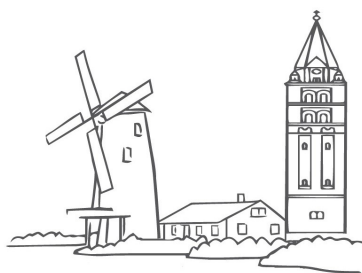


## WIN £50 CASH WITH FOSS

Can you help Santa find the missing present?  
Entry form on page 5

December 2020/January 2021

To advertise or contribute news: [spaldwicknews@gmail.com](mailto:spaldwicknews@gmail.com)



# SPALDWICK NEWS

### Dates for your diary:

**:: St James Church: Christmas Eve Celebrations -**  
See page 3 for more details.

**:: Spaldwick Christmas Auction deadline -**  
12th December: [SpaldwickChurchAuction.weebly.com](http://SpaldwickChurchAuction.weebly.com)

### "We will remember them" - Wreath laying for Remembrance Sunday



Poppies cascading from a tree towards the village green War Memorial formed part of this year's Remembrance Sunday tributes in Spaldwick.

Despite restrictions placed on public gatherings, it was possible to lay wreaths at the monument. Residents were also invited to pay their respects with a two-minute silence on their doorsteps as a nod to the fallen - and a mark of respect to current and past servicemen and women.

St James Church bells were rung for the occasion and a pre-recorded service made available by the Vicar.

Thank you to Elaine Woolward and Kim Hall for their inspiring poppy display, which so many people have kindly contributed to. It has proved a real focal point for people's daily walks, with many photos being taken.



At Spaldwick Community Primary School, the Eagles class decorated the front fence with Poppies (pictured above), ahead of a special Remembrance Day assembly. In addition, the children bought and wore poppies in aid of the Royal British Legion.

We have a number of serving Armed Forces personnel and veterans in our village - from both the UK and overseas - and it's important to ensure they know that their efforts are appreciated.

A selection of photos from Remembrance Sunday, taken by Mark Heath, can be viewed at [spaldwick.com](http://spaldwick.com)

## CHRISTMAS IS NOT CANCELLED!

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO SAY THAT SANTA  
WILL VISIT SPALDWICK ON THE 20TH DEC!

THIS YEAR HE WILL BRING FREE GIFTS  
(CHOC SELECTION BOXES) TO ALL  
CHILDREN - THANKS TO THE SOCIAL  
GROUPS KIND GENEROSITY. DUE TO COVID  
RESTRICTIONS WE CANNOT HAVE THE  
USUAL REFRESHMENT STOPS, BUT THERE  
WILL STILL BE THE SLEIGH, LIGHTS, MUSIC,  
ELVES AND XMAS CHEER!

WE WILL ALSO NOT BE DOING OUR USUAL  
SINGSONG IN THE PUB SO ALL YOU  
SEASONED '12 DAYS' FANS WILL HAVE TO  
SAVE YOURSELVES!

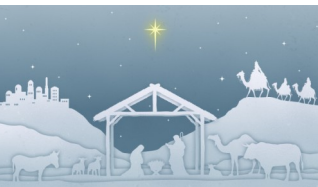
IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR CHILD TO  
RECEIVE A GIFT - PLEASE LET US KNOW  
NAME & ADDRESS ASAP  
[lisa@creativeteamevents.com](mailto:lisa@creativeteamevents.com)

SEE SPALDWICK FACEBOOK PAGE FOR  
UPDATES.

MERRY CHRISTMAS SPALDWICK!



The Show Must Go On: Spaldwick Primary School



Despite many schools cancelling their Christmas Nativity because of the pandemic, Spaldwick Community Primary is pushing ahead with theirs - albeit virtually.

This year's play will be recorded for parents and carers to watch with their children at home. Scenes will be put together in bubbles, minimising the need for large numbers of youngsters to gather in the school hall.

Headteacher Louise Worrell told Spaldwick News: "As a result of all the restrictions in place, this year our Christmas celebrations will look a little bit different.

Previously, all of the children in Key Stage 1 and Reception would have spent lots of time together, learning songs and rehearsing a nativity production - ready to perform to their parents and the rest of the school.

We know our children are missing out on lots of the things that they would normally be doing, so we felt it was really important that we found a way to enable them to still enjoy being part of a production.

Speaking and listening is a big part of the primary curriculum and having the opportunity to perform with their friends really helps to improve confidence. But, most importantly, the children enjoy working together and seeing the joy that a production brings to everyone.



Shop online and help FOSS raise funds for Spaldwick Community Primary School.

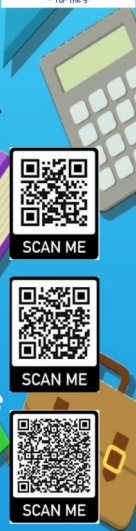
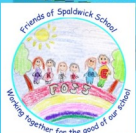
This year has hit charities hard and FOSS (Friends Of Spaldwick School) needs your help.

With planned events for most of 2020 cancelled, YOU can help us to raise funds for much needed school resources. You don't need to donate, just shop online and we will benefit.

- [www.smile.amazon.co.uk](http://www.smile.amazon.co.uk)  
Select "Friends Of Spaldwick School" as your chosen charity.
- [www.boilerjuice.com/community-fundraising](http://www.boilerjuice.com/community-fundraising)  
Select "Friends Of Spaldwick School" as your chosen charity.
- [www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fosscambridgeshire](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fosscambridgeshire)  
Shop with popular online shops and help us get cash back.



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This year we're producing a virtual nativity - we have made sure we've followed all the relevant guidelines to keep our children and staff as safe as possible. We have shared out songs between the years, so that they can sing in smaller groups - and we are filming our production in scenes, so that they can be released to parents one scene at a time. It feels like we are producing our very own soap opera!"

Mrs Worrell continued: "These small changes will ensure that our bubbles do not mix - and they remain as safe as is possible at all times, which is always our priority. Our children are so excited that they are still able to be part of a nativity and we are really pleased that we can make things as normal as possible for them".

BBC Children in Need

BBC Children in Need's 2020 Appeal raised more than £37-million - with £142.42 coming from a non-uniform day and activities at Spaldwick Primary School!

Youngsters also joined in with PE teacher and fitness king Joe Wicks MBE, as he led an epic 24-hour exercise challenge.

The money raised will go to 3,900 local charities and projects which support children and young people across the UK. Children in Need addresses poverty, disability, illness, distress or trauma. They also work with a range of organisations to tackle some of the most pressing issues facing youngsters today, including: mental health and wellbeing, violence impacting young people, child sexual exploitation, holiday hunger; access to employment, and social injustice.



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# Spaldwick Christmas Auction

St James Church is organising a Silent Auction, which will take place on **Saturday 12th December**.

There is still time to get a quick bid in!

**Full details and online bids can be found at [www.SpaldwickChurchAuction.weebly.com](http://www.SpaldwickChurchAuction.weebly.com)**

You can find paper forms in the church porch, or use the one in last month's newsletter.

There are many exciting Lots to choose from including:

- A meal for two with wine at The George
- Hand decorated, traditional homemade Christmas cake
- "Love to Move" Zoom class - age and dementia friendly seated gymnastics programme
- A bespoke handstitched leather belt
- "Who do you think you are?" Help to start your family tree research - Lot includes a lovely record book
- A day's rock climbing in the Peak District for two
- Hand-beaded jewellery, contemporary and classic styles
- Celebration bells! Have the church bells rung especially for your birthday, anniversary or other special occasion
- occasion, and much more

## How to bid:

You can view and bid online at [SpaldwickChurchAuction.weebly.com](http://SpaldwickChurchAuction.weebly.com)

See the noticeboards for the latest Lots and put your bid in a sealed envelope - post it through 2 High Street  
Message our Facebook page, or email or phone us with your bid  
Good luck one and all. And remember you need to be in it to win it.

## Christmas Eve Celebrations & Window Crib Displays

In line with Government guidelines the church is shut for the current time. But, we are busy making plans for **Christmas Eve**.

- **From 3.30-4.30pm, we plan to host a family friendly church walk:** We would like to encourage you to donate a non-perishable food item to our collection for Godmanchester Food Bank, then enjoy the carols and fairy lights, light a candle for a moment of reflection and discover the crib displays by following the children's "find the reindeer" trail. Children can collect their small take-home gifts, before the adults are invited to enjoy mulled wine (or squash) and mince pies, kindly served on the green by the George, for a cash donation.

If restrictions are still in place, this will take place mainly in the churchyard, gazebos and porch area (minus the mulled wine), which you could plan to visit as part of your daily exercise.

We hope that either way this will be a lovely way to bring the community together, in place of the Carol party and Crib service we would normally hold at this festive time of year. You don't need to buy a ticket - just turn up, respect social distancing and bring some cash for refreshments.

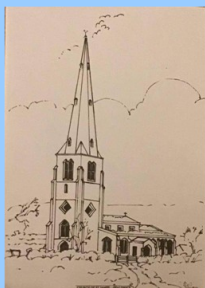
- **At 5pm** we hope to follow this with a socially distanced crib service under the stars (in other words, outside!).
- **11.30pm-midnight** – we plan to have the church open for private prayer, candle lighting and reflection to a background of carols.
- **Advent window crib scenes** - we'd like to encourage residents to display a crib scene in their windows, so that children can spot them on their walks around the village throughout December.



## A Christmas gift (bag):

Why not treat friends and family to an eco-friendly, cotton, local community crafted shopping bag? It features local artist Sid Wheelers' drawing of the church.

A bargain at £3.50 each, with all proceeds to St James Church - due to the kind sponsorship by someone in our village. Available from Amba Harbour, Julia Rutherford, Liz McCue, Sue Appleyard, Denise Brown, Elaine Woodward and Kim Hall.





I have noticed an increase in unwanted telephone calls recently.

Scammers will call you on the telephone to obtain your personal details - or to persuade you to send them money for some sort of transaction. Research by Citizens Advice suggests that scams experienced by people aged 65 and over are more likely to occur through phone calls, while younger people are more likely to experience online or email fraud.



Some common telephone scams include - Posing as officials from your bank:

Scammers call you to say that your bank account has been fraudulently accessed and therefore a new 'safe' account is opened for you to transfer your money to.

Lloyds Bank has an advert on radio stations at the moment – stating that they would never phone their customers and ask them to transfer money.

- **Call 101** - For all non-emergencies, general enquiries and to report crime.
- In an emergency, when a life is in danger or there is a risk of violence or serious injury or when a serious crime is being committed please call 999.
- Or use Crimestoppers to make a report anonymously by calling 0800 555 111
- By e-mail at [HuntsCops@cambs.pnn.police.uk](mailto:HuntsCops@cambs.pnn.police.uk)

**Ringling for kids on Christmas Eve**

It's been a tough and unsettling year for Spaldwick's younger residents - with routines changed, exams cancelled and many more rules for them to cope with.

Village resident Lyndy Pullan thought it would be nice to recognise what they've been through on Christmas Eve, by ringing bells outside our homes (below):

One wish this  
*Christmas*

We clapped for our keyworkers, so brave and so bold  
But this virus isn't over, so we have been told  
To stay in our homes, all safe in one bubble  
But let's still celebrate without any trouble.

On Christmas Eve at 6 pm  
We'll gather our children and do this for them  
Grab a bell, step outside and ring them with pride  
So the magic of Christmas is right by your side.

Lets do this with family,  
With neighbours young or old  
We are building this magic for the story to be told  
In history books for years to come, how community  
Meant everything and we were as one!

#christasmagic2020

Thank you Applegreen!



Cambridge University PHD student Saleyha writes: "Thank you Applegreen services in Spaldwick, and the AA (for) helping me out of a tricky spot when I locked my key inside my car. Ivan - you were a legend - the coffee and cookie helped calm me down enormously."

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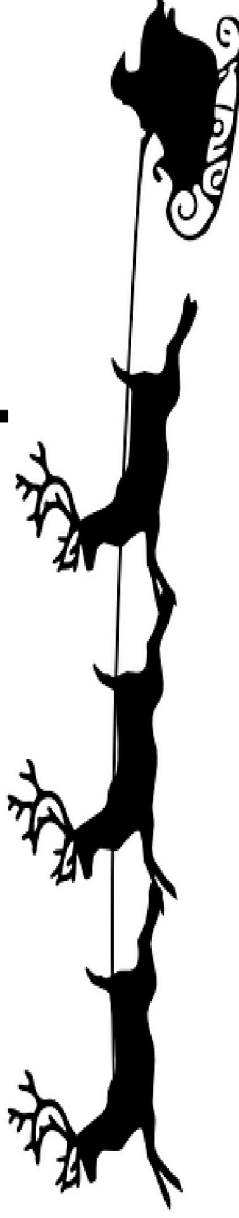
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# WIN a £50 cash prize!



Oh no! The Christmas present for Mrs Worrell has fallen off Santa's sleigh. Can you help Santa to find it....it's somewhere in this photo!

Enter the grid reference of where you think the present has landed (ie A1)

1 guess, £1

\_\_\_\_\_

3 guesses, £2.50

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

7 guesses, £5

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

**OVER 16'S ONLY.** Post game card / note of your chosen grid references with CASH entry fee(s) in a sealed envelope marked "FOSS-Christmas Game Card entry" through the school letterbox by 3pm, Fri 11th Dec.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

I am over 16 (please tick) ☐

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

\* All entries to be received by the deadline \* Late entries will not be counted \* Winner is the entry with the exact grid reference or nearest \* In the event of a tie, all correct entries will be placed in a draw with one entry selected at random - The Head Teacher's decision will be final \*

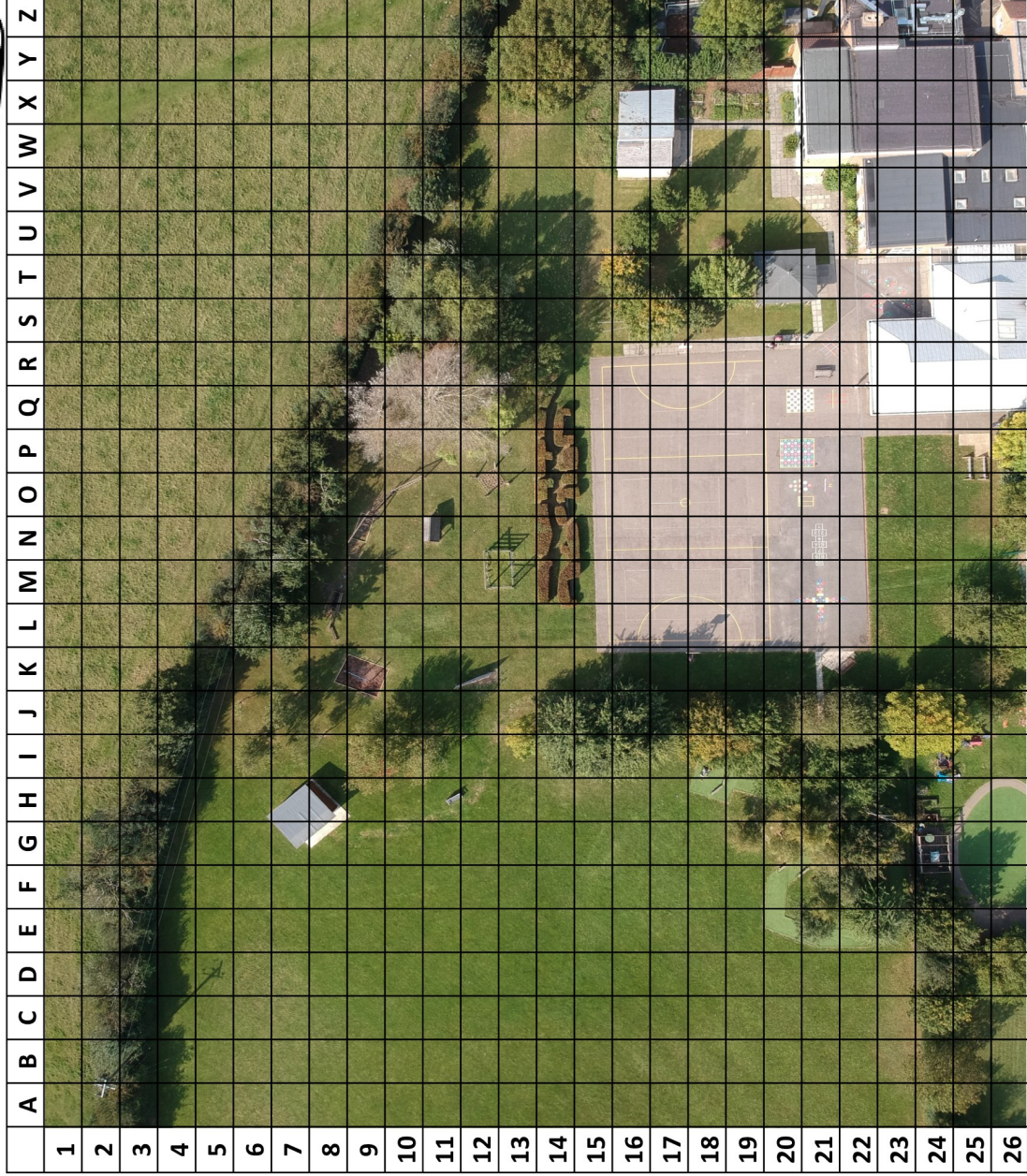
Winner will be notified by Wednesday 16th December.

Full T&C's available by emailing

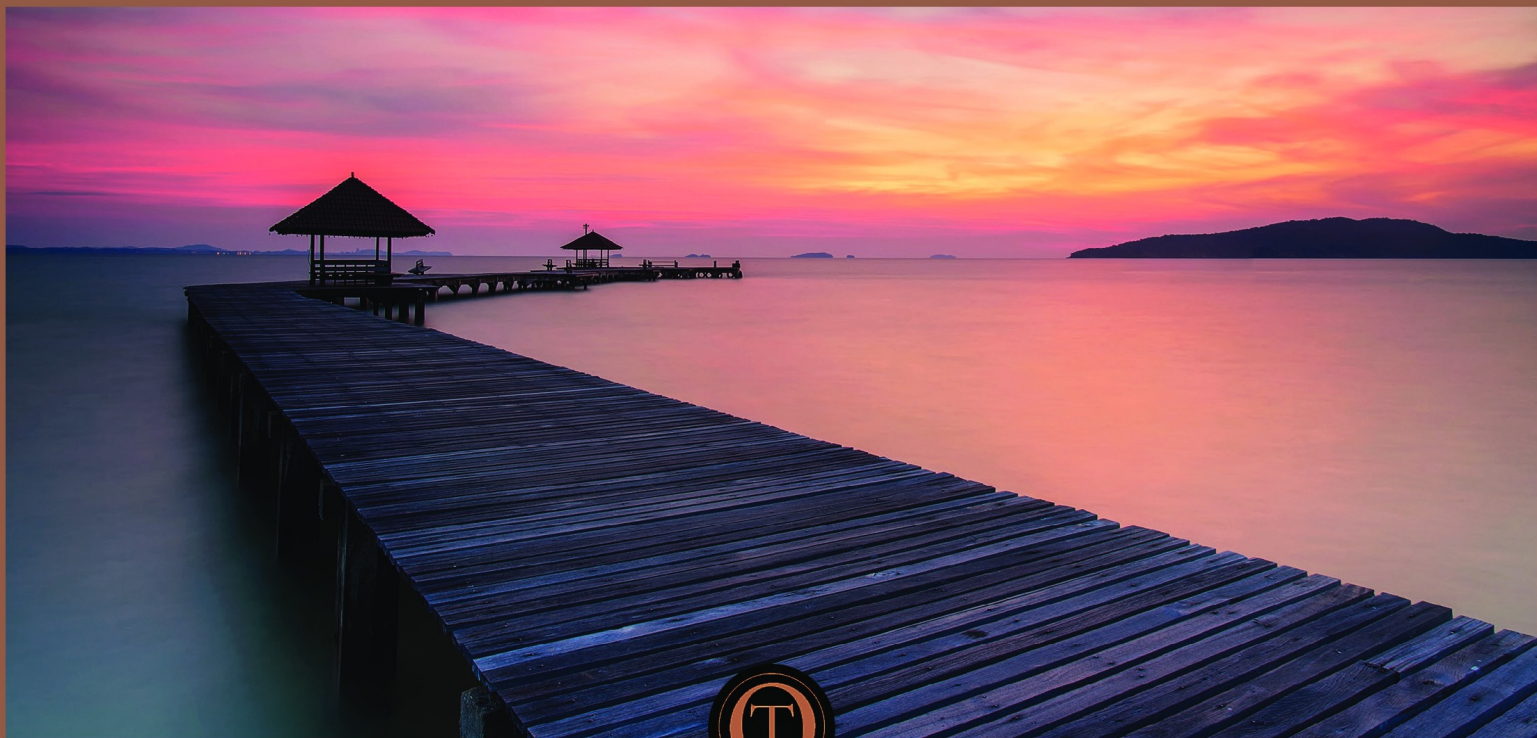
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**All monies raised helps FOSS support our community school.**

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## Spaldwick Parish Council

October's meeting was held on Thursday 15th by video conference, due to current Covid-19 restrictions.

Attending the meeting virtually were: Chairman Steve Fane de Salis, Vice Chairman G Smith, S Jackson-Rimmer, S Parfrey, W Burcham, Clerk S Cardwell, County & District Councillor Ian Gardener and seven members of the public. Here are some of the points raised:

### Public Open Forum:

Five parishioners addressed the meeting to voice concerns about traffic and vehicular conduct in the village. Examples were given regarding instances of speeding, inappropriate parking, navigating blind-spots, failure to give way and driving the wrong way along one-way streets. The potential for damage to old properties in a conservation area was also raised, along with a recent accident. Safety concerns were especially highlighted in relation to school children and users of the bus-stops and pub.

**County & District Cllr I Gardener then addressed the meeting:** He responded to some of the concerns raised, suggesting the Council could consider a Local Highways Improvement bid, detailing various traffic calming measures implemented in the local area and some guide costings. He also volunteered to arrange for a Highways engineer to visit the village to assess potential traffic calming measures.

**Cllr Gardener then went on to update Councillors regarding the following items:** (i) The recognition that Cambridgeshire has received for its work to respond to the climate change emergency - with research being conducted to aid development of its draft Climate Change and Environment Strategy and a vision "to deliver net zero carbon emissions for Cambridgeshire by 2050".

(ii) How the Covid campaign is based around prevention and containing outbreaks to help protect the most vulnerable, highlighting the importance of good hygiene, social distancing and wearing a face covering in various enclosed locations. The County Council is also working on plans to stimulate economic recovery in the local area.

(iii) A pilot scheme is being prepared to stimulate the home care market, encouraging new micro enterprises into the market, generating employment opportunities and facilitating more locally-run, flexible services to suit specific needs.

### Highways, footpaths, byways, gritting bin, trees, etc.

An email has been received from a resident regarding safety concerns and traffic issues within the village - with a request to consider additional measures that could be taken. Cllr S Jackson-Rimmer informed the Council that she already had a meeting scheduled with County & District Cllr I Gardener regarding this matter. Cllr S Fane de Salis proposed a village-wide review. Cllr S Jackson-Rimmer to follow-up with Cllr Gardener regarding concerns raised by residents during the public forum; Cllrs S Parfrey and S Fane de Salis to assist.

### Reopening of Spaldwick Community Room:

The Clerk advised that only one hire enquiry has been received since the community room was closed due to the current pandemic. The Clerk is to investigate prices for additional cleaning supplies likely required for re-opening.

### Further Discussion of Defibrillator:

The East Anglian Ambulance Service has been advised that the Council would like to proceed provided funding can be arranged. Cllr S Parfrey has commenced the funding request.

### Town & Poors Charity Field

A request regarding beehives has been made by a resident for the allotment field. The Council discussed the request and Cllr W Burcham proposed agreement in principle, ahead of the request to be passed to the Allotment Association for consideration; this was seconded by Cllr G Smith and carried unanimously.





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## Spaldwick Waste Bin Collections for December 2020/January 2021:

Grey		8th Dec	21st Dec
Blue	1st Dec	15th Dec	30th Dec
Green	3rd Dec	17th Dec	2nd Jan

Note a change in collection days over Christmas and New Year.

More details at [www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk](http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk)

### SPALDWICK COVID-19 SUPPORT NETWORK

A small group of Spaldwick residents are continuing to help those in our village who are vulnerable or are having to self-isolate. We are pleased to say that at the moment there is a lot less demand for assistance, and is now mainly the collection of prescriptions from the Kimbolton and Alconbury surgeries. However, we are all aware that this situation may change as we head towards winter. If you would like help please get in touch using the contacts listed below, either by a phone call (leave a message if no answer) or text message.

#### CONTACT NUMBERS:

Amba (07526 382240) - Julia (01480 890203) - Becky (07958 306740)

#### Ultrafast Internet - by Jason Patel, Spaldwick's Broadband Champion

Thank you to everyone who has supported the village by pledging vouchers. We are about to become one of the best-connected rural communities in the UK. Our latest campaign to bring full-fibre broadband to Spaldwick has been successful, and this will now arrive in 2021!

This is further confirmed on Openreach's broadband checker (below):

Full Fibre (Fibre to the Premises - FTTP)

Technology that supports speeds up to 1Gbps

Faster and more reliable fibre is coming to your area soon. Full Fibre is our fastest technology, but your exact speed will depend on which broadband provider and package you choose.

We can now expect to see very little in terms of updates, however I have heard reports that BT Openreach has been seen driving around the village checking the existing ducting and access hatches. There are also planned works on the A14 with BT at the end of November.

If you want to follow updates of the various works, please visit the website:

[www.spaldwick.com/broadband](http://www.spaldwick.com/broadband)



## ST NEOTS MUSEUM Winter Craft and Gift Fair

17th Oct to 24th Dec

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[www.stneotsmuseum.org.uk](http://www.stneotsmuseum.org.uk)

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