



Norton News

November 2025 Edition



Please email editor@nortonnews.uk if you have anything you wish to be included in the Norton News

Reminder of Public Meeting

The Public Meeting called by the Parish Council to discuss the future management of the Village Hall will be held next Tuesday, 4 November, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. All Norton residents are invited to attend.

Background to Public Meeting

Ever since the site was donated in 1947, the Village Hall has been run by a succession of public-spirited parishioners, but that tradition may be coming to an end. The present Management Committee came together to re-open the Hall in 2022 after it was closed because of problems with the roof. While several Committee members have stood down since then, either because of increased work commitments or because they've moved out of the village, no one has come forward to replace them.

After the next AGM, only two Committee members will be left to run the Hall. One of those members, Richard Page, has only continued as chairman because no one has been willing to take over.

As a result, the Village Hall Management Committee has decided to disband in January and hand over the management of the premises to the Parish Council.

However, asking the Parish Council to take over the management of the Hall has financial implications. Currently, the Village Hall is managed by unpaid volunteers, but if the Parish Council were to take over the running of the Hall, the work would be done by paid staff and its administration and finances would be subject to a raft of local government regulations. Those extra costs mean that the Village Hall wouldn't be financially viable and would need to be subsidised by the Council - resulting in a substantial increase in the parish council part of every Norton household's council tax.

Therefore, in order to keep the Village Hall open, the parish is faced with a stark choice - residents either volunteer and spend their time helping to run the Village Hall, or spend their money (through increased council tax) so that the Parish Council can manage the Hall for them.

The Village Hall is a community asset, so it's only right that the community should choose which option it prefers.

Have your say on the future of Tewkesbury, Cheltenham and Gloucester

Public engagement on the new Strategic and Local Plan is now live.

The Strategic and Local Plan will guide how our area grows over the next 20 years. Residents are invited to explore key topics like housing, jobs, infrastructure, and green space at strategiclocalplan.org. Some of the papers are just for reading, but you can share your views on others.

Workshops with local groups will also be held to help shape the conversation, and all feedback will help make sure that future growth reflects what our communities really need.

The engagement process runs until June 2026, with the final Plan due to be submitted during October/November 2026.

Update on First Aid Course

Thank you to everyone who put their names forward for the First Aid Essentials course run by St John Ambulance. Interested residents will be notified as soon as St John Ambulance offers some course dates. Because of the level of interest, it's likely that two courses will be held, so residents will have a choice of dates.

Norton and The Leigh History Society

A Gloucestershire Christmas: John Putley will tell us about Christmas customs of the past in Gloucestershire

Date: Monday 24 November 7.15pm for 7.30 start

Venue: Committee Room, Norton Village Hall.

Entrance: £3.00

Everyone is welcome.

Norton Walking Groups

The Tuesday Totters aim for about 5-6 miles and try to avoid serious hills, it is quite a social group and always look for 'coffee and cake' whenever possible.

The Wainlode Walkers meet on Fridays and are a more serious group with walks that are usually 8 miles and over, so walkers need a good level of fitness. A coffee stop at 11:00 seems to be part of the non-existent rule book and is often under a tree but if at some point the walk ends at or near a pub.... well anything goes!

Both groups meet at the village hall before 9:30am and if travelling somewhere try to share transport as parking at the start point may have limited parking.

Requests to join either group should be sent to Andrew Mason at Masonap@me.com

Halloween

It was great to see some community spirit on Halloween as zombies, witches and ghouls of all kinds roamed the local streets in search treats from villagers to stave off evil spells. If you weren't visited by any of these creatures of the night, you can see some examples below in our Gallery of Ghouls.

Well done to everyone for using the Neighbourhood Watch WhatsApp group to establish the protocol of approaching only those houses with Halloween decorations to avoid any unwanted callers.

With Bonfire Night approaching, perhaps we could adopt a similar approach if anyone is planning fireworks, and inform villagers of the time and place so that pet owners can keep their animals indoors.

Norton's Big Festive Weekend

Christmas Tree Festival

28-30 November: Norton Church

Step into the season with a stunning display of beautifully decorated Christmas trees. Entry by donation

Friday 28th November

12noon – 4pm open for viewing the trees
4pm Entertainment from the children of Norton School

Saturday 29th November

12noon – 7.30pm open for viewing the trees
7:30pm Carols and Songs from the Leadonvale Singers
Tickets £5 – includes mince pies and Mulled Wine
Plus a silent auction of beautiful festive items

Sunday 30th November

12noon – 4pm open for viewing the trees
4pm Advent Carols

Norton Christmas Fair

Norton Village Hall

1:30pm - 4pm Saturday 29th November:

- Christmas Gift Market
- Festive Treats
- Refreshments
- Raffle
- Games
- Tombola
- Santa's Grotto

Raising funds for Norton C of E School

Next Edition

Please send any items, including graphics if you have them, to me at editor@nortonnews.uk

The deadline for submitting items for the December issue is Friday 28th November.

If anyone wishes to be added to the mailing list for Norton News, for data protection purposes they must either email me directly from the email account that they wish to be added or you can sign up at nortonnews.uk/sign-up-to-the-e-mailing-list.

GALLERY OF GHOULS



Did you know there is a Norton branch of neighbourhood Watch? With over 100 villagers in the group, it's a great way to keep in contact regarding emergency and security issues.

Please email to join: christine1williams@btinternet.com



There is a regular collection of donations for the Gloucester Food Bank at St Mary's in Priors Norton. Please drop any food or toiletry items every other Wednesday morning.

**TIRED OF
POTHOLE
FLY-TIPPING
LOOSE PAVING**
DOG POOP VANDALISM
BROKEN STREET LIGHTING?

**REPORT THEM TO
THE COUNCIL WITH**
 **FixMyStreet**
FixMyStreet.com

Useful Links and Contacts

<https://nortonparish.com>

<https://seventowers.org.uk>

nortoncouncil@gmail.com

[Norton History](#)

[NHS 111](#)

Police Non-Emergency Number 101

[Norton Village Hall Website](#)

[Norton Village Hall Bookings](#)

www.FixMyStreet.com is a powerful website for reporting common street problems like - potholes, broken streetlights, fly tipping, abandoned vehicles, missing or unreadable road signs, abandoned road works or traffic signs, overgrown hedges and trees, blocked footpaths, dog fouling, dead deer etc. - to your local council.

It is run by the UK charity mySociety and it covers all of the UK. The great thing about FixMyStreet is that you don't need to know who's responsible for fixing the problem; you just put a pin on a map, and FixMyStreet does the rest, a 'one stop' reporting site.

NORTON'S BIG FESTIVE WEEKEND

Seven Towers Benefice

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Advent Weekend at Norton Church · 28-30 November

Step into the season with a stunning display of beautifully decorated Christmas trees. Entry by donation.

**Friday 28th
November**

**12-4pm: Open for tree
viewing**

**4.00pm: Entertainment
from the children of Norton
School**

**Saturday 29th
November**

12-7.30pm: Open for tree
viewing

7:30pm: Carols and Songs
from the Leadonvale Singers
Tickets £5 – includes mince
pies and Mulled Wine Plus: A
silent auction of beautiful
festive items

**Sunday 30th
November**

12-4pm: Open for tree
viewing

4.00pm: Advent Carols

Find Norton Church off the A38 between Gloucester & Tewkesbury (GL2 9LS)

Thanks to Major Entertainments for the lighting: www.major-eventsuk.co.uk

Norton PTA

NORTON CHRISTMAS FAIR

Fun for all the family...

Saturday 29th November 1:30-4pm
Norton Village Hall

Christmas Gift Market - Festive Treats - Refreshments
Raffle - Games - Tombola - Santa's Grotto

Raising funds for Norton C of E School

