

Walesby, Lincolnshire.

Information for Residents

The Parish Council has prepared this booklet in partnership with village organisations. It aims to provide a useful reference for all residents and a welcome for newcomers.

Welcome to Walesby in Lincolnshire (often mistaken for the one near Newark). The parish covers about 3,600 acres (5.8 sq. miles or 15 sq. km) and includes the old hamlets of Risby and Otby. There are about 100 households in the parish with a population of around 225.

We are almost unique in that we have two Church of England (Anglican) churches in the village run by one Parochial Church Council (PCC) - not to be confused with the Parish Council (PC) which has responsibility for planning, council tax, etc.

All Saints', Walesby is also known as the Ramblers' Church. The iconic building stands alone on Walesby Hill with beautiful views of the area. The ancient churchyard at All Saints' has the Viking Way footpath running through it.

Much of Walesby Parish is within the Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) on a chalk and ironstone ridge. The AONB is of national significance and is protected by law. You will find that some parts of the village fall into this area or into the hinterland which protects the views of the AONB. The Walesby Parish Council tries to preserve the ethos of the AONB and its hinterland in the village whilst embracing 21st century technology and initiatives.

Community spirit within the village is promoted by the Parish Council, the Parochial Church Council, Neighbourhood Watch coordinators and the Village Hall committees. There is a well maintained village website <http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/walesby/>
www.walesbyvillage.uk

There's also a link on the website where you can download a "Recommended book: Walesby, A Lincolnshire Village History" with fascinating old photographs and text.

We hope you will register on the website to receive regular 'what's on' news items and join in village life. You can contact village organisations via the website administrator:-

joe@walesbyvillage.uk



All Saints Church, Walesby
The Ramblers' Church



Walesby Village Hall

Walesby Village Hall

Walesby Village Hall is a registered charity aiming “To maintain the hall for the use and benefit of all residents of the parish and also available for hire by people living in neighbouring parishes”.

The village hall committee organises events to raise funds and promote an active social life within the community. These include themed evenings such as an Irish Night, Italian Night, Burns Supper, quizzes and variety shows. There is also a 100 Club (£12 per annum) with a monthly draw for prizes.

Walesby Club hires the hall and runs the bar for members and their guests every Tuesday and Saturday evening. Other principal hirers of the hall are The Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust – Market Rasen Area Group, Church events, Walesby Parish Council plus weekly Pilates and Yoga classes.

During recent years an improvement programme included the installation of gas fired central heating, double glazing, kitchen and bar refurbishment and new stage curtains. There is a disabled toilet and baby changing facilities.



30th Anniversary Celebration with The Moggies



Burns Night



Stardust Concert



Wildlife Trust meeting

Walesby Club

The Walesby Club extends a very warm welcome to all residents and their guests. The aim is to provide a comfortable and friendly place for you to meet your neighbours and keep in touch with the village community. There is an interesting and friendly mix of more than seventy club members made up of residents and non residents from all walks of life.

The club meets at Walesby Village Hall every Tuesday and Saturday evening from 8.00 p.m. until 11.00 p.m. Full membership of the club is £2 a year (no joining fee) and open to all adults aged 18 or over. Junior membership is also available for 16 to 17 year olds at £1. Please note all under 16 year olds must be accompanied by an adult.

There is the option of sitting in the cosy snug for a chat or moving into the main hall for a game of pool or darts. Occasional 'Tuesday Specials' are very popular with activities planned to appeal to everyone; these include: informative talks or demonstrations, activity events e.g. quiz and games nights, folk dancing and country walks.

The bar is run by a rota of volunteers which enables all drinks to be priced reasonably. You can choose from a very good locally brewed cask ale, Guinness, a variety of bottled beers (including non alcoholic) and lager, wines and spirits. Soft drinks, tea and Tassimo coffees are also available.

Please just drop in for a cosy chat.



A cosy chat



"Tuesday Special" - Farm Shop demonstration



"Tuesday Special" - country dancing practise



Just chatting

Walesby Village Walks



Viking Way : A long distance footpath running 147 miles from Humber bank to Oakham in Rutland.



National Cycle Route 1: A long distance cycle route connecting Dover with the Shetland Islands.



Lindsey Trail: A 69 mile trail, centred on Willingham Woods, extending across the wolds from Walesby to Horncastle. It's suitable for carriage drivers, horse riders, cyclists and walkers.



Each Public Right of Way has a number which assists in reporting any problems

We are fortunate in Walesby in having three national routes passing through the village. They link with local footpaths providing delightful circular walks on the wolds. David Thurman, a parish councillor, encourages residents to report problems (to himself or Lincolnshire County Council Highways department) so our footpaths are kept usable.

Following some serious incidents the Parish Council reminds dog owners to keep them under close control at all times and on a lead where cattle, sheep or deer (or other dogs) are present.

Walesby AONB

The Lincolnshire Wolds is a nationally important and cherished landscape, much of which was designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in 1973 on account of its high scenic beauty. In 2000 the importance of AONBs was re-emphasised, acknowledging that they, with the National Parks, form Britain's finest countryside. The Lincolnshire Wolds AONB comprises an area of 558 km² (216 miles²).

Much of Walesby is within the AONB (the darker area of the map opposite). As residents, we benefit from and share responsibility for supporting the Management Plan run by Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service. It ensures that the Wolds AONB retains its unique landscape and special character, whilst maintaining and supporting its communities.

Walesby Parish Council is particularly keen to support the need to protect, enhance and restore the biodiversity of the AONB. They have sponsored the God's Acre project in the Ancient Churchyard at the Old Church by funding the fees for volunteers to attend the God's Acre conference. They also encourage local farmers to adopt good agricultural practices which conserve wildlife and habitats across the area.

Almost every tree in Walesby is an integral part of the landscape - whether in woods, copses or standing alone in a field or garden. Particular care should be taken before removing trees as they are afforded equal protection to those in national parks. Protection orders may be sought if mature trees are under threat.



Lincolnshire Longwool Ewe & Lambs - Risby Grange



Snowdrops - All Saints' God's Acre



Arden Farms' Red Deer Herd - Top Farm



Horse Chestnut Tree - All Saints' God's Acre

Walesby Neighbourhood Watch

Walesby Neighbourhood Watch has been operating for over 25 years. We currently have 63 members representing about 60% of the households in Walesby Parish (which includes Risby & Otby). Neighbourhood Watch aims to help people protect themselves and their property, to reduce the fear of crime and improve the local environment. Close liaison between community members, the local police and local councillors helps to achieve this.

Walesby has a team of 4 Coordinators. We consider our prime role is to foster community spirit. Being alert and promptly reporting any suspicious activity is crucial along with keeping watch over those who may need help if bad weather or illness is a problem. We make sure everyone, especially a new resident, is aware of village events and organisations so they feel welcome to join in. The Coordinators worked with the Parish Council to set up the Walesby Website and encourage residents to sign up for emailed information about village events. Walesby's Lead Coordinator can also use the Police's Lincolnshire Alert email system to send messages to scheme members about local incidents and concerns.

If you want to join Walesby's Neighbourhood Watch scheme, please email: joe@walesbyvillage.uk who will forward your request to the appropriate coordinator.



NO UNINVITED CALLERS
WE DO **NOT** PURCHASE
ITEMS AT THE DOOR
WE WILL EXPECT
IDENTIFICATION
WE CAN VERIFY



Neighbourhood Watch Stickers and Signs used

Friends of the Old Church

Walesby All Saints' (also known as The Old Church or as The Ramblers' Church) dates back to Norman times and is a grade 1 listed building - a status usually reserved for Cathedrals or Minsters rather than parish churches. The village of Walesby was originally sited around the Old Church but over the years it moved down the hill to its present location. The condition of the Old Church deteriorated and there was a real risk of it collapsing. In the 1970s the Friends were formed, as a registered charity, with the object of assisting in the maintenance of the fabric of the iconic building and its clock, and raising funds for this purpose.

Much work has been done so that the building is now stable, watertight and no longer in a dangerous condition although, as you would expect with a building of its age, a programme of maintenance and repairs is ongoing.

Friends of the Old Church, in partnership with the PCC, manage the building. A major source of fundraising is the annual Candlelit Carol Service held on the second Saturday in December at 7pm. Up to 400 people ascend the hill in their wellies to sing carols led by a Salvation Army band. It is well worth the effort to attend.

The Lincoln Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers ring the 8 bells for special and other occasions. A rota of 7 volunteers wind the clock twice a week. The chimes of the clock, enjoyed by local residents and visitors, are named 'Guildford Chimes' as they play the same tune as Guildford Cathedral bells.

Walesby God's Acre Group

Walesby's Parochial Church Council established the group of around 12 volunteers to develop the ancient churchyard as a haven for wildlife. Guidelines published by the charity 'Caring for God's Acre' are used to create a wildflower meadow meeting the needs of butterflies and insects, birds and small mammals, visitors and the local community.

This is being achieved by planning the height and timing of grass cutting to allow meadow plants to flower, set seed and ripen. Cuttings are raked off to reduce soil fertility and restrict competition from invasive species.

Longer grass also helps to protect ancient grave-stones and encourage wildlife. Care must be taken to avoid damage when using powered equipment.



Seating beneath the All Saints' church tower above the west bank wildflower meadow

The Church of St. Mary

The church of St Mary is spiritually warm, friendly, accessible, genuine and financially sound. The church remains part of the wider village community by ensuring there is a synergy between the religious and secular functions in the village. A well-supported group of laity often lead services with a strong emphasis on family worship usually followed with refreshments. Walking into church for the first time can be daunting, but we would make you welcome.

Originally the tower was crowned by a small spire, but this became unsafe and was removed before the Second World War.

The Church within has many interesting features including the Roll of Honour listing the names of the Walesby men who served in 1914-1918 war. A memorial window commemorates the safe return of the men who fought in the 1939-1945 war and Henry Jolland who lost his life in service.



Log onto walesbychurches.org for up-to-date information including Wolds Witness Magazine.

Walesby Parish Council

The Walesby Parish Council consists of 7 elected Councillors and enjoys the additional benefit of a paid Parish Clerk. The Parish Council meets 6 times a year, on the 2nd Monday of alternate months at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall. The public are encouraged to attend and there is a 15 minute public participation opportunity during every meeting.

The Parish Council exists to represent the views of village residents at local, district and county level. Meetings usually last between 1 – 1.5 hours. The website contains minutes of the previous meetings.

All residents with access to the internet are encouraged to register for email alerts on the Walesby Parish Council website which has up-to-date news and information about our community.

Every year towards the end of February we have a voluntary litter pick along the approach roads to the village. We regularly collect in the region of 50 large bags so it is, unfortunately, a necessary event. WLDC supplies bags, vests, gloves, litter grabbers and then removes the rubbish from the village hall car park. It is, of course, a messy pastime but we all gather for hot drinks, hot dogs and hot gossip afterwards and feel that we have spent a very worthwhile couple of hours on a Saturday morning.