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Cringleford Parish Council has monthly meetings (except August). Full Council is held on the second Thursday and the Planning and Environment Committee on the first Wednesday of each month. Parishioners are welcome to join these meetings (details on website).

There are also additional groups that provide advice to Council—the Recreation and Amenities Advisory Group and the Finance Advisory Group.

The Parish Matters

Open spaces. The Parish Council held a session on Friday April 22 to consult parishioners on what they would like to see on the green open spaces that we control or will control when future developments are complete. It was good to see so many parishioners attend across the day and we had some excellent feedback both verbal and via the response form. It is not too late to return your comments; a box has been placed outside Reception at The Willow Centre for your forms. If you were unable to attend the response form is available on our website (www.cringelfordpc.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Consultation-response-document.docx).

For the Queen's Jubilee we will be financially supporting several community groups holding events in the Parish. We will also be planting a number of trees on suitable open spaces. We have recently received a grant to turn the green space on Lobelia Lane into a tranquil garden to commemorate the Jubilee. The proposal is to have a square of pleached trees with a variety of planting around and inside them plus some benches where people can sit and enjoy the quiet accessible space. We look forward to starting the planting for this area in the autumn. Further details will follow in a later issue.

Greater Norwich Local Plan hearings. In February and March the Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP) entered the examination phase (www.gnlp.org.uk/local-plan-examination-local-plan-examination/examination-hearings) when the Inspectors worked through all the proposals area by area. There are two sites in Cringleford proposed for further development (www.gnlp.org.uk/regulation-19-publication-part-2-sites-3-urban-fringe/cringelford-including-employment-allocation). The GNLP has recommended an uplift of 410 houses to the number (1300) currently given planning permission on the Big Sky, Tilia and Barratt David Wilson Homes (BDWH) sites. One of the sites is the southern half of Newfound Farm against the A47. In anticipation of the outcome of the GNLP proposals, BDWH have proposed 410 houses for this site (see item on Newfound Farm). The number of houses proposed already exceeds by 100

the total agreed in the Cringleford Neighbourhood Plan so the Parish Council attended the hearings to put forward their case for a reduction in the allocation. We feel Cringleford does not need more housing as there are alternative brownfield sites in Norwich. We await the outcome of the hearings. The implementation date of the GNLP is expected to be September of this year, but this has not been confirmed yet.

Parking scheme. We were informed at our April Council Meeting that all objectors to the scheme had been written to and advised that the scheme would be going ahead this year. It is expected to start in September.

Signs for safety

Intwood Road gateway. In this year's submission to the Parish Partnership Scheme, where parishes can receive a 50% contribution from the County Council for road safety initiatives, we submitted a successful proposal for gateway signage to be placed on Intwood Road as you enter the village after crossing the railway line. The type of signage is shown in the image



The type of gateway envisaged for Intwood Road

and there will also be roundels placed on the road denoting the speed limit. This stretch of road has been identified as a problem in our Road Safety Strategy (see website for details) because traffic often speeds up after the railway crossing and before it reaches Keswick Road. There is insufficient space for us to instal a footpath, but we hope the gateway will enhance safety by making people more aware of the speed limit on that particular stretch of the road.

Accident by Cringleford bus interchange. Early in March we were notified of an accident involving a child crossing the road opposite the new bus interchange on Roundhouse Way just beyond the A11 junction. This is

another place that had been identified in our Road Safety Strategy as being potentially dangerous. We had already requested a signal controlled crossing at that point but had been told by Norfolk County council that the location was problematic. We contacted our County Councillor, David Bills, to see if he could help. We discussed several possible options to improve safety at this site including road signs, but the County Council seems reluctant to do anything more. They have already changed the routing of the buses, however, so that children are now dropped off on the Roundhouse Park side of the road and feel this should mitigate the problem. Cllr Bills and the Parish Council will be following up additional safety options with Highways.

Our new centre on St Giles Park

The Parish Council and Big Sky continue to work together on providing a new sports and recreation facility at St Giles Park as part of our Recreation Strategy. The new building, originally just to provide changing rooms, will

now include a hall equivalent in size to two badminton courts that will be designed to be used for multiple recreational purposes, plus space for a brand new nursery to meet the increasing demand from both the new and existing developments in the area. We hope to



An architect's impression of the new facility on St Giles Park viewed from the south adjacent to the football pitches

submit a joint planning application towards the end of May with Big Sky who have undertaken most of the initial work.

In parallel, work continues on the design, with help from a local nursery, and on the costings for the building. If affordable, the building will be funded mainly from the Community Infrastructure Levy. It is being designed to be environmentally friendly, energy efficient and to minimise ongoing

maintenance and operating costs. We aim also to instal EV car charging points for hall users and community access.

Anyone for tennis?

Under our agreement with the tennis club, Cringleford residents are now able to book a court at the club for Saturdays after 12:30 pm, or for Wednesdays until 2.00 pm, subject to court availability. Cost £6 per hour. Bookings may be made up to 7 days in advance.

If you would like to play on the club's courts, please email cringlefordtennis.membership@gmail.com stating the date and times you are requesting to book. The club will check court availability and access arrangements. The Membership Secretary will then email you a Resident Booking Form confirming date and times. This must be completed and returned, with payment made by online banking, in advance of play. All players must be Cringleford residents.

Is your broadband speed really poor?

In the first year of lockdown, residents of Medway in Cringleford discussed their broadband speeds as they were significantly lower than guaranteed in their contracts; some people were getting as low as 2 Mbps per second at 'busy' times on a contract that specified at least 15.

They contacted their suppliers but that had little effect because broadband speed drops off alarmingly the further away you are from your nearest 'green box' if your supply is reliant on copper wires. The Ofcom website at that time indicated that sections of their neighbourhood were falling below the minimum standard of 10Mbps. They investigated options for improving download speed and found that the best and least expensive option was the Norfolk County Council led 'Better Broadband for Norfolk' scheme that aims to deliver fibre optic cabling to your door by 2023.

With the support of the Parish Council and Cllr David Bills, they managed to increase their priority for having fibre installed. A few months after their lobbying commenced, workmen were welcomed as they arrived to put in the cables. Each resident then had to contact their supplier to get them to

link their system to the fibre-based provision. Where the supplier was not able to carry out the connection, residents had to change supplier with an increase in cost.

So, advice from Residents of Medway if you are having problems is to check your current download speed and contact your supplier first. Then look at the 'Better Broadband for Norfolk' website map (norfolkcc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Minimalist/index.html?appid=72f1b296dbf642bba45a7aa7ee189a54) to see what priority their programme is likely to allocate to your area, and contact them in the first instance (Karen O'Kane, Programme Director for 'Better Broadband for Norfolk', karen.okane@norfolk.gov.uk) or, if that fails, Cllr David Bills (david.bills.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk).

Update on new developments

St Giles Park (information provided by Big Sky) Construction of the first phase of Big Sky Living's development at St Giles Park comprising 60 homes has now completed with all homes either sold or under offer. The second and third phases of a further 77 homes are progressing well with the first homes now being occupied. The fourth phase of a further 34 homes started on site late last year with these homes due to be ready from July onwards next year. These three phases will deliver 69 affordable homes and with 22 having been handed over already.

The road from St Giles Park connecting to Cantley Lane, close to the junction with Brettingham Avenue, was originally planned to be opened in March but it has been decided to postpone this until later in the year.

The structural landscaping is now becoming well established and a programme of replacing failed trees and plants is currently in hand. The playing field area has been seeded and the grass sward continues to improve but will need to be well established before the area can be opened for use. We are working with the Parish Council to agree designs (see earlier) for a pavilion building in advance of submitting a planning application in the next few months.

Newfound Farm. As mentioned earlier under the GNLP item, there is a

proposal before Inspectors for an additional 410 new homes to be built in Cringleford. The current BDWH's site has planning permission for 650 homes. BDWH have provided the following information:

"Barratt David Wilson Eastern Counties is bringing forward a hybrid planning application for 410 new homes at Land Southwest of Newfound Farm, Cringleford. This proposal marks Phase 2 of the wider development at Newfound Farm, with the construction of Phase 1 already underway.

The development has been designed to deliver much-needed high-quality new homes in Cringleford. The plans are still at the early stages. We plan to hold a consultation event in the coming months, which will provide more detail on the proposals and give you the opportunity to ask questions to the project team. To register your interest in attending the consultation event, please visit our website: www.bdwcringleford.co.uk."

The current site has an area set aside for a new school to take 420 children. We hope you were able to attend the Local Authority's recent informal



An artist's 3D impression of the new school building viewed from the north

exhibition event at The Willow Centre for people to view the plans of the school and possible nursery (architect's impression shown), and to ask questions of the team involved with the build. It is hoped the school will be completed by the start of the 2024-5 school year. If you would like any more information or have any queries regarding the proposals please contact Chris Brooker, Children's Services Project Officer (schoolreview@norfolk.gov.uk).

Useful Contacts and Information

Cringleford Parish Council



Parish Clerk	01603 250198, clerk@cringlefordpc.org.uk
Room Bookings	01603 457222 admin@cringlefordpc.org.uk
Website	cringlefordpc.org.uk
Facebook	cringlefordpc
Instagram	thewillowcentre

Church Hall bookings

01603 259138

Patteson Room bookings

01508 218732



District Councillors

Daniel Elmer - delmer@s-norfolk.gov.uk

William Kemp - wkemp@s-norfolk.gov.uk



County Councillor

David Bills - david.bills.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk

Road works information

one.network/

Highways reporting form (potholes, overhanging trees, etc.)

www.norfolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads/report-a-problem



The Willow Centre

- [clothing and shoe bank](#) is in the car park
- [Norwich Foodbank drop-offs](#) to donate non-perishable food, drink or toiletries
- [battery](#) collection point is open
- [book swap](#) in the bistro area is operating

Holding a one-off event, a regular class or sports match?



Contact us to see if we have space in The Willow Centre or the refurbished Pavilion