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Cringleford Parish Council has monthly meetings (except August) by Zoom at present. 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—some good news

Your Parish Council decided not to increase the precept at its January meeting when it set the 2021/2022 budget despite a huge drop in income from our facilities. In reality, this means that there will be a small decrease in your bill next year because the number of dwellings in the parish contributing to the precept increased over the last year.

And more good news. Work has restarted on the Pavilion. After a difficult year, Council have removed the original contractors and have replaced them with a local firm who have promised to finish the refurbishment by the end of the first week in May. We apologise for the inconvenience that the lengthy delay has caused users, but it was beyond our control.

Eaton and Cringleford Vets asked the Parish Council if it could help make safe the drainage ditch outside its surgery on Cantley Lane. It had proven to be a danger since at least one member of the public fell into it. We liaised with Norfolk County Council to have a fence installed around the ditch. We are pleased to report the fence³ is now in place. If you have any concerns like this that you have noticed around the Parish, please do contact our Clerk (clerk@cringlefordpc.org.uk).

The Parish Council currently has a vacancy for a co-opted councillor and a second one will become available in May. If you are interested in joining a vibrant council and helping us to look after our thriving, rapidly expanding village, please do contact our Parish Clerk for further information.

Please note that, to save money, South Norfolk District Council decided they will no longer send out bin collection calendars. If you have access to the internet, you can print one off at: <https://www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/bin-collection-calendar>.

Parking Proposals—have your say

Norfolk County Council published their Orders for the proposed changes to the roads around Colney Lane and Intwood Road in the EDP in February. By

now all residents who are affected by the proposals should have received a consultation letter. If you have received one, it is very important that you express a preference (hopefully positive) and return the voting paper by post or by email to Zoe Schofield (zoe.schofield@norfolk.gov.uk) by March 19th. The Parish Council worked hard with County and District Councillors and Officers to develop the scheme over the last three years. Although the schemes may not suit everyone, it is the best that could be achieved to balance the needs of residents with visitors who park on our streets. If the schemes do not obtain sufficient support from residents, it is unlikely that any new proposals will be supported in the near future.

Flooding Task Force to be chaired by Lord Dannatt

Following serious flooding in many areas of Norfolk including Cringleford at Christmas, a new alliance between Norfolk County Council, District Councils, the Environment Agency, Anglian Water and others is being created to coordinate activities aimed at improving the County's resilience to flooding. It was announced in February that the force was to be chaired by Lord Dannatt, the former head of the British Army who lives locally. The Parish Council sent a series of images recording the flooding in Cringleford to the County Council in January for their records.



Man of Stones with wet feet

Thickthorn plans ready for approval

Highways England (HE) held a virtual briefing with the Parish Council in January on their plans for improving the Thickthorn Interchange. The scheme includes increasing the number of lanes around the roundabout, a dedicated left turn lane from the A47 southwards to the A11 and a direct lane from the A11 travelling east on A47 to Gt. Yarmouth. The plans have been finalised and HE will be seeking approval from the Government in March to start in January 2023 aiming to complete within 18 months.

Why we need wildflower meadows in Cringleford ...

Did you know that less than 1% of the UK is covered by wildflower meadows? Following a decline of 97% since the 1930s, they are one of the rarest habitats in the UK. Wildflower habitats are hugely important, not only to improve biodiversity and provide food and shelter for many species, including a host of pollinators that help to supply our food, but also for the health benefits they bring us.

It has become increasingly evident over the last year that having access to high quality green spaces is important for our mental wellbeing; the University of Exeter conducted research showing that individuals who spend at least two hours per week in natural settings were more likely to report good health and higher psychological wellbeing.

There are different ways of creating wildflower meadows. You may have seen pictures of spectacular and colourful 'wildflower meadows' that councils across the UK have planted. However, these are not truly wildflower meadows, as they often contain non-native species and are more densely planted than naturally occurring meadows. We should encourage our native flora to thrive, like cowslips, oxeye daisy, lady's bedstraw, bird's-foot-trefoil, orchids, scabious and knapweed; our wildflowers have beauty in their delicate and less concentrated nature. To this end the Parish Council has encouraged the Highways Authority not to cut verges along Roundhouse



*Native wildflowers near
Thickthorn interchange*

Way and we have left some areas of Roundhouse Park uncut to encourage wildflowers.

Although we appreciate some people may see these areas as 'untidy', the importance of doing our small bit to tackle climate change and a decline in biodiversity, as well as improving the mental wellbeing of our residents must take precedence.

... and dead trees!

You may have noticed, if you've walked through the Willow Centre grounds, that one of the large trees blew down in the autumn storms.

We have decided to leave this tree for its importance to wildlife. Many organisms, such as lichens, fungi, bryophytes, a myriad of

invertebrates, hole-nesting birds, and mammals rely on deadwood. Keeping this windthrown tree will provide an important habitat and serve to maintain and improve the biodiversity our parish sustains.



Fallen oak by The Willow Centre

Cringleford Developments update

Newfound Farm (information supplied by BDW Homes). The development on Cringleford Heights is progressing well with the Sales Garage on target to be open to customers by the middle of March 2021. The show homes are also currently under construction and will be ready to view in May of this year by appointment. The ground improvement works have now started for the next phase and are expected to be completed around the end of April. By the middle of the year, the majority of the infrastructure works for the initial phase of the development will be complete, allowing BDW to target the completion of circa 80-90 homes by June 2022.

BDW are also currently undertaking improvements to the Roundhouse Way/Colney Lane roundabout, as well as resurfacing parts of Colney Lane between Roundhouse Way and the priority junction into the Cringleford Heights development. Equally, as part of progressing the wider package of highway improvements for the local area, BDW are currently working with other nearby developers to ensure that the future improvements to the A47/A11 Thickthorn Interchange are brought forward in a conjoined manner alongside Highways England – further updates on this will be provided in due course. As always, BDW remain committed to working with

the residents of Cringleford as well as Cringleford Parish Council to deliver a high quality, well designed development.

St Giles Park (information supplied by Big Sky). The Big Sky Living's Development at St Giles Park for 350 homes has now been on site for almost a year. The first phase of 60 homes, is being built by Carter Homes, with the first occupations due very soon. The two show homes were opened just before Christmas and marketing continues through the local estate agent, Stratfords. The second phase of a further 40 homes started on site in October and Pentaco are the building contractors. Big Sky also plan to instruct commencement of the third phase of houses comprising 37 homes for a start on site in late April. These three phases will deliver 44 affordable homes.

Offsite highway works on Cantley Lane close to the junction with Brettingham Avenue have now been substantially completed other than some minor landscaping/making good to be carried out when the Spring weather arrives. It still remains the intention that the access to St Giles Park from Cantley Lane will not be opened to general traffic until later in the year, probably the Autumn. Big Sky's civil engineering contractor, Ovamill, continue with on-site infrastructure works including roads, sewers and the structural landscaping which includes the proposed sports pitches although the exceptionally wet weather in the last few months has meant this work has not progressed as quickly as originally intended.

We will provide updates on progress on this development in future editions of the magazine.

Roundhouse Gate (information supplied by Kier Living). Progress has been good at Roundhouse Gate. The street scene around the sales and marketing area is likely to be fully completed for mid-April 21. The roads and infrastructure are around 25% complete on the current phase and Kier are on target to complete their full business year target for June 2021. Customers continue to support the team by recommending them to a friend via the Home Builders Federation surveys.

A Tribute to Maswood Jalil (by John Canham, Feb 2021)

Maswood (pronounced Masood) died on 22 December 2020 and was laid to rest in St Peter's Churchyard on 12 January 2021. Married for 63 years to Helga, they were blessed with two sons (sadly, now deceased) and two daughters.



He was born in Patna India in September 1933. Military and political unrest made his parents look for safety, taking their family to Pakistan. They went to Calcutta, then refugee camps in Karachi and Lahore where his parents decided that he should go to England to get a good education and find a career in Nursing.

Having completed training he progressed rapidly, and in the following years held posts in a number of cities. With wife Helga and their four children, the family finally settled in Cringleford in 1974, where Maswood was appointed the Area Nursing Officer for Norfolk. He retired in 1988.

A member of the Rotary Club and Hethersett Lions, he was also involved in twinning links with parts of France, Germany, Serbia, and Nicaragua. After retirement, from 1988 to 2011 he held other prominent roles with Home-Start Breckland & South Norfolk, the National Eczema Society and Eastern Landlords Association, all excellent examples of his commitment to addressing areas of need in the community.

Maswood was a well-known, highly respected Cringleford Parish Councillor, serving some three decades until health problems led him to resign from the Council in 2019. He had a long professional career in the NHS reaching senior positions, and his dedicated attitude in those roles was replicated in his service as a Parish Councillor. He was committed to helping parishioners and those in need of assistance, working for various charities supporting good causes and being involved in projects and advisory groups for the Council. He was a staunch 'green' energy advocate, practising what he preached by installing solar panels and a heat pump in his home.

Maswood was a lovely gentleman, popular with many friends and colleagues, and holding strong ethical beliefs. He was very family oriented and, as with Helga, was immensely proud of his children and three grandchildren. Many will miss him. God Bless Maswood.

Useful Contacts and Information

Cringleford Parish Council



Parish Clerk

Room Bookings

Website
Facebook

01603 250198,
clerk@cringlefordpc.org.uk
01603 457222
admin@cringlefordpc.org.uk
cringlefordpc.org.uk
[cringlefordpc](https://www.facebook.com/cringlefordpc)

Church Hall bookings
Patteson Room bookings

01603 259138
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
- drop-off point for 'Gift Your Shoes' is not currently available
- [Norwich Foodbank drop-offs](#) to donate non-perishable food, drink or toiletries, by appointment only [01603 457222](tel:01603457222)
- [battery](#) collection point is closed currently
- [book swap](#) in the bistro area is not operating at present

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 (from mid-May)