

Parish Clerk: Stephen Williamson 01493 296036 E-Mail: freethorpe.pc@gmail.com	FREETHORPE Parish Council <i>Chair: Nick Spencer</i> <i>Vice-Chair: David Lake</i>	46 Moorhen Way Kingfisher Park Burgh Castle Norfolk NR31 9FJ
PARISH COUNCIL YEAR 2017 - 2018		
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MONDAY 21st MAY 2018		
PRESENT AT THE MEETING		
Councillors: N. Spencer (Chair), D. Lake (Vice-Chair). P. Bacon, J. Church, G.P. Lamb, L. Turner. NCC Councillor: B. Iles Broadland District Councillor: G. Nurden 19 Members of the public		

The Meeting commenced at 7.50 p.m.

1:	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Three apologies for absence were received.	
2:	MINUTES
The Minutes for the 2017 meeting had been prior circulated, were approved and duly signed	
3:	TREE WARDEN & PRESENTATION
<p>In the report from John Fleetwood and Andrea Rowlands the tree pests, diseases and threat to the Tree Warden scheme with Broadland District Council seeming likely to be withdrawn. The most serious of the tree diseases at this time was Chalara dieback of ash, which according to the Forestry Commission report of July 2017 affected over 44% of ash trees in Britain. Potentially an even more serious threat comes from Oak Processionary Moth which although currently effecting London and 'home' counties but would probably affect East Anglia by 2019. On a more positive note the efforts and support from the Parish Council, and particularly Freethorpe Community Primary School were mentioned. Six Junior Tree Wardens were awarded certificates for their work during the preceding year.</p> <p>A COPY OF THIS FULL REPORT (minus children's names) IS WITHIN MINUTE BOOK & WILL BE AVAILABLE BY REQUEST TO THE PARISH CLERK.</p>	
4:	FREETHORPE SCHOOL
<p>In a forwarded report, those present were informed that 160 pupils made up the school roll with an additional 38 children within the nursery section. There were six classes and thanks were extended to a committed and enthusiastic staff as well as the hard working Governors. The school continued to provide and encourage the high academic standards and many extra-curricular activities. Thanks were given to The Friends of Freethorpe Association, also tree wardens John Fleetwood and Andrea Rowlands as well as the Parish Council. The school continued to co-operate with other schools in the Acle Cluster as well as the UEA. A good year for sports activities had been enjoyed with the school winning The Southgate Shield – the top local award for sporting achievement. A house system has also been successfully introduced.</p> <p>A COPY OF THIS FULL REPORT IS WITHIN MINUTE BOOK & WILL BE AVAILABLE BY REQUEST TO THE PARISH CLERK</p>	
5:	FREETHORPE PARISH COUNCIL
<p>The Clerk reported that the financial year ending on 31st March 2018 has concluded with some £20,360 being divided into two separate accounts. The 2018-19 Parish Precept showed only a cost of living increase on the previous year. Usual thanks were given to the many organisations and volunteers that helped continuance of Freethorpe being a vibrant and pleasant place to live. A COPY OF THIS FULL REPORT IS WITHIN MINUTE BOOK & WILL BE AVAILABLE BY REQUEST TO THE PARISH CLERK</p>	

6:	FREETHORPE VILLAGE HALL
<p>There was no actual written report from the village hall, although several connected groups did report individually. Those present were informed that the same groups with Zumba being added. There was still a shortage of volunteers and it was hoped this would be corrected. One new piece of play equipment had been added. The Fete was scheduled for 22nd July (1.00 pm) and the AGM for 11 June (07.30 pm)</p>	

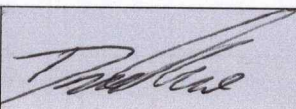
7:	NORFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL/BROADLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL
<p>Mr. Brian Iles reported for NCC. He informed that the previous year had begun with elections which had produced a commanding majority for the Conservative Party. The Children's Services Dept. had been challenged to improve on the OFSTED rating and another priority was to bring the county's finances back to sustainable levels. A new department had been created to deal with business and property interests. The NDR was now fully open and already proving successful. More businesses were interested in relocating to Broadland and government funding seemed likely to continue at the same level.</p> <p>A COPY OF THIS FULL REPORT IS WITHIN MINUTE BOOK & WILL BE AVAILABLE BY REQUEST TO THE PARISH CLERK.</p> <p>Mr Grant Nurden informed those present that Norfolk continued to be a safe place to live and within the county Broadland too was considered safe. The Council was focused on generating income, one example being the Passivhaus development at Carrowbeck which generated some £500,000 plus CIL income. Planning permission for a second site at Plumstead had been granted with development hopefully starting in the autumn. Broadland and South Norfolk had embarked upon a collaboration, which should show great benefits.</p> <p>A COPY OF THIS FULL REPORT IS WITHIN MINUTE BOOK & WILL BE AVAILABLE BY REQUEST TO THE PARISH CLERK</p>	

8:	NORFOLK POLICE
No representative of Acle SNT was present and thus no report submitted	

9:	COMMUNITY REPORTS
<p>Community reports were delivered and read on behalf of All Saints Church, Freethorpe First Responders, Freethorpe Football Club and Walpole Almshouses. COPIES OF THE FULL REPORTS ARE WITHIN MINUTE BOOK & WILL BE AVAILABLE BY REQUEST TO THE PARISH CLERK</p>	

10:	PARISHIONERS QUESTIONS
There were no further questions raised	

The Meeting closed at 8.52 p.m.

<p><i>Signed after agreed amendment and approval by Council as being a true and accurate record by the Chair of the meeting or authorised deputy.</i></p>		<p>Dated: 20/5/19</p>
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FIRST RESPONDERS

It's been a busy year since I have taken on the Co-ordinators role for Freethorpe First Responders and decided to train to be a Community First Responder myself after seeing what these wonderful team of volunteers do in our local villages. They give up their personal time, day and night to help people in life threatening situations.

Both myself and my partner Billy completed our training in September 2018, and have personally been out to over 20 call outs since then ourselves. It's amazing just by walking into the room how the stress levels drop with the patient and others within the household which can make a lot of difference. We are still getting use to waking up trying to dress quickly which can be a challenge when coming around from a deep sleep. I have the clothes laid out in a specific order otherwise I am sure I would end up going to a patient with my pyjama bottoms on still!

Our team of seven Community First Responders have been out to various people from young toddlers to the elderly with high temperatures, breathing issues to cardiac arrests, which in most cases, we have had positive outcomes totalling 87 call outs for the year, 18 more than last year. Freethorpe had 23 callouts in total.

I check the cabinets once a month to make sure everything is in working order and the consumables are in date. The webnos website is then updated with the outcome of the checks. Freethorpe cabinet has had condensation issues, I have put a silicon pack inside to keep it dry. The pads were replaced in June 2018 and the battery has also been replaced in February 2019, this was paid for by the Freethorpe First Responder Group. The defibrillator was removed during 2018 for an emergency but not used.

The other Defibrillators are situated at: -

- Halvergate Village Hall
- Cantley Village Hall
- Beighton Village Hall
- Reedham Village Hall
- Reedham Riverside
- Moulton Garden Centre

We would not have been able to continue our volunteer work without the support of

the general public. We have received several donations through our box, raffles and Father Christmas at Freethorpe Village shop, a lovely couple in Cantley who kindly sell various bits and pieces in their front garden and have also received money in lieu of flowers, when a parishioner has passed away.

We are continuing to arrange for Junior First Aid Training in two of the local schools for year 6 children. The best young First Aider receives a shield in memory of

Liam Smith who tragically died at an early age whilst a pupil at Reedham School.

We are actively seeking new volunteers for the local villages so anyone interested please do contact me by email free.resp@gmail.com

Thank you for all your support - Ruth

Freethorpe and Wickhampton Parish Council

Annual Report of the Parish Tree Wardens

John Fleetwood and Andrea Rowlands

21 May 2018

Whilst 2017-2018 has been a most worrying year due to tree pests and diseases, not to mention the threat to the existence of the Broadland Parish Tree Warden scheme, the continued success enjoyed with our Junior Tree Wardens gives us great hope for the future. Adults may challenge and disappoint us, but young people, given time and the right direction, give us great hope for the future.

As Freethorpe's Parish Tree Wardens we have continued to monitor the parish trees, particularly for signs of the numerous pests and diseases that currently threaten our natural environment. We have also carried out minor planting schemes, in particular at Freethorpe Community Primary School, and tended to the planting carried out in previous years.

Tree pests and diseases are now our major concern. Today, the UK's trees are threatened by nineteen fatal tree pests and diseases and six of those are considered to be of epidemic proportions. They are

- Chalara dieback of ash.
- Dutch Elm Disease
- Phytophthora ramorum*.
- Phytophthora austrocedri*
- Acute Oak Decline
- Oak Processionary Moth

The most worrying of these at present continues to be Chalara dieback of ash. It is present in 44.1% of the UK (as measured by the Forestry Commission in July 2017) and is expected to affect the vast majority of the ash trees across Britain.

We are still at the beginning of the epidemic so the true impact will take many years to become apparent, in addition, the slow progression will mean that the impact will be gradual therefore we must take care not to miss the subtle changes that are being brought about by this disease.

We must protect and maintain ecological diversity in woodlands. Ash trees are less susceptible to disease if they are sited within an ecologically diverse woodland or environment. Maintaining ecological diversity must be the priority in controlling the spread of ash dieback and other pests and diseases.

We must also manage and control the spread of the disease and other threats. Along with maintaining an import ban, we must only use UK sourced and grown trees from reputable nurseries to reduce the risk of spreading this and new problems (for example emerald ash borer).

We must retain and protect mature trees and develop tolerant individual trees. The biggest danger is that healthy ash trees are felled in fear of them spreading disease. By removing these trees we would be adding to the environmental impact.

Most worrying potential is the Oak Processionary Moth. It has not yet reached Broadland but it covers all of London and the Forestry Commission has given up trying to control it. Last summer it had spread out into counties neighbouring London. If it doesn't reach here this summer then it will be here next year.

The larvae, or caterpillars, of the oak processionary moth (*Thaumetopoea processionea*) can affect the health of oak trees, people and animals. They feed on oak leaves and large populations can strip trees bare, leaving them weakened and vulnerable to other threats. A substance in the caterpillars' tiny hairs can cause skin and eye irritations, sore throats and breathing difficulties in people and animals who come into contact with them.

The species derives its common name from the fact that the caterpillars live primarily on oak trees and move about in nose-to-tail processions; it derives the first part of its scientific name from thaumetopoein, the irritating protein in the caterpillars' hairs.

Until we introduce effective border controls on the movement of plant material and timber and practice effective biosecurity measures, we cannot hope to protect our countryside from these problems.

Our Junior Tree Wardens are about to receive national acclaim.

At the beginning of 2018, they undertook their most ambitious project to date when they helped to plant a mixed species hedge on the boundary of Wrongs Covert, a 25 acre ancient woodland site along the River Wensum. Within the precious site there are 8 definably different National Vegetation Classifications which make it abundantly diverse in fauna and flora.

John volunteers his time to help owner Kathy Harris both maintain and improve the remarkable site and, as part of him planting 800 saplings to reinstate a boundary hedge, we took the Junior Tree Wardens along for the day to plant 100 of them. They certainly showed how much they had learned and they easily completed the task. Yes. 1200 saplings planted in one day!!

During October 2017 we attended the annual Tree Council's East Anglian Regional Tree Wardens' Forum in Cockfield Village Hall in Suffolk and decided to take along our two most experienced Junior Wardens. Broadland District Council kindly allowed us to claim their £15 registration fees from the Tree Warden budget. We were not sure how they would get along, fearing that some of the presentations and discussions may be somewhat advanced for them. Silly us!!!!

Kacey Cunningham and Marjorie Tunga-Wallace, both past recipients of our Junior Tree Warden of the Year award and a couple of lovely young ladies made us both extremely proud.

On arriving, Jon Stokes, the regional director of the Tree Council, on seeing us with Kacey and Marjorie, asked us if we had actually implemented our dream of a Junior Tree Warden scheme. He shook their hands and asked if they would mind if he introduced them to the audience. Jon didn't talk down to them as he asked them if they enjoyed being junior wardens. We think that gave them quite a bit of confidence.

"So is he your boss?" Marjorie asked.

On starting the Forum, Jon said straight away he said that he had become accustomed to looking out at a collection of "more senior" faces at forums. "However, today I can see two very young people and I'd like them to come and join me here at the front".

Marjorie and Kacey looked at us as if to say "does he mean us?" so we ushered them to the front.

Jon explained how John Fleetwood had spoken to him several years earlier about starting a Junior Tree Warden scheme and he was pleased to see that it had finally come to fruition. "So, here are our first Junior Tree Wardens" he said.

Not only was that greeted by one of the loudest rounds of applause we have ever heard at a forum, but it was accompanied by cheering and a stamping of feet. John Fleetwood had never heard anything like it in 24 years of attending Regional Forums.

To say that Kacey and Marjorie stole the show is the understatement of the year and to say that we were very proud is the understatement of the decade! During the day they displayed a knowledge equal to many of the "senior" Tree Wardens attending.

In recent days, John received an e-mail from Kristina Jansons Binns, the National Community Engagement Manager at the Tree Council, asking if we would be willing to participate in the making of a video describing our Junior Tree Warden Scheme, how we set it up, how we finance it, what we do, etc. It will be for distribution to all Tree Wardens throughout the UK.

Now, before our annual presentation of certificates to our Junior Tree Wardens, we must report on the uncertain future of the Broadland Parish Tree Warden scheme.

Our monthly meetings have ceased due to poor attendances and Broadland District Council wants to stop Broadsheet, the monthly magazine John writes for Broadland Tree Wardens. Whilst the budget for this year has been maintained, it will be reviewed next year.

As John has said, Broadsheet is circulated to a far greater readership than Broadland Tree Wardens and it is not for Broadland District Council to say it is to end. It belongs to John and if he wishes to write it he will.

The Tree Council has now asked John to attend the National Tree Warden Co-ordinator's Conference in Birmingham on 28 June with a view to him starting a new scheme independent of Broadland District Council. Such schemes are being created all over the UK as local authorities attempt to cut expenditure.

The main problem will be funding, but John has already secured a promise of commercial sponsorship of £3,000 a year for three years. The current Broadland District Council budget is £5,000 per year.

Much is yet to be decided, not least of all is John willing to run such a scheme, but no doubt things will become clearer at the Co-ordinator's Conference in June.

Now we return to more positive and much happier matters as we ask Council Chairman to present certificates to our Junior Tree Wardens.

Each year we present a certificate of service to each Junior Warden and then announce our Junior Tree Warden of the Year. We actually have two past Junior Tree Wardens of the Year here this evening. Kacey Cunningham and Marjorie Tunga-Wallace, both of whom have continued to be outstanding.

However, this year we have found it very difficult to single out one person and therefore they will; be all our Junior Tree Wardens of the year for 2017-2018.

So can I please ask Marjorie Tunga-Wallace
 Kacey Cunningham
 Emmie Barber
 Jessica Button
 Ellie Maunder
 Paige Anguish

to receive their certificates

We must thank Freethorpe Community Primary School, and in particular Maureen Burns and Robbie Houghton, for their continued support for the scheme and allowing us to use the school grounds for our meetings

Finally, we thank the Parish Council for its continued support and we look forward to serving the parish during the coming year.

John Fleetwood and Andrea Rowlands

Report to Freethorpe Parish Council

May 2018

I am pleased to forward this report for the Freethorpe Parish Council meeting.

Freethorpe School currently has 160 pupils on roll with 38 children in the nursery. Currently the headship is shared between Maureen Burns and Robbie Houghton. Maureen has been a headteacher in a number of schools and many of you will know Robbie as she has given 15 years' excellent service to Freethorpe School.

We have six classes in total and have a committed and enthusiastic staff. Pupil numbers and staffing have remained stable throughout the year. We appointed a new nursery manager, Mrs Karen Ellis and numbers on roll in the nursery are rising. There are plans to develop the outdoor area as this will give more opportunity for creative play.

Our school improvement priorities have concentrated on ensuring that we maintain the excellent progress and attainment made in previous years. We have had a particular focus on Maths with staff attending a number of training courses to further develop their skills.

We were very pleased to learn that the school achieved a Gold Artsmark. This was a result of many months of hard work which resulted in art work of a very high standard.

Our governing body devotes a great deal of its time to support the school and they bring a wide range of skills to their role. This has been particularly needed as the school is going through a period of transition.

We have welcomed students from the UEA who have had successful teaching placements with our school.

Maintaining the high academic standards of the school remains a priority but we also are highly committed to providing an enriched education for all our pupils and there are many extra-curricular opportunities, including taking part in a Shakespeare production at the Norwich Playhouse and also performing on stage at the Open venue in the city. A professional theatre group visited school and gave an excellent performance of *The Wind in the Willows*.

Year 6 had the opportunity to take part in first aid training and also in cycling proficiency.

Our annual visit to Hilltop near Sheringham had to be postponed due to the Beast from the East. It took place two weeks later in extremely cold conditions but was thoroughly enjoyed by the children!

We are very grateful for the support given to the school from Rev Lorna Allies and our local church community. The children very much enjoy the Open The Book sessions and our carol service was very special, as we were able to hold it in Halvergate church.

We have continued our links with Norwich Cathedral and have had some excellent workshops [provided by their education staff] including a focus on Edith Cavell and workshops based on Lent and Easter. A group of children visited the Cathedral for the Norfolk Children's Book Festival.

Many school visits were arranged, including our end of year visits to Bewilderwood. We also visited Norwich Castle, Gressenhall and a local farm.

We have a very wide range of after school clubs which include music, zumba, badminton, gardening, sports and musical theatre.

Our junior tree wardens have achieved many successes and we would like to place on record our thanks to John Fleetwood and Andrea Rowlands for all their hard work to make this scheme so enjoyable for the children.

Our year 6 pupils represented the school at the Norfolk County Show and gave an excellent presentation based on farming in Norfolk.

The pupils performed admirably at the speech festival held at Southwood Hall. We continue to develop our links with Norwich School and have appreciated their input in our sporting activities.

Our before and after school care, which starts at 7.30 until the start of school and then runs until 5.30, continues to be very well used and provides a valuable service for working parents.

We have a very enthusiastic Friends of Freethorpe organisation that supports the school in so many ways and also provides many extra resources for the school, including musical instruments, maths equipment, playground resources and many other items. In addition, they organise many social events during the year, too numerous to mention, but which include school discos, Easter and Christmas Fayres. We have also been grateful for their efforts to improve the school environment. Our outdoor classroom has now been completed after a generous donation from Friends and provides a lovely, sheltered space for the children to work in the fresh air!

This year we introduced a House system into school. All the children are in one of four houses Yare, Bure, Wensum and Thurne. House points are awarded for good behaviour, good manners, effort and achievement.

Freethorpe School continues to do well in sport. Sport is a strength of the school and this year we have achieved success in cross country, football, athletics and

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FREETHORPE
Parish Council
Chair: Nick Spencer
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From The Parish Clerk's Office

FINANCIAL ETC.

The Parish ended the last financial year (31st March) with bank balances of **£10,267.14** in the day to day account and a further sum of **£10,098.74** in the Business Reserve Account.

Arrangements are in hand to make a transfer into the higher interest earning account, indeed this may have already happened in the early part of May – our statements are up to 2nd of the month.

There were no major projects last Council year but money has been set aside to replace the village sign in Wickhampton and also to make any necessary repairs and repainting to the Clock Tower and the Freethorpe Sign

The Parish opted for a 2018-19 Precept of some £11,000 and half of this has already been received – there is also an outstanding VAT re-claim to raise.

I would like to thank the Parish Councillors for their help and support during the past year, they have always been willing when needed. Thanks also to our two NCC and Broadland Councillors who have attended the vast majority of our meetings, as has John Fleetwood the Tree Warden and who continues to do sterling work with and for the school. + Andrea Bowlands
Also Calica Computers

Thanks also to Maureen and her colleagues for taking on the now redundant telephone box, and we look forward to this becoming a real community hub. I should also mention Freda Pipes and Margaret Ditcham who have both stepped down this last year from their very important voluntary roles in the village, we wish them well and offer good luck & support to their successors.

Perhaps the only down note is the lack of attendance at Parish Meetings and I would ask some of you here this evening to try to come more often than once a year – you can have your say and make suggestions and help keep Freethorpe the place it deserves to be. Lastly I am also pleased to say that we now have two applicants for the Parish Council vacancy

REPORT TO ACLE AND MARSHES DIVISION FROM BRIAN ILES COUNTY COUNCILLOR

THE YEAR ALMOST IMMEDIATELY STARTED WITH COUNTY ELECTIONS. THE RESULT WAS A COMMANDING MAJORITY FOR THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY OVER THE INCUMBENT RAINBOW ALLIANCE. A COMBINATION OF ALL THE OTHER PARTIES.

THE NEW ADMINISTRATION EMBARKED ON CHALLENGING THE CHILDREN'S SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO IMPROVE ITS OFSTED RATING.

BRINGING THE COUNTIES FINANCES BACK TO SUSTAINABLE BALANCES.

MAINTAINING THE ADULT SOCIAL SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY WHILE INCREASING EFFICIENCIES WITHIN BUDGET.

A NEW DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN CREATED CALLED BUSINESS AND PROPERTY. THIS INCORPORATES THE OLD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

THIS IS TASKED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTIES ASSETS WITH A VIEW TO GENERATE INCOME AND CAPITAL FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COUNTY AND THE MAINTENANCE OF ITS CORE SERVICES AGAINST A BACKGROUND OF FURTHER CUTS IN GOVERNMENT FUNDING.

THE OTHER TWO DEPARTMENTS ARE EDT(ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPORT) AND COMMUNITY SERVICES. THESE ARE BOTH TASKED WITH PRODUCING FURTHER EFFICIENCIES WITHIN THEIR DEPARTMENTS TO SHOW SIGNIFICANT SAVINGS.

IN PARTICULAR EDT HAVE MANAGED THE NEW CONSTRUCTION OF THE NDR WHICH IS ALREADY MAKING TRAVELLING THROUGH AND INTO NORWICH MORE EFFICIENT.

THERE IS NOW AN INCREASE IN FIRMS LOOKING TO RELOCATE TO THE AREA THANKS TO THE NEW ROADWAY.

A LOT OF PUBLICITY HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THE COST INCREASE TO THIS PROJECT. FIRSTLY THESE ADDITIONAL COSTS ARE SUBJECT TO CONSIDERABLE SCRUTINY AND ARE UNDER CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION AND NEGOTIATION.

A LARGE PART OF THE INCREASED COSTS COMES FROM BRITISH RAIL CHANGING THE SPECIFICATION TO BRIDGES REQUIRING CONSIDERABLE EXTRA PILING AND STRENGTHENING WORK.

EVEN IF THE FULL COSTS ARE APPLIED TO THE CONTRACT IT IS STILL WELL BELOW THE COST OF A FIXED PRICE CONTRACT.

B AND P INCLUDES COUNTY FARMS AND ITS LAND BANK. INTERVIEWS HAVE JUST TAKEN PLACE FOR NEW TENANTS FOR FIVE FARMS WITHIN THE PORTFOLIO. WE WERE ALL IMPRESSED WITH THE INTAKE CONSISTING OF A LOT OF YOUNG FARMERS.

THE ESTATE WILL BE MAINTAINED AT 16000 ACRES. IT IS CURRENTLY 16750 ACRES AFTER THE PURCHASE OF TWO NEW FARMS. THIS ALLOWS FOR THE FRINGE DEVELOPMENT OF SOME OF THE LAND.

B AND P HAS CREATED A NEW DEVELOPMENT COMPANY CALLED REPTON DEVELOPMENTS. THIS WILL OVERSEA DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN THE COUNTY. HOUSING WILL BE THE MAIN FOCUS THE FIRST SCHEME IS A POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OF 140 HOUSES IN ACLE BUILT ON COUNTY LAND.

ANOTHER OF THE B AND P RESPONSIBILITIES IS SCOTTOW PARK, OUR4 INDUSTRIAL PARK ON THE OLD COLTISHALL AIRBASE.

REPORT TO PARISH COUNCILS 2017-18

CLLR GRANT NURDEN

Broadland District Council along with the whole of the public sector, is facing significant financial challenges. Our residents expect and deserve high quality services and to this end, the Council increased its share of the Council Tax bill by £5.00 per annum on a Band D property so that it can continue delivering high quality services to everyone in the district.

The Council is focused on generating income. One method has been by house building through its Broadland Growth company. The award winning Passivhaus development at Carrowbreck generated some £500,000 in profit as well as other social value such as CIL, S106 contributions, additional Council Tax and helping people in the district move into their own homes. A second scheme at Plumstead has been granted planning approval and all being well work should start on site after the summer. Another way has been to reduce the costs of temporary accommodation by buying properties to house families who would otherwise have to go into other more expensive forms of accommodation.

In volatile times of disposing of recycled materials the contract all the Norfolk districts have with NEWS at a low fixed gate fee has proved invaluable. Had we been going out to procurement now that gate fee would be at least 3 possibly 4 times the current rate. Broadland's recycling levels remain the highest in Norfolk.

Planning still remains high on everyone's agenda of concern and whilst Broadland is committed to plan lead development the lack of a 5 year land supply in the Norwich Policy Area has been a significant factor in having to approve certain developments which in other circumstances would be refused. Fortunately that has now changed with new evidence of housing need showing there is now that vital 5 year land supply which means inappropriate applications can now be justifiably refused.

From January to March the Greater Norwich planning authorities ran a consultation on a new Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP). This had 2 main elements – where the proposed 7,200 additional new homes needed in the plan period to 2036 would be located and seeking views on what sites should be allocated for them. The evaluation of the responses is under way with the next stage due later this year to prepare the new plan for further consultation, examination and adoption. The GNLP will be an integrated plan for the whole of the Greater Norwich area – Broadland, Norwich and South Norfolk.

Norfolk is a very safe county and within it Broadland is a very safe district. Recent information from Norfolk Constabulary has confirmed this although fear of crime still remains high. The most common incidents the police and partners are dealing with is public safety, particularly domestic violence. Whilst many of these do not turn into

The Parish Church of All Saints, Freethorpe



All Saints Church is the smallest and probably the oldest church in the area. The round tower is probably Norman and 12th century and the Chancel was completed in 1299 AD.

Many of the gravestones in the churchyard are from the 18th and 19th century and one of the graves is of John Rust who served in the 1st Hussar Regiment and took part in the Charge of the Light Brigade at Balaclava. When John Rust returned he became the Village Constable.

A famous Victorian architect, Anthony Salvin, designed the interior of the church in 1849 and was paid for by the Lord of the Manor.



The Vade-Walpole family, who were related to the first Prime Minister of Britain, were benefactors of the church.

Their Walpole pew is quite unique in a church as it has a Victorian cast iron fireplace and resembles a cosy little sitting room. The window in this side pew shows the Vade-Walpole Coat of Arms.

Panels behind the Altar show the ten commandments from the Bible in Exodus 20:1-17 and Deuteronomy 5: 4-21. They are the Decalogue boards. All Churches were ordered to display them after the Reformation in the 16th century.

All Saints Church is open each day for visitors to come in and look around.

All Saints Church Freethorpe

We bought a new mat for the porch which has served us well, as we have had 1,257 people thorough our Church door for our 52 services which included 4 baptisms, 2 weddings and 3 funerals.

On average our attendance is 18

34 people signed the visitors book so that is on average another hundred people through our Church door

We have paid our parish share, which was £7,800.

We enjoyed our 3 combined services with the Methodists, one which was our Carol service held in this Village Hall

4 of our members are involved with Open the Book which is held at Freethorpe School.

Our Vicar Lorna was asked by the school to write a piece about Freethorpe Church to go in the telephone box. (I have enclosed the article in my report)

Lorna Lynda and myself, we attended a wedding fare at Southwood Hall amongst all the glitz and glamour the Church had a lovely stand which came from the dioceses. We were not there just for Freethorpe Church but all our local Churches

Planting of hedges and trees have been taking place in our Churchyard

We now have a waterbutt, great for the flower arrangers and people attending graves.

We serve tea and coffee after the services which makes a great social event where we can give time to one another.

2 Cake sales and our garden fete are always very popular helping us to raise funds

We had a gentleman and his dog sleep in our Church porch he was travelling around England on a bike with a trailer, sleeping in Churches. Lets us hope if he writes a book we get a mention especially as the dog slept on our new mat.

The Church has been entered into "The Church Welcoming award 2018" the judges have been, as they left a message in the visitors book

Our ladies Christian Link meetings which are open to all ladies not just from Freethorpe go from strength to strength with speakers of all walks of life. The 3rd Wednesday in the month is when Janet Church moves all her furniture to accommodate us and we do thank her.

We do also thank the parish council for their contribution for the upkeep of the Church Yard.

Sadly we were visited by the gentle man and his grandson who were prosecuted the other week for stealing from the local Churches, - we only had a damaged safe.

We have reached a mile stone in our Church as we have been, after trying for over 20 years to have a toilet, we at last, we have permission. As we have no water or sewage it is to be a composting toilet and it is going to cost us £12,000 to spend a penny, which at the moment is impossible as we do not have the money. This toilet will also be a benefit to the village.

Sorry ending on doom and gloom, we are a very happy crowd and you all can be assured of a warm welcome at any of our Church activities

Jean Thompson assistant Church Warden

Freethorpe First Responders

Report to Freethorpe Parish Meeting May 2018

Firstly, I would like to introduce myself Ruth Davies as the new First Responder Co-ordinator for Freethorpe First Responders. I grew up in Freethorpe from the age of 3 with my parents Margaret and Graham Allcock, moving away to have my family but returning back 5 years ago.

Margaret Ditcham has given up her precious time over the years but has decided it's time to step down and focus on other things.

Please could all future communication be sent to free.resp@gmail.com for all future communication.

The First Responders now have 5 active volunteers which makes it difficult to be able to offer 24-hour cover, we also have two volunteers who are unable to respond at the moment due to family commitments. Both myself and my partner Billy, will hopefully be carrying out the training very soon so we can join the team.

During the year April 2017 to March 2018 we have not been as busy as in previous years partly due to the new criteria set out by the Ambulance Service as to which calls are been prioritised, but we have attended a total of 69 calls as a group, 12 being those in Freethorpe.

It should be pointed out once again that when 999 is called it is not guaranteed that a First Responder will appear. It all depends on the following criteria: -

1. Is there a Responder on duty?
2. Is the patient over 2 years of age?
3. Is the patient suffering from "Trauma"?
4. Have the Ambulance Control Centre contacted us?

The majority of callouts we receive are for "Shortness of Breath" or "Breathing Difficulties", but we are finding that we are now called out to "Falls". Provided the above criteria is met our Responders will do their best to attend. If the call is for a Cardiac Arrest, the Responders will zoom to attend provided someone is on duty. As a group we provide well over 600 hours per month being on call ready to attend to patients.

The group continues to check the four De Fibs (provided by the group) situated in the Villages at Freethorpe Village Hall, Cantley Village Hall, Moulton Garden Centre and Reedham Riverside, with the group providing the consumables within the cabinets. Please would anyone finding that there is a problem with the machine at Freethorpe let me know.

There are also Defibrillators situated at Reedham, Beighton and Halvergate Village Hall which are maintained by themselves.

We would not have been able to continue our volunteer work without the support of the general public. We have received donations from everyone through our box in Freethorpe Post Office. We have also received money in lieu of flowers, when a parishioner has passed away.

We are continuing to arrange for Junior First Aid Training in the three local schools for year 6 children. The best young First Aider receives a shield in memory of Liam Smith who tragically died at an early age whilst a pupil at Reedham School.

Ruth Davies
Freethorpe First Responders

11th May 2018

Freethorpe FC Annual Report to Freethorpe Parish Council

Season 2017/2018 has proved an eventful and challenging season for Freethorpe FC. The team count was reduced to 6 teams. Three adult and Three youth which was disappointing but follows the current trend for small country teams. Furthermore, the U15 team did not see the season through and was disbanded in March 2018. On a brighter note we have a good number of 5,6 and 7-year-old training on a Sat morning with at least one new team at u7 for next season.

The Adult first team however bucked the trend and finished in third place in Anglian combination Div 3 which hopefully will be good enough for promotion to Div 2 which is one step away from senior football.

The ladies team continues to be a great success with much enjoyment by all concerned with great progress being made by the team.

The football clubs biggest challenge this season came off the field of play with the club suffering a massive online phishing scam losing over £2000 to fraudsters.

However, with great support from Norfolk County FA and a tremendous effort by the local community the FC held a fundraising event titled "Freethorpe FC walk to Wembley" which involved members of the FC walking 1000 laps of the playing field which was equivalent to walking from Freethorpe to Wembley and back. This massive undertaking was made to look easy by an inspirational turnout of over 100 participants. All the money lost was made at this event with a just giving page and fundraising on the day.

The FC would like to thank all who took part and donated which effectively saved our Football Club.

The FC would like to thank the Parish Council for continuing to fund the grass cutting of the playing field which off course includes the football pitches.

The leaves which fall from the trees surrounding the playing field continue to be a problem every autumn with many hours spent by the FC collecting leaves to enable lines to be marked out. The trees also extract so much water from the grass that growth is very poor around the perimeter of the playing field.

Report by Stephen Smith secretary Freethorpe FC.

Apologies for absence but working late Shift.