

# Kibworth Beauchamp Parish Council

*Serving Kibworth Beauchamp in South Leicestershire since 1895*

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## **Update on the Christmas Event, 4 December 2024.**

**Further to our recent post regarding the cancellation of the Christmas Event, Kibworth Beauchamp Parish Council would like to issue the following statement:**

*The Kibworth Christmas Event has been running for a number of years now and has grown in popularity. The Parish Council was responsible for the event along the High Street and also at the Community Hub (former Grammar School Hall). Other organisations and businesses, such as the Community Library, the Village Hall and the Railway Arms pub have previously, and independently run their own events during the same evening.*

*Unfortunately, this year there has been a lack of outside food vendors signing up for the High Street stalls. Additionally, the Community Hub venue poses some serious Health and Safety concerns, due to the ongoing building works to incorporate the Kibworth Library, which has resulted in the closure of the main entrance. Whilst there is a temporary alternative entrance, which is good news for regular users and for smaller events, it is not ideal for the Christmas Event which normally attracts hundreds of visitors in a very short space of time. Last year there were queues from the carpark to enter through the original double doors at the main entrance. The temporary entrance is a very long and narrow passageway with an uneven surface and could be a hazard in the dark, especially if conditions are wet or icy.*

*At the time the event was first being planned, we had not appointed a builder, nor did we have a start date as fundraising was not complete. Furthermore, we were not aware that the original main entrance would be completely closed.*

*In view of this, the Parish Council, together with the event organiser, made the difficult decision to cancel, before any costs were incurred and legal procedures finalised for the road closure licence, which was applied for around twelve weeks in advance through LCC. This was to allow them sufficient time to process the application and issue the necessary Traffic Regulation Order. Road diversions are advertised well ahead of the closures and statutory organisations including bus companies are notified so they are able plan ahead accordingly.*

*The event would normally cost the Parish Council over £2k which would cover fees such as the road closure licence, road closure management, first aid provision, printing, publicity, HFM stage and event management. We rely on income from stalls to offset some of these costs, and without enough stalls, the event would have failed, and income would be limited. Some of these costs were becoming due, particularly the road closure licence fee, and the Parish Council felt that it could not justify the risk of spending public money on an event which may not have gone ahead. If we cancel now, we are able to avoid some of these imminent costs, including the road closure fee.*

## **Kibworth Beauchamp Parish Council**

The Parish Office, Kibworth Community Hub,  
School Road, Kibworth Beauchamp, Leicester, LE8 0JE

Contact: 0116 2793777 or email [office@kibworthbeauchamp-pc.gov.uk](mailto:office@kibworthbeauchamp-pc.gov.uk)

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*We do understand how disappointing this is for our residents but do feel that the right decision has been made. The Parish Council will of course continue to install the Christmas trees and lights along the High Street and Station Street, in addition to the tree lights on the roundabout.*

*Next year, we will be speaking with the local Business Forum and the wider community to agree the future format and success of the event.*

**Kibworth Beauchamp Parish Council**  
**22 October 2024**

**Kibworth Beauchamp Parish Council**  
The Parish Office, Kibworth Community Hub,  
School Road, Kibworth Beauchamp, Leicester, LE8 0JE

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