

January 2024



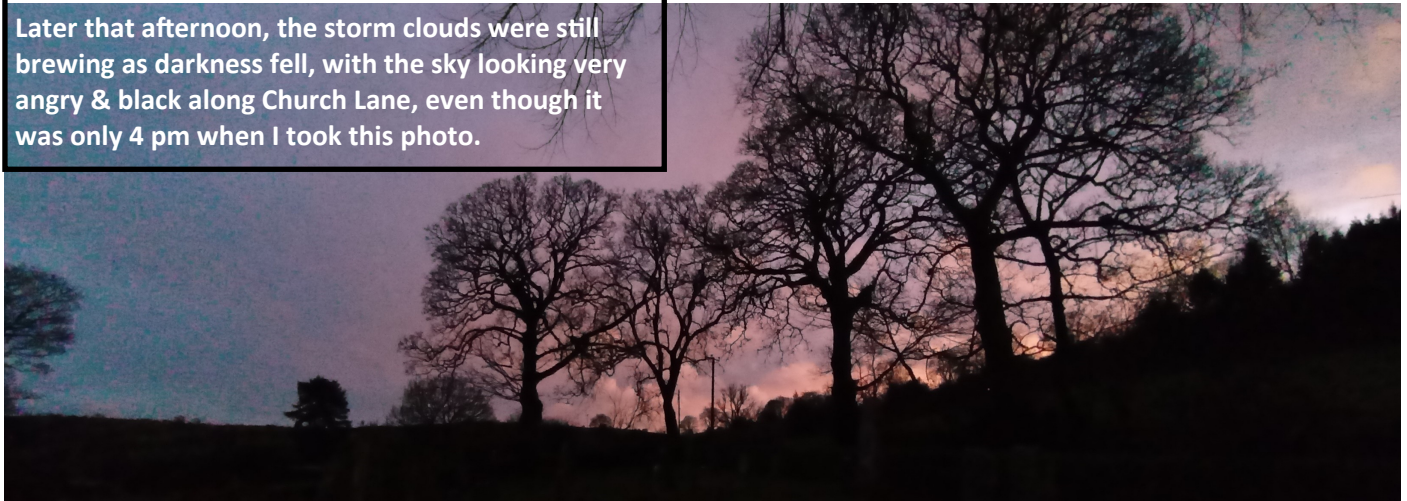
Elkstonians Village Newsletter

Margaret's Meanderings...

Well it's still raining—apart from the memorable weekend when it was snowing! In addition we've had storms & gales. Acting on the advice of the forecast, I moved my garden table, complete with its nice new cover, to a sheltered patio spot, but less than an hour later heard a big crash & there it was in front of my kitchen window, upside down with its legs in the air, looking for all the world like an upturned beetle. The wind had simply lifted it up, along with the two big stones weights, carried it about 8 feet & flipped it over.



Later that afternoon, the storm clouds were still brewing as darkness fell, with the sky looking very angry & black along Church Lane, even though it was only 4 pm when I took this photo.



Diary Dates

St John's Church

The January Service is on Sunday 21st at 3pm

Cleaning & Flowers for January Liz Meakin

The start of the New year is a good time to thank the hard-working individuals who keep St John's going throughout the year—cleaning & providing the flowers, continually fund-raising & looking after the finances and keeping the church yard & path tidy.

We would also like to thank the Rev. Nicola Pepper for taking the services while Fr. John is off & we send Fr. John all our good wishes for a speedy recovery.

Rev. Pepper took our Carol Service the weekend before Christmas. It was a very happy occasion & really great to see our lovely little church full of friends & neighbours. We would like to thank the organisers & everyone else who helped, including the organist, readers, those who decorated the church so beautifully, donated mince pies & mulled wine for afterwards and organized the refreshments, and those who gave generously to the collection & provided so many prizes for the raffle.



The collection & raffle raised a magnificent total of £405.10 to help keep our special little church open to all. A look in the Visitors' Book shows how much it is appreciated by local people & visitors alike.



On Sunday 10th December, thirteen Elkstonians very much enjoyed Christmas Lunch at Biggin Hall, and the Secret Santa gifts afterwards.

And on Friday 15th December a small group of Elkstonians did their annual Carol Singing round the village. Thank you to those who put up with our singing & donated generously, enabling us to send £126 to Myeloma UK.

We were very sorry to hear about Ana Hall's bad fall on the snowy weekend of early December. We hope you are recovering well Ana & send good wishes that you will soon be back to your usual self.



Closure of road in Lower Elkstone

The road between the bottom of Stonyfold Lane & the junction with the B5053 Onecote/Longnor road, will be closed from Tuesday 9th January to Tuesday 16th January, while Severn Trent Water carry out work.

Warslow & Elkstones Parish Council Meeting, Wednesday 24th January at 7.30pm in Warslow Village Hall
See attached Agenda

One of the items on the Agenda under 'Highways' is the grit bins. Margaret has raised the lack of grit heaps in Upper Elkstone with the Highways Department each year for the last 5 years & in 2023 the Parish Council and Councillor Gill Heath took up the problem on our behalf, the result of which is that Cllr. Heath has been told that no new grit heaps can be provided. We have argued that we are not asking for new grit heaps, just reinstatement of the ones which have been discontinued over the past 5 years—in spite of these being located on narrow, winding bends on steep inclines. If anybody has any ideas for taking this up again with the Highways Department, please let Margaret know, as she feels that she is battling her head against a brick wall.

Similarly, with the gradual disappearance of the reflectors (formerly 10, now 3) on the bend at the top of the road. Each time the loss of these is reported, they send someone out to look at the site, then send back a reply that they have noted it, but it is not a priority. Let's hope nobody goes over the edge on a foggy night...

Wishing you all a happy, peaceful & prosperous 2024 from the Newsletter Team

The Elkstonians: Chair *Jane Prince* Vice Chair *Don Sutherland* Secretary *Katy Parkinson* Treasurer *Margaret Grant*
Newsletter: Content *Margaret* Editing/Layout *Jane* Distribution *Margaret/Katy*

WARSLOW AND ELKSTONES PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Mr N Searston

Clerk and RFO: Mrs S Hampson

Email: parishclerk.warslow@gmail.com

A meeting of Warslow and Elkstones Parish Council will take place at
7.30 pm on Wednesday, 24th January 2024 in Warslow Village Hall

AGENDA

Non-confidential items

1. Apologies and attendance register
2. Declaration of interest of councillors related to the agenda
3. Minutes of the previous meeting
4. Attendance by representative from the Best Kept Village Competition
5. Public speaking procedures document
6. Public speaking (10 minutes)
7. Update from County Councillor
8. Precept 2024-2025
9. Speedwatch
10. Councillors' training
11. Website
12. Biodiversity
13. Repair Shop
14. Items for the Community Magazine
15. Planning applications, appeals, planning decisions
16. Items of account, clerk, lengthsman, HMRC, general income and expenditure
17. Highway issues, grit bin monitoring, street lighting
18. Correspondence and communication
19. Items for the next agenda
20. Date of the next meeting: 27th March 2024

Confidential items

(Members of the public will be invited to leave at this point in proceedings)

21. Burial ground, update on church yard, PDNPA meeting

Mrs S Hampson
Clerk
Warslow and Elkstones Parish Council

6th December 2023