

CRINGLEFORD PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting of Cringleford Parish Council was held on Thursday 10 May 2018 in The Willow Centre, 1-13 Willowcroft Way, Cringleford, at 7.15p.m.

Present:-

Prof M Wagstaff – Chair

Mr M Blackie

Mr J Canham

Mr M Kirkwood

Mr D Smith

Mr T Chiles

Mr M Scutter

Mr T Wang

In attendance:-

Sonya Blythe – Parish Clerk

Samantha Henry – Assistant Parish Clerk (Minutes)

David Bills - County Councillor

Christopher Kemp – District Councillor

Gary Wheatley – District Councillor

Tim Yau - Pioneer Minister

3 members of the public

1	To accept apologies for absence
	Apologies were accepted for Isabelle Kirk, Maswood Jalil and Dave Chaplin.
2	To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 11 May 2017
	The minutes were confirmed as a true record and were signed by the Chairman.
2.2	To report matters arising from the minutes not on the agenda: for information only.
	None.
3	To receive the Annual Report of the Council
	The Chairman summarised his annual report to Councillors, (attached to these minutes as an appendix). The report will be placed onto the parish council website.
5	To receive the County Councillor's Report
	Councillor Bills noted the tremendous turn around in children services with a 'good' report being issued by Ofsted. DB explained that there had been a lot of confusion regarding the future of

	<p>children support centres. He clarified that the intention was not to close centres, but rather to readjust infrastructures to become more cost effective. It was also noted that a £35 million contribution had been made by the government towards adult services in East Anglia, which would help with recruitment.</p> <p>Finally, Councillor Bills informed the Parish Council about an initiative called 'better broadband for Norfolk' that had been launched to improve the digital coverage around the region.</p>
6	To receive the District Councillor's Report
	<p>The District Councillor's report was circulated, (attached to these minutes as an appendix). The report will be placed onto the parish council website.</p> <p>Councillor Kemp discussed the potential change being made to the governance of the fire and rescue service from the County Council to the Police and Crime Commissioner. He informed Councillors that a preliminary investigation had been carried out and because of this there would be a public consultation in June 2018 where Parish Councils would be asked for their comments.</p> <p>It was also noted that advances had been made regarding residents parking permit schemes. Councillor Kemp explained that although this would not be a quick process, the Council were making progress towards a permanent solution.</p> <p>Councillor Wheatley highlighted item 17 of the report reminding the Council that grants for community projects would continue up until January 2019.</p>
7	To receive a report from Cringleford Primary School
	<p>Neil Henerys report was circulated, (attached to these minutes as an appendix). The report will be placed onto the parish council website.</p>
8	To receive a report from St Peter's Church and Cringleford Hub
	<p>St Peter's Church and Cringleford Hubs reports were circulated, (attached to these minutes as an appendix). The reports will be placed onto the parish council website.</p> <p>Tim Yau spoke briefly about the Church and Hubs involvement in the local community and the different types of events and groups that the Hub had organised and run for the parishioners throughout the year. He informed the Council that the Hub were working with BBC Voices on a project called 'Cringleford Voices' in which a film depicting life in Cringleford would be produced.</p>
8	To receive parishioner's questions on local issues
	<p>A member of the junior football club asked where the Council believed the income for the Willow Centre football field would come from as per the financial projections on the 2018/19 budget. The Chairman informed the Junior football club that the Council would make a decision once the football field had been received.</p>

	<p>Chris Mitchell of the tennis club put forward the idea of a club room as part of the renovations to the Pavilion, explaining that the tennis club would benefit from a separate room due to having a lot of evening events that the Pavilion could not accommodate. CM clarified that the tennis club would make a financial contribution towards this facility. The Chairman asked CM to contact both the cricket club and the football club to come up with a joint plan for the future of the Pavilion that would benefit all three of the sports groups and the community. JC emphasised that this process must be done quickly so as not to hinder the progress to the renovations.</p>
9	<p>To hold an initial discussion on the future uses of The Willow Centre Field</p>
	<p>The Chairman gave a brief update about the Willow Centre field noting that the Council's solicitors were in touch with the consortium's solicitors. Insurance had been put in place with the handover of the space expected imminently. The Chairman informed the meeting that the planning permission stated that the field should be used as a full-size football pitch. He explained however, that on consultation with a sports specialist, it seemed that the demand for full sized football pitches around East Anglia were minimal and that the idea of multi-use games area (MUGA) would be a better use of space. The Chairman asked for advice and comments on what the Council should proceed to do once the field became available for use.</p> <p>The junior football club commented that a public consultation had been conducted in 2010, in which the parishioners had expressed a desire to have a football pitch. It was highlighted that for the Council to not follow through with the original decision would be going against the wishes of parishioners.</p> <p>TC explained that the village had evolved since 2010 and that the wider needs of the community must be considered and that an all-weather facility which could be used both day and night could be a more beneficial option.</p> <p>TY discussed the open space argument, observing that there is not a lot of green spaces around Cringleford and that if the space remained as a football pitch it would be accessible to the public to use as a field.</p> <p>The junior football club suggested that the Council should commission the field as a football pitch and monitor the situation for the following two seasons and then revisit the discussion. It was pointed out that the cost of trialling a football pitch would be significantly less than trialling a MUGA.</p> <p>Councillors agreed to discuss the future of the football field at the Council meeting on the 14th June 2018.</p>

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15 p.m.

Appendix 1.

CRINGLEFORD PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18

The basic work of the Parish Council has continued steadily through the year. Verges have been cut around the village. Trees have been trimmed. Football pitches, cricket squares and tennis courts have been maintained. The Pavilion and The Willow Centre are cared for and hired. The staff has worked tirelessly on everyone's behalf. New staff has been appointed. Sam Henry is assistant clerk and looks after the hiring of the Parish's facilities. Mark Dingle has joined Chris Meeson, the senior grounds man, and an apprentice, Alex Pates has started training. The Council itself remains at full strength. Its main roles are to formulate policy and see that it is implemented.

The precept was increased for the second time in two years. This was to fund the urgent replacement of streetlights, which are no longer fit for purpose, and to pay for the refurbishment of the Pavilion following several years of neglect. The children's play area at Oakfields Road was reopened after a refit that took longer than expected, and the zip-wire was replaced. The play areas on Round House Park are monitored weekly and seem in good condition. Sadly, the Council has still not been able to take on the playing field by The Willow Centre or the associated open spaces.

The Council and The Hub have organized a children's cinema club and shown several films during the year. Thanks are due to Councillor Trevis Chiles for this initiative. Plans are well advanced for an event to mark the signing of the Armistice and the end in 1918 of fighting on the Western Front. More information will be available over the summer.

The Parish has produced a new Emergency Plan so that we know how to cope with a major incident hitting the village or the immediately surrounding area. On the other hand, the Council is still working on plans to deal with the problems of parking around the village. Double yellow lines have appeared or been extended on various roads, while parking on the flyover will become time-limited. Much remains to be done. Some form of residents' parking is under discussion with the District Council. The risk of a serious accident at the intersection of Inwood Road and Keswick Road has worsened, but the Council is working closely with the County Council to find a solution. Highways England consulted residents, as well as the Council, about how to manage traffic through the Thickthorn Interchange. Their decision is expected soon.

Appendix 2

Annual Parish Report 2017-18 by Cllrs Christopher Kemp and Garry Wheatley

1. Firstly, to set the context. There are 380 Councils in England. South Norfolk District Council is officially one of the highest performing. The "trade journal" the Local Government Chronicle placed SNDC in the Top Six Councils nationally at its annual awards ceremony. And elsewhere, we were the first public sector organisation in Norfolk to win the coveted Investors In People Platinum designation for the work we do to enable our staff to work more effectively and efficiently to serve you better.

2. Last year 1300 new homes were delivered in South Norfolk. That is almost 1pc of the entire national total of new homes. There are now many more affordable homes locally than before the right to buy started and our housing team are finding two socially-rented homes for families every business day.

3. New homes need to go alongside infrastructure investments to improve quality of life. For example, at Wymondham a £4m investment in better leisure and fitness facilities has seen a 60% increase in the number of visitors and we now teach 2000 youngsters to swim each year.

4. We are just about to start a similar £2m upgrade at Long Stratton as well as the completion of a new All-Weather pitch so that more and more people have the chance to lead healthier and active lifestyles.

5. Broadband is another key piece of infrastructure and we have signed a contract with a local provider to increase the number of fast-internet radio masts from 10 to 28. This means that by this Summer the 5000 homes that BT are unable to connect to fast broadband across the District will get proper access to the digital world – Broadband is a critical utility and we will be one of the first rural districts to get 100% fast broadband coverage to everyone.

6. A planning application has been submitted for the Long Stratton Bypass and homes to be built alongside. There is a lot of work to be done before it becomes a reality but the finance is in place to deliver it with Council, Government and Developer contributions.

7. Together with improvements at the Hempnall crossroads, the Hales junction and shortly after, the developer-paid George Road, Loddon roundabout, and contributions to the Diss Market Triangle and a new school in Wymondham, housing development is paying for improvements that improve quality of life for everyone.

8. It is not just about housing and infrastructure and strengthening the economy, however. South Norfolk District Council seeks to solve peoples' problems one family a time.

9. A fine example is the way the District Council helps people stay independent in their homes for longer. This work saves the NHS a fortune. In the last 3 months we have had a staff member sitting at the hospital as people are admitted to the ward. They identify the people who will be needing a little help at home when they get better: perhaps a hand rail in the bathroom, a wheelchair ramp or even something as simple as booster-feet under a favourite chair. We do this work whilst the patient is recovering so they can get home more quickly.

10. In just the 12 weeks in which this scheme has been running, the Council has helped 100 people, halved the average stay in the hospital and saved 380 bed-days. By this initiative life has been made better for each of these people as they recovered.

11. That is just one example of our work which covers preventing homelessness, sorting out debt problems, helping youngsters find a rented home or ensuring that landlords keep their promises to tenants.

12. Also, we must not forget the work the District Council does to help small businesses. This year we have been able to reduce the rates bills of the smallest firms by more than the Government expects so that, especially, rural pubs, shops & garages can remain open for longer.

13. Everyone knows that finances are tight in local government so we have given priority to efficiency, flexibility and resilience. It means that South Norfolk's Council Tax is 20% less than inflation since 2007 yet nevertheless we do more. As an example, 62% of our ten most popular transactions are now dealt with online via our website. It means that we have fewer administrators and can deal with problems faster and at times when it is convenient for our customers – even if the office is closed.

14. These efficiencies are important but they are not enough if we are to deliver the 86 services for residents. So that is why we are looking to work more with our neighbours in Broadland District Council. Both councils have similar demographics, geography, scale and outlook. We are seeing whether a single team that works for both District Councils will benefit our communities on a scale residents can recognise and to which they can relate.

15. Working more closely together offers both councils increased capacity and resilience, together with greater financial stability whilst taking advantage of commercial opportunities to deliver better value for our residents. Our taxpayers expect a local government that moves with the times and innovates, while retaining and attracting the most talented staff, offering them positive futures and career development opportunities.

16. The joint aim is for two strong councils, working together with the ambition and resources to make our combined area one of the best places to live and work in the country. Nonetheless it must be emphasised that this is not to be seen as a first step towards merger. The intention is to develop joint working for the mutual benefit of

Council taxpayers in both Districts.

17. Finally, all these things work on a district-wide basis. But as the representatives for Cringleford Ward we are delivering locally. The District Council still offers community grants and each of our five parishes has received support for local community projects in the past two years.

18. Planning applications in the five parishes in the Ward have continued to receive our close attention. Cllr Christopher Kemp sits on the Development Management Committee and Cllr Garry Wheatley is one of the accredited pool of substitutes. We are both well-known for championing the interests of our constituents and for disagreeing with the advice of the Council's officers when appropriate.

19. Everything we do aims to make better lives and stronger economies for everyone whilst keeping the cost down with a dedicated team of staff members and councillors working with the other parts of Government to improve lives one family at a time, one street at a time and one place at a time.

20. The people and communities of the five parishes of Cringleford Ward may rely on us to continue to represent them to the best of our abilities for the final year of this four-year term. It has been our pleasure and our honour to serve Cringleford Ward since we were first elected in 2003.

Appendix 3

Report for the Parish Council ~ May 2018

The school has had a successful year and is now nearly full. In September the school will have 420 pupils and will be a fully functioning two-form entry primary school. We need to advertise for another teacher for September and some additional support staff. The school has a great team of staff and this is one of its main strengths. Visitors to the school always comment on the good atmosphere and purposeful learning environment in all classes and this is mostly due to the way that everyone works together with the same shared values.

The educational landscape has changed considerably over the last few years, both locally and nationally. There are a number of Academy chains and different trusts now set up and the support from the Local Authority is much reduced. In this climate it is important for schools to make good links with other schools and organisations in order to make sure that staff keep up-to-date with best practice and that school to school support can take place. Cringleford CE VA Primary School is part of a group of schools buying into the Viscount Nelson Educational Trust, paying an annual subscription in order to benefit from courses and conferences they put on. Other links include those with the Hethersett Cluster of primary schools and other like-minded Church Schools.

One of the challenges the school will face as we increase our numbers to 420 pupils is that of space and the need to explore where some additional PE lessons can be taught e.g the Willow Centre. This situation is made worse due to the fact that our playing field's drainage is very poor and areas of it can be out of action for long periods during the wetter months. The school has been given £5,000 by the Local Authority to try to sort out the problem and we are hoping that some improvements can be made once it has been decided what the main problem is. Another challenge for all schools is managing ever tighter budgets. This year we have been supported once again by a very pro-active PTA and we also held a sponsorship event in order to raise funds from parents and the wider community. The school has to become increasingly creative in the way that support staff are deployed to meet the needs of all the pupils in the school at a time when Special Needs funding in Norfolk has been reduced.

The school continues to be extremely grateful for all the support from St Peter's Church, through the Open the Book assemblies, Mothering Sunday tea event and the regular input from church leaders, such as Reverend Tim Yau and Rev Graham Wilkins for school events and for Thirdspace activities.

As well as all the developments described above, the school has continued to provide our pupils with a full range of curriculum events including:

- Residential visits to Hill Top (Year 6) and How Hill (Year 3)
- Trips to a variety of places, such as Sealife Centre, Holt Hall, John Innes Centre, Castle Museum, Dinosaur Park, Norwich Playhouse, UEA Sportspark, Sainsbury Centre

- Visitors to support the curriculum – authors during Book Week, Didgeridoo player, Chroma ensemble, parents sharing about their cultures during International Week
- PTA events – summer and Christmas fairs, quiz, cake sales, car boot sale etc
- Fundraising efforts for Sport Relief, Children in Need, Foodbank etc
- Visits by the children to Cavell Court to work with some of their residents and to the Luncheon Club at Christmas
- Cluster events, such as the Year 2 multi-cultural festival and joint subject leader networks so our staff can share best practice
- All pupils taking part in celebrations of the major Christian festivals – harvest, Christmas and Easter

The school continues to be very grateful for the support from the Parish Council and the wider community. We are particularly thankful that our parents can use the Willow Centre car park at picking up and dropping off times.

Neil Henery - headteacher

Appendix 4

Parish Council Cringleford Hub Report 2017

In September 2017, to better achieve Cringleford Hub's maxim of:
'living well and loving our community'

we reprioritised our focus around four areas:

Listen to the needs and desires of an ever-expanding village;

Connect and welcome new neighbours;

Celebrate the traditional and emerging identity of Cringleford;

Partner by facilitating working relationships across the community.

During 2017 Cringleford HUB organised the following activities which were attended by a wide range of people from the community:

April 2017 saw us launch our first 'Art Trail' with over 300 people taking part over two days. It was so successful another Art Trail is planned for 2018.

June 2017 was the 'Great get together picnic' which saw 120 people picnicking on the green at RHP.

May to June saw a new Meditation group and although we held 6 meetings, due to lack of regular attendees we stopped meeting. However, it was identified that a 'happiness' course may be of interest in the future.

October 2017 Halloween, with over 60 people meeting on the green at RHP where over 200 glow sticks were given out.

December 2017 saw the choir from St Peter's church singing carols outside Cringleford School with 55 people joining in. The choir then moved on to Tesco's on RHP where they sang to shoppers and staff.

As well as the above 'one off' events the HUB also run 'Bounce and Rhyme' a parents/carers and pre-school kids group which meets weekly in term time. Our average weekly attendance was 13 adults and 16 kids.

Also, in conjunction with St Peter's Hub Church we launched Thirdspace, which we felt combined the best bits of both the Hub Café and Breakfast Church. We trialled an all age community drop-in with space to meet your neighbours, and activities to engage your mind, body, and soul. We moved the time to Sunday tea-times during term-time (4.00-5.30pm), so as to catch families before kid's bed-time. We ran with various activities such as refreshments, board games, crafts, sports, magazines, play, conversation, mindfulness, and prayer.

Finally, in conjunction with the Parish Council we ran Cringlekidz Film Club for 0-11 year olds, which screens a film on average every 2 months, which is very well attended.

In conclusion, I wanted to say thanks to Sam and Sonya in the Parish Office for all their help, and also thanks to Parish Councillor Trevis Chiles and his wife Carol for all their hard work around the Film Club.

Appendix 5

The past year has been another one which has seen St. Peter's serving the community of Cringleford. We have continued to serve young and old alike through a range of activities including Cringletots group for children and those who care for them, Memory Lane Café for those with memory issues and their family and friends and our regular lunch club meetings for those who enjoy good company and good food.

We have very much enjoyed the chance to serve the community by serving Cringleford School as governors and running events like the Mother's Day Tea to thank all those who help nurture children. It is also a continued joy to work in partnership with the Cringleford Hub to serve our community – particularly enjoying the chance to provide crafts at the recent Good Friday Film Club run by the council and the Hub.

As always we are grateful for the support of the council and very thankful for the gift which allowed us to remove trees and plants from an overgrown bedding that had become unsightly as people drove into the village from the bridge with Eaton. We have a wonderful group of volunteers who do a great job of keeping the churchyard pleasant to be in and this was a great support in that work.

Reverend Graham Wilkins