cleared and steps down were made. This has really made a big difference in getting through to the Eden Grove field from Old Hexthorpe. Another path has been cleared to join up at the wood.

The difference all this has made has to be seen to be believed. More and more people are using it; even a man exercising on a bike was able to get through. Wet or dry it is a most pleasant walk.

If we can get that land done, why don't we all write and do something about the walk between the boat-house through to Sprotbrough. Does anyone know where the Horse Shoe Tunnel has gone? The weeds are 5 feet high!

So, let us make that walk our priority this year.

Kath Wake

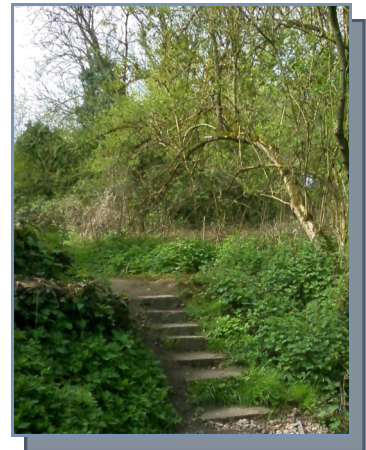
Hexpress comment

What a great letter to be received. Through her own initiative, Kath has produced a great improvement to the Crimpsall. She has given us all a new facility. We should be grateful to Kath for this.

We have recently walked down the riverbank from the boathouse and discovered that the paths at the moment are now wide and clear for all to walk on. There was a well-defined footpath up the hill into the Horse Shoe Tunnel. Moreover, there was not a sign of any rubbish or litter having been dumped. A few months ago, the tunnel and the path beyond were full of rubbish. It was lovely bright sunny morning, with not a cloud in the sky. The river looked great and there was a variety of birds singing. It was cold, but ideal for walking. We went through the tunnel, turned left and then walked across the field and over the railway bridge into the Flatts. We met not a soul all the way round. We would recommend the walk to anyone – it took about 45 minutes.

We did notice that the old path that closely followed the river bank was not now used; it was blocked by fallen trees and undergrowth. Kath tells us that the rowers from the Rowing Club have to keep well clear of that bank. Also, she says, the footpath we used is badly sloping towards the river. She believes that if remedial work is not done soon, then there will be no path in a few years time; and also that the path will soon be smothered with very high vegetation that will need controlling.

The best way we can thank Kath is to use the paths on the Crimpsall and support her campaign to restore the riverside walk on the Flatts.



THE HEXTHORPE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE CLOSES

It was announced on their website at the end of last year that the Hexthorpe Social Enterprise was to be wound up and cease to exist.



Stuart Boardman said that the events and activities the group run will cease too, with the exception of the Fireworks Spectacular Event. That is to be held this year, as there is sufficient funds to support that. Also it is intended to keep running the camping project in partnership with Doncaster MBC. It is hoped to develop that further under the new name of **Families Outdoors**.

Stuart is willing to give advice to any group who could take on the events, such as the Fireworks or the Party in the Park. He said, "If no group takes on the events then they

"If no group takes on the events then they will cease to exist."

will cease to exist. I personally think that would be a real loss to the community; but if we can't get real community support then we are flogging a dead horse. If any group would like to take on the Party in the Park or the Fireworks event, we have some equipment and we can help by providing the paperwork we have for each event and advice if needed."

Stuart was quick to show his appreciation to those who have supported him, "I would like to sincerely thank all the volunteers who have helped me with the events and activities, the council for their support and everyone who showed their support by attending the events and activities over the last 3 years. This hasn't been an easy decision and I've come close to it before, but backed down from making the jump. Hopefully there will be some new blood willing to take on the events and activities."

Hexpress Comment

The Hexthorpe Social Enterprise, under Stuart's leadership, will be remembered most of all for the very successful events that it arranged in the park. Stuart needs to be thanked for all the time, thought and effort that he expended in this enterprise. The community owe a great debt to him. One of the positives was that we saw the park being used much more by the community – the party, the fireworks and the crazy golf. We hope that this legacy will be preserved. If it is to be, then we will need to see more of us playing an active part in community affairs.



Local Election Result:

Hexthorpe and Balby North Ward

Glyn Jones (Labour)	1141	Elected
Sue Wilkinson (Labour)	873	Elected
John Cotterill (UKIP)	532	
Ann Nadin (Conservative)	433	
Turnout	24.91%	