

## **Ketton History Group Meeting 13 June 2019**

A small but enthusiastic group picked up from last month's talk about the Ketton/Collyweston fire engine. It was also revealed the Empingham had have a fire engine which came about as follows.

Sir Gilbert Heathcote, first baronet and former Lord Mayor of London, bought Normanton Park in 1729. His son Sir John Heathcote re-built the Hall as a country house and later decided to expand his gardens. This required a large area and to produce the Italianate garden he desired, he needed to remove the village. The inhabitants were persuaded to move to Empingham, a village largely owned by the Heathcotes. Thatched cottages were provided to house the displaced villagers, and Heathcote paid half the cost of a fire engine and supplied a building to house it.

Sir Gilbert Heathcote (3rd Baronet) was active in politics and was made Lord Aveland in 1856. He was Deputy Lieutenant for Rutland and although he had not direct links to Ketton the Public house was first named the Heathcote Arms and then later the Aveland Arms

There was further discussion on wells in Ketton together with the water cress beds that were in Sinc Lane.

### **Meetings for 2019**

Meetings are planned for 11 July, 8 Aug, 12 Sept, 10 Oct, 14 Nov 2019. all meetings will be in the Parish Office starting and 7pm.