

Report for the Annual Parish Meeting 26/04/2022

Good evening everyone and welcome to the Annual Parish Meeting, yet again another busy year for your Councillors not only dealing with the day to day issues as they arise but also more concerning issues relating to planning matters which will shape the future of our village and in fact there has been 56 planning applications on Brecklands Planning Portal, a number have been for tree works but the rest have been for extensions or individual new dwellings and if necessary site visits have taken place before our observations are sent to Breckland.

B1111 40mph

As I reported last year we have worked with our County Councillor, Norfolk Highways Dept and Roudham & Larling Parish Council to get a 40mph speed limit between the whisky distillery and our Parish boundary by the river bridges. On the 09/06 last year past on information that the signs would be ordered and contractors given a schedule to put them up which may take a few months and we are now given to understand that it could be later this year.

Speed Watch.

Again, our community speed watch continues to be a success in not only slowing the traffic but also catching a considerable number who have no regard for speed limits of any kind We are always looking for volunteers to help us to carry on this vital role. My thanks to Tony Long for organising the weekly monitoring and to the volunteers who turn out when called on to assist.

Street Lights

We continuing to replace lights which become irreparable with LED fittings, which are more efficient and help to reduce our carbon footprint. There are 9 concrete light columns which have passed their safe life and need to be replaced, at a cost of £14.000, this is in addition to energy costs and maintenance of the 101 lights that the Parish Council are responsible for.

Community Garden.

During the year you will all have seen how the Community Garden continues to improve. This was made possible by the Harling Town Lands Estate Trust purchasing the driveway and land securing access to the Poplars children's play area and is now on lease to the Parish Council and I would like to thank Councillor Liz Mould and her very small team of volunteers for creating a

wonderful area for all to enjoy. Plans are in place to create a wildflower area and to plant daffodils under the trees. On the 16th. September 6 volunteers attended the C P R E Norfolk awards evening, and the garden project was awarded Runner up and highly commended in the rural living category.

COVID19 Help Line

While all Covid restrictions have been removed the help line continues for anyone who needs assistance and our thanks to Councillor Liz Mould for continuing to monitor the phone line

COVID PLAQUE.

On the 14th.November a Memorial plaque given by The Lady Dannatt HM Lord Lt of Norfolk was presented to us by HM Deputy Lord Lt Lady Fisher.

PHASE 3

It is expected that the building of the planned 85 houses will possibly start later this year and we await the plans for the design and layout of the estate.

S106 Money

Breckland Council are currently holding a sum of money on our behalf which is for the purpose of providing additional recreation facilities within the Parish. At this years fete on the 3rd July on the Poplars the Parish Council will have a stand where Parishioners can make comments and ideas for the PC to consider at a later date.

Ongoing Projects

A new and safer entrance into the parking area at the Cemetery and bike stands additional seating and planters in the small area adjacent to the Chinese Restaurant

My thanks to all the Parish Councillors for their commitment throughout the year, DC William Nunn for his support and advice on Breckland matters. Our CC Steven Askew for support at County. Our two Groundsmen Brett Allen and Rod Plumb for keeping so many of the areas of the village up to a very high standard. .And of course, not forgetting our Parish Clerk Kate who during this year has managed to keep the Parish Council functioning correctly with virtual meetings, and phone calls, and despite being a difficult time for her personally has managed to complete a further extensive portfolio which now makes Kate a fully qualified CILCA Officer, this means that the status of Harling Parish Council has moved to a higher level. On a personnel note, Kate thank you for the support and advice when needed daily and sometimes hourly.during the

year. We are privileged to have Kate as our Clerk with her commitment not only to the Parish Council but also for the entire village that we all enjoy. On behalf of the Parish Council Kate a very sincere thankyou

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow Parish Councillors for allowing me to serve as their Chairman for the past year.

Philip Edge

Chairman

26/04/2022