

CRINGLEFORD PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting of Cringleford Parish Council was held on
Thursday 11 May 2022 at The Willow Centre at 7.15p.m.

Present:-

Professor T Wang – in the Chair (TW)	Mrs L Rawlings (LR)
Mr M Blackie (MB)	Mr N Afshar (NA)
Mrs D Miller (DM)	Mrs H Simmons (HS)
Mrs C Fielding (CF)	Mr A Clay (AC)
Mr D Chaplin (DC) (from 19:25)	Mr S Chapman (from 7.40pm)

In attendance:-

Sonya Blythe – Parish Clerk	David Bills – County Councillor
William Kemp – District Councillor	Daniel Elmer – District Councillor
1 x members of the public	

1	To accept apologies for absence
	Apologies were received from the Community Pioneer Reverend, the Rector of Cringleford and Colney, and the Head Teacher of Cringleford Primary School Councillor T Craig-Moonie was not present.
2	To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 6 May 2021
	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.
	An invitation would be extended to the new Head Teacher of Cringleford Primary School to meet the Council at a future meeting.
3	To receive the Annual Report of the Council
	The annual report from the Chairman was circulated (appendix 1). The report was available on the Parish Council's website.
4	To receive the County Councillor's Report
	Councillor Bills had provided a written report (appendix 2) in advance of the meeting. The report was available on the Parish Council's website. DB reported that NCC had been awarded the title of top learning provider in the country during the pandemic.

	<p>TW noted that the new recycling centre was difficult to use as all items had to be lifted over a metre off the ground to get them in the waste containers. This could cause injuries to those trying to dispose of waste.</p> <p>Regarding the bus interchange, TW asked DB if he was happy with the response to the accident, i.e. that the school bus now dropped children off on the opposite side of the road. This however would not prevent an adult from being injured. DB responded that the situation was fluid, and he would support CPC in obtaining more improvements.</p>
5	To receive the District Councillor's Report
	<p>Councillor Kemp summarised his report, which he agreed to send to the Clerk after the meeting. The report (appendix 3) would be placed on the Parish Council website.</p> <p>Questions were asked around the grants mentioned in the report, which WK and DE said they would investigate and feedback. TW advised that CPC would likely apply to all streams to help fund the new sports hall.</p> <p>In response to a question regarding expansion of Humbleyard GP surgeries, DE confirmed that Cringleford Medical Centre would not close, but additional capacity would be available in Hethersett.</p>
6	To receive a report from Cringleford Primary School
	<p>The report received from Mrs Humphrey, Head Teacher, was circulated (appendix 4). The report would be placed on the Parish Council's website.</p>
7	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 Appendix 5 & 6). The reports would be placed onto the Parish Council website.</p>
8	To receive parishioner's questions on local issues
	<p>Points were raised on the District and County Councillors reports.</p> <p>The member of public asked what interactions CPC had over the new school which would be built. TW advised that NCC did hold meetings to keep CPC updated, but they were not interested in feedback or in making changes to their plans. However CPC would ask whether the school's facilities would be available to the community.</p> <p>Finally he asked for feedback on the Greater Norwich Local Plan examination. TW advised that the hearings had seemed fair, but no outcome had yet been received.</p>

There being no further business the meeting closed at 19:55.

Appendix

Appendix 1 - To receive the Annual Report of the Council

CRINGLEFORD PARISH COUNCIL

REPORT to the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING for the year 2021-22

The Annual Parish Meeting is part of the process of local accountability. It offers an opportunity for Parishioners to raise matters of concern with the Parish Council. This meeting is not to be confused with the Annual Parish Council Meeting which follows immediately thereafter. The meeting receives annual reports from the Chair of the Parish Council, St Peter's Church, Cringleford CE VA Primary School and both Norfolk County and South Norfolk District Councillors. Since my report last May, we have had two resignations and welcomed two new co-opted councillors to our Council. Consequently, we have retained our full complement of eleven councillors. Your Parish Council has several committees (with decision-making powers) and a series of advisory working groups. Council meetings and the Planning and Environment Committee meetings are held in public, and you are welcome to attend. The Parish Meeting was held virtually last year. A summary of the activities of our committees and groups over the year is presented in this report.

Committees

Full Council

This committee meets monthly except in August and receives reports and recommendations from its other committees and working groups, plus those from District and County Councillors and the Police. We met virtually last year under Covid-19 regulations, but with the authority to make decisions under these circumstances ceasing in June following the end of the temporary legislation, we returned to 'in person' meetings. With the incidence of Covid-19 rapidly increasing at the end of 2021, however, and with a committee containing some vulnerable councillors, Council took the decision to hold informal discussions virtually and meet when decisions were required e.g., for the budget to be set. With this meeting, we will return to 'in person' meetings for the foreseeable future but will remain socially distanced. Digital meetings have worked well and proved very useful and popular with both councillors and public. Consequently, we have joined with other parishes and organisations to lobby Government for a permanent change in law to provide us with the flexibility to decide how we hold our meetings. The Government is currently collecting evidence to determine whether to change the law.

Like many Councils and Local Authorities, we faced a dilemma over our gas supplier, Gazprom, this year. Our contract does not permit us to end it prematurely. However, it comes to end next year, and we have resolved not to continue using this

company even though it may increase our energy costs.

The long-awaited parking schemes (discussions were initiated in 2018) for the Colney Lane and Intwood Road areas were formally agreed by Norfolk County Council Cabinet early this year and it has been confirmed recently that work will start this summer to put them in place. This will be a relief to many residents as the usual pre- pandemic parking issues have returned now.

This year we will be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee by planting trees around the Parish and laying out a tranquil garden on Roundhouse Park (for which we have obtained a grant). We will also be financially supporting several other Cringleford groups who are staging activities and events across the Parish.

Planning and Environment Committee (PEC)

This committee meets monthly and is the statutory consultative body for considering matters of planning and development in the Parish. We submit official Council comments on planning applications via our Clerk. Over the last year, we considered more than 60 planning applications and defended our objections to several of them at South Norfolk's Development Management Committee. PEC continues to hold regular meetings to work with the developers so we can provide the best possible outcomes for the Parish. This year new developers took over part of the Newfound Farm site to accelerate delivery of dwellings there and we requested a few minor changes to their plans. We also held meetings with the Local Authority to discuss the new primary school on the same site. The school is expected to be opened in 2024. Last year, I reported that the Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP) was proposing around 400 additional homes for Cringleford and Council resolved to oppose the increase as this is 500 more than the number agreed in the Cringleford Neighbourhood Development Plan (1200). PEC raised written objections to these additional dwellings as we felt they were not necessary and alternative brownfield sites were available in Norwich, especially following the loss of many retail outlets over the last few years. Consequently, in February and March of this year, members of PEC attended the Examination Hearings for the GNLP to put forward their case. We currently await the report from the Planning Inspectors who presided at the hearings.

This committee continues to ensure that all the new estates have suitable road and footpath lighting. We took the decision to replace all our remaining old lamps and replace them with LEDs to save on electricity and maintenance costs.

From the start of 2022, PEC took on responsibility for the next stage – obtaining planning permission – in the development of our sport and recreation facility on St Giles Park. Drawings have been finalized and costings are in progress. We hope to submit our planning application jointly with Big Sky in the next couple of months. If successful and the facility is affordable, we hope to begin the build later this year.

Personnel Committee (PC)

This committee deals with a number of confidential staff matters (hence will not be reported on here), including appointments, and met twice over the year. During this time there have been three new appointments or changes from part- to full-time (including bringing our cleaning in-house creating a new position), and one resignation. We currently employ nine staff.

Advisory Groups

Recreation and Amenities Advisory Group (RAAG)

Initial work on our sport and recreation facility at St Giles Park has been completed by RAAG with help from a consultancy and plans have been drawn up to be carried forward by PEC. The facility, if affordable, will have an office, kitchen, changing rooms, a multi-purpose hall equivalent to two badminton courts in size, and an attached nursery which we have developed in collaboration with a local provider. It will be an energy-efficient, future-proofed building with, hopefully, adjacent EV car chargers.

In April, we held a consultation on the future of our green spaces that have been or will be shortly handed over from developers. Thank you to everyone who attended to give us their feedback on the proposals and to provide some new ideas. Green space on the new developments consists mainly of children and young adult play areas except on St Giles Park where there is considerably more space available. Most of this area will be laid down to formal pitches as agreed under the planning permission, but we are hoping to put in place more paths for walking and cycling and facilities for more formal activities such as a pump track or skate park. Some space, however, on St Giles Park has been lost to the Thickthorn Interchange improvements due to start next year.

We reached agreement with the tennis club after several years of discussion on access by non-member parishioners to their tennis courts. This has been part of the contract with the club for many years but has been problematic to put in place. Access can be obtained through Cringleford Tennis' website, or via ours – just search for 'Tennis'.

Community infrastructure Levy (CIL) Group

The CIL Group met twice to discuss a number of projects across the Parish, most notably the new Sport and Recreation facility on St Giles Park and the potential purchase of additional open space in the Parish. These two items should come to fruition in the next year and will form the most significant Parish expenditure since the construction of The Willow Centre. The group also determined the project priorities for the coming year to recommend to Council.

Finance Advisory Group (FAG)

The Council receives income from the precept, CIL, commuted sums (allocated to specific developments for maintenance) and grants. This group works diligently to

oversee our expenditure and financial compliance, ensuring robust processes are in place, including audits, and makes recommendations to council on investments. It presented a draft annual budget to Council in December and recommended that there should be no increase in precept given our current financial status. This year they also reorganized the way in which we underpin the maintenance of our equipment and facilities.

Road Safety Group (RSG)

This group was established as a 'task and finish' group to look at ways to improve road safety by developing a strategy for the Parish. Cringleford's Road Safety Strategy was published in December 2021 on our website and circulated to the County Council's Councillors and Officers for feedback. The regular meetings of the Group then ceased. However, several issues arose this year which were to be addressed as part of our Strategy and consequently the group met again in April this year.

We were successful in the Parish Partnership Scheme and will receive 50% of the costs of putting in gateway signs on Intwood Road as you enter the village to alert drivers to the speed limit – one proposed solution from the Strategy to speeding along that stretch of road.

The Strategy is a live document, and we ask all of you, our Parishioners, to let us know if you wish to see any additional items added to it. Your responses and those of the County together with data from our SAM2 cameras that were received last summer will help us devise solutions to improve safety on the roads of our Parish.

Professor Trevor L Wang, May 2022

Appendix 2 - To receive the County Councillor's Report

Norfolk County Council highlights for 2021/22

- 70% of Norfolk streetlights converted, or work underway to convert to LED
- 96.7% of highways inspections completed within timescale
- 99.6% of dangerous highway defects dealt with within timescales set out in the Transport Asset Management Plan
- 94% of Looked after Children (LAC) with an up-to-date Personal Education Plan
- Completed 51,000 Adult Social Care Assessments for 20,700 people.

The 2022/23 Budget

A **£464 million** net revenue budget, a **£25m increase** from last year, with increased spending across key service areas and capital programmes, along with a 2.99 per cent Council Tax rise has been agreed to enable Norfolk to build back better after the pandemic.

Adult Social Services will see an additional **£35.4m** of investment, against savings of £10.5m, **Children's Services** will receive **£23.2m** of further investment, with a **further £10m** this year for the **SEND School Programme**, with £12m against planned savings and **Community and Environmental Services** will see an additional **£11.2m**, against savings of £3.5m.

Within Community and Environmental Services there will be the **£10m pothole fund** to draw upon, **new recycling centres** across the County, **£5m on library upkeep** and extension of services and **£12m on the Better Broadband project**.

There has been substantial **Beryl Bikes and E-Scooters** uptake during the past year, with the average journey being over 3.5km (taking multiple car journeys out of the City) and multiple Local Cycling, Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPS) plans being developed across the County (including Greater Norwich, King's Lynn, Great Yarmouth and Dereham).

These commitments are in keeping with my Conservative Groups 2021 Manifesto pledges to deliver a better future for Norfolk through:

- Protecting valued services
- Investing in care services
- Strengthening community resilience

- Leading on economic development
- Supporting families and young people
- Caring for our environment

Protecting Valued Services

Love Norfolk, Hate Litter – boost for pickers as litter can now be accepted at recycling centres

As the national Great British Spring Clean launched on 28th May 2021, there was good news for litter pickers as the county council announces that it was able to accept litter at any of Norfolk's recycling centres.

From the 28th, anyone who picked a small amount of litter in the county was (and is still able to) bring up to three bags of the waste to a recycling centre for disposal. People looking to organise a group litter pick are still urged to contact their district council who can help provide bags, grabbers and arrange for collection of the waste collected

£29m 'pothole prevention' work now well underway across Norfolk

Pavements, cycleways and roads all benefited from the county's £29m maintenance programme taking place right across Norfolk this year.

The crucial upkeep work is a key part of the £42 million budget for roads and infrastructure that was agreed in February 2021.

This year £4.5m is being spent on maintaining pavements and paths, for example a £167,000 scheme to remove the existing worn and uneven pavement surface on Kennedy Avenue in Gorleston and replace it with a new smooth asphalt surface will be getting underway in late July.

Brand new £1.9m Norwich South recycling Centre opens today

Norfolk's newest recycling centre opened to the public in December.

The £1.9m recycling centre is the sister site to the new Norwich North recycling centre that opened on 22nd September. Together the two sites will provide improved recycling facilities for the growing greater Norwich area.

As the new Norwich South recycling centre opens at Harford, just off the A47/A140 junction, staff bid farewell to the old site at Ketteringham that closed yesterday.

The move to a larger site allows room for a one-way traffic system to smooth traffic flow and reduce queues, low-level bins meaning people will not have to climb steps to recycle their waste, and there is plenty of parking for cars, bicycles and vehicles with trailers.

Fire and Rescue staff presented with awards

The achievements of staff across Norfolk Fire & Rescue Service have been recognised through employee awards.

A ceremony to present the awards was cancelled due to the pandemic, so senior leaders have visited some of the recipients of the 2021 awards individually and will continue to do so when Covid-19 restrictions allow.

As well as honouring staff with long service awards, categories also included fundraiser of the year, making a difference awards and leadership accolades.

Council wins national award for its work with the armed forces

Norfolk County Council has been recognised for its outstanding support of the armed forces community in Norfolk, following an announcement from the Ministry of Defence.

The local authority has been given the Gold Award, the highest honour handed out through the Defence Employer Recognition Scheme.

The award is given to organisations that employ and support those who serve in the armed forces, service leavers, veterans and their families, with the Gold Award also acknowledging the Council's partnership working through the Norfolk Armed Forces Covenant Board.

This includes successfully addressing a significant gap in the dental service provision in the West of the County. It negotiated with the Ministry of Defence and NHS England, to ensure the opening of a new dental practice for serving and civilian families at RAF Marham and the surrounding area.

Investing in care Services

Plan to tackle adult social care's winter pressures

Plans to support Adult Social Services with the expected "winter pressures" have been unveiled.

A report was heard by Norfolk County Council's Cabinet in December saying that Adult Social Services across the country are facing unprecedented challenges. However, here in Norfolk practical solutions are being put in place.

The report said: 'Norfolk Adult Social Services face a level of unprecedented challenge in 2021/22 as a result of the pandemic, with national and local workforce shortages, rising demand in hospitals and the community and the continued infection risk posed by COVID-19 as well as other recurring respiratory viruses such as flu.'

Adult Social Services received 20,279 calls for support between April and October this year – an increase of 9,400 over four years.

Action being taken by the Council includes:

- Expanding action to support people at home or, where appropriate, in short term residential settings
- Stepping up the council's care recruitment campaign, to tackle staff shortages
- Providing wrap-around support for care settings
- Providing assistive technology, with 100 video phones sent out to homes
- Improving capacity in the Norfolk First Response service
- Supporting mental health services, with three new step down services

Norfolk to take a step closer to new integrated approach to health and care

Norfolk County Council has agreed their support for new local Health and Wellbeing Partnerships, putting local communities at the heart of health and care in their area.

Under the Health and Care Bill, Integrated care systems (ICSs) are being established in all areas of the country to drive changes that are intended to lead to better, more joined-up care for the population.

Much of the activity to deliver integrated health and care and improve the population's health will happen more locally in the places where people live and work, meaning the new Health and Wellbeing Partnerships will play a key role in driving forward this activity.

Strengthening community Resilience

A new single point of contact for flooding in Norfolk has been launched, allowing residents to report any sort of flooding quickly and efficiently

In the event of flooding residents can call 0344 800 8013 to report it.

Alternatively, residents can continue to report flooding online via [our flooding pages](#).

The new number gives residents a single point of contact and allows reports to be made swiftly.

Different agencies respond to different types of flooding, which has historically made reporting a flood by telephone more complicated when and where it is not possible to ascertain the source of floodwaters. The new number provides a single point of contact making the reporting of flooding quicker and easier.

Where there is a potential risk to life from flooding people should still call 999 immediately.

Flood Reserve Fund spending agreed

Norfolk's Cabinet considered the allocation of the council's £1.5m Flood Reserve Fund to support urgent works, repairs and to enable recommendations from flood investigation reports.

The Reserve Fund was set up in the annual budget for 2021/22 agreed by the County Council in their budget meeting in February.

The Cabinet meeting, held on 6th September, discussed the proposed allocation of the funding, including £695k for additional highway and ditch maintenance and £365k for drainage asset improvements.

This funding will be used for work on the 285,864 metres of drainage grips and 31,037 metres of kerb drains on Norfolk's highways, as well as operations to clear some of the county's 145,305 gullies that help drain rain water.

Norfolk Strategic Flood Alliance formally adopts Strategy

The Norfolk Strategic Flooding Alliance (NSFA) has formally adopted an overall Strategy, designed to enable county wide responses to flooding across all agencies involved.

The Strategy, which lays out the NSFA's vision, objectives, approach and structure, is a major milestone in the development of the Alliance, which was founded earlier this year to bring together all agencies and partners involved in planning for and responding to flooding in Norfolk.

£1million awarded to community groups across Norfolk

Community and voluntary organisations across Norfolk were set for a major cash boost as the recipients of the [Norfolk Social Infrastructure Fund](#) were announced.

Norfolk County Council has handed out £1.02 million to 25 different organisations, with grants ranging £3,400 all the way up to £250,000.

In total, the fund saw 64 applications with funding requests that totalled almost £5million. This was more than double the number of applications received last year.

Leading on Economic Development

Ground-breaking partnership to provide Covid-19 recovery support for Norfolk

Norfolk County Council and New Anglia LEP were part of an ambitious cross-border project which helped to deliver a unique package of Covid-19 recovery support for local businesses and people.

The C-CARE (Covid Channel Area Response Exchange) initiative, funded by the Interreg France (Channel) England programme which has allocated €2.2m for C-CARE in Norfolk, was set to reach businesses and people that were been hit hardest in the pandemic.

Drawing on a range of expertise from local government, enterprise and tourism in the UK and France, the project supported people at risk of exclusion from the labour market and businesses at risk of closure.

C-CARE aims to reach 4,500 people and almost 2,000 businesses through its pilot initiatives which include skills training to help individuals find new routes into employment or starting a business, and advice and grants aimed at helping companies reset their business models in response to the pandemic.

In Norfolk the project will work to support over 600 people into employment or self-employment and provide support for up to 800 businesses.

Norfolk to get faster broadband thanks to new Government funding

Hard to reach premises in Norfolk are to receive between £115m and £195m of funding as part of the Government's Project Gigabit to provide 1GB per second broadband to up to 119,000 premises. Contracts will be awarded from February 2022.

Rural homes and businesses across Norfolk and Suffolk will get next-generation gigabit broadband brought to them under a £5 billion plan to level up internet access across the UK.

It means families no longer having to battle over bandwidth and will give people in rural areas the freedom to live and work more flexibly, with the speed and reliability needed to start and run businesses.

Supporting families and young people

Vulnerable young people in Norfolk have chance to take New Roads with launch of dedicated support service

A new service to support some of Norfolk's most vulnerable young people to live within families and achieve their full potential launched on 1st June 2021.

New Roads was set up by Norfolk County Council with significant investment to give young people access to a dedicated support team that sticks with them, understands them, and helps them to achieve and succeed.

Based out of two hubs, in Dereham and Norwich, the service provides young people with education, life coaching and speech and language therapy, as well as access to short term residential beds and foster care placements to help meet their needs.

The aim is to give young people stability, reduce risk-taking behaviour and help to avoid the need for long-term residential care, as well as longer term costs to themselves, the wider system and communities.

Hundreds of free activities available for children and young people this Easter

Bookings are now open for [The Big Norfolk Holiday Fun](#), a programme of free activities that will run over the Easter holidays for 5–16-year-olds across Norfolk.

The scheme is provided as part of the government's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme and is being delivered by Norfolk County Council in partnership with Active Norfolk.

After the success of HAF over the Christmas break and some brilliant feedback from parents, it's returning from 4 April though till 19 April with free activities for children eligible for means-tested free school meals. There'll be a fantastic range of activities taking place including outdoor adventure sports, dance and drama and circus skills across the county. With so many activities on offer, children will have an excellent range of ventures to take part in and may even discover a new passion.

Free online business summer school for 16-25-year-olds in Norfolk

There are so many options to choose from when leaving school - like apprenticeships, university, work experience, getting a job...

Or how about starting a business? It may seem a daunting idea at first, but there's lots of free help on offer.

Started in August 2021, the Business & IP Centre (BIPC) Norfolk, managed by Norfolk County Council's Library and Information Service, ran a free online Summer School for 16-25-year-olds to help them decide whether starting their own business might be right for them.

Plans for thousands of new school places in Norfolk

More than a dozen new primary schools could be needed in Norfolk in the next decade, to cater for growing pupil numbers in areas of development.

A report to Norfolk County Council's Cabinet highlighted the scale of school development that is likely to be needed to support Norfolk's growing communities. It addresses both demographic changes and population growth from new housing.

The report, discussed by members on 31st January, provided a snapshot of the council's plans to ensure there are sufficient school places for Norfolk children aged four to 16.

Alongside district councils, the County Council expects to secure nearly £100m in developer contributions for the proposed new and extended schools but if all of the places are needed, a further £191m would need to be found.

Some of this will be met by Community Infrastructure Levy and government grant contributions.

Inspectors praise support for children in care in Norfolk

Most children in care in Norfolk are well looked after and receive good support for their emotional and mental health and education, Ofsted inspectors have found.

A team of Her Majesty's Inspectors visited Norfolk County Council in October for a two-day focused visit of the council's services for children in its care.

In a letter detailing their findings, inspectors said that social workers know their children well, listen to them and help them to understand their experiences.

Ofsted's visit follows a [similar focused visit in 2019](#), which looked at how the council responds to child safeguarding calls and referrals. Following that visit, inspectors described the quality of decision making as "consistently strong".

Caring for our environment

Carbon cutting commitment central to new county transport plan

A plan set to drive the county's transport policy for the next 15 years was discussed by County Councillors in August.

The ambitious Local Transport Plan has at its heart the aim to support a growing economy, strengthen communities and reduce our impact on the environment.

A carbon cutting commitment is central to the transport plan which supports the county council's pledge to achieve net zero carbon by 2030, which Councillors adopted as part of the authority's Environmental Policy in November 2019.

Buzz created as pollinator paradises set for Norfolk roadsides

Tripling the number of Roadside Nature Reserves in Norfolk were among a range of green measures considered by County Councillors last July.

Fewer cuts for rural roadsides, a pollinator action plan, and 188 more roadside nature reserves are all on the cards as part of plans to boost biodiversity along roads and paths across the county.

Also on the agenda were plans to help boost cycling and walking across the county, and development of a new verge management policy which will include information for parish and town councils wishing to take on responsibility for verge cutting in their local area. The aim is to help involve local communities more in decisions about verge management near them.

**Annual report from South Norfolk District Councillors – Cringleford ward
(Cringleford, Colney, Keswick & Intwood) – May 2022**

Like all of us South Norfolk Council has been facing unprecedented challenges. As the COVID pandemic has receded we are now facing the consequential inflationary pressures that the response to the pandemic has produced - exacerbated by the events in Ukraine and impacts of that conflict on the wider world.

COVID-19 response

Looking backwards first, during lockdown the council distributed over £1m per week to thousands of local businesses to sustain and keep them alive to the point of recovery. Retail and hospitality businesses had special attention including some businesses which fell through the gaps of the national schemes, for example beauticians and dentists. As a result, our local economy is well placed to recover.

A third of our staff were redeployed to support families and individuals – for example gym instructors helped the refuse crews so that bins were collected and other staff were seconded to work at the N&N working as orderlies.

Our Help Hub also extended its working hours to ensure those in most need were supported.

But as COVID-19 recedes, the cost of living is increasing and so we have made available hundreds of thousands of pounds in additional support for families who find themselves in an unexpected crisis over-and-above our normal financial support via Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support. This can include one-off help with rental deposits, fuel payments and other expenses for those in severe financial distress. If you become aware of someone who is really struggling please ask them to contact the Help Hub.

Ukraine response

Recent events in Ukraine have seen refugees coming to Norfolk and families from South Norfolk represent about a third of all the offers for help in Norfolk under the Homes for Ukraine scheme.

We have utilised our offices as a reception centre for displaced families. Whilst the national bureaucracy has been frustrating, we are supporting both the refugees and also their host families with the complex psychological problems faced by people fleeing war and also giving the refugees a place to keep in touch with each other as they are placed throughout the district.

Separately we have also started a refurbishment project on the Council's temporary accommodation which is aimed at families fleeing domestic violence, family breakdown or similar situations. This short term accommodation provides a valuable breathing space whilst officials work with the individuals to come up with a long-term solution for them.

CIL Loan Fund and CIL co-investment fund

One of the biggest frustrations with new housing developments is that the infrastructure which should accompany such developments does not come ahead of

the houses and so to try and mitigate this issue the Council is introducing two schemes to help parishes make better use of their CIL funds. The first is a CIL loan fund whereby the Council will lend nearly all the expected amount of CIL that will be received by a parish up front so improvements can be started immediately rather than waiting for all the houses to be built. Further details of this scheme will be announced in June.

We are also introducing a CIL Co-investment fund. The Council will be inviting proposals for larger schemes (over £100,000) where South Norfolk will match the Parish Council's CIL funds with council money as a grant to double the impact of parish CIL funds. The details of this scheme are being worked up and we plan a conference in June to explain how parishes can get involved in this scheme.

But rather than just relying on CIL funded schemes the Council is going further and has agreed with the local NHS bodies that it will work with the Humbleyard Surgeries and build a new fourth Doctor's Surgery in the Humbleyard area – most likely in Hethersett to try and alleviate the current difficulties with getting an appointment especially given the proposed new houses still to be built.

Electric Car Charging

We are also introducing a specific scheme to address the current shortfall of electric car charging infrastructure. Given the rise in electric car ownership and its role in moving to net zero, we will be launching a scheme to enable every parish or town in South Norfolk that wants to install electric car charging points to do so, via a bulk contract that the Council is currently negotiating.

The details around insurance, billing and maintenance will be explained in the next few months.

We are also increasing the number of points in our own public car parks and at our leisure centres to improve coverage.

Environmental enhancements

Last year saw the COP26 summit in Glasgow and whilst the debate about net zero, its costs and the speed at which it can be achieved are ongoing the Council is taking steps to reduce its carbon footprint including investments in solar panels on all our Council Buildings including leisure centres. Our refuse vehicles are now trialling new lower carbon fuels based on recycled oils to minimise emissions.

Locally, it was also good to see the opening of the Kett's Country long distance path between Norwich and Wymondham including the Cringleford Circular route through Keswick.

Collaboration with Broadland Council

South Norfolk is in our fifth year of a close co-operation with Broadland Council. The joint working between councils already saves South Norfolk taxpayers £1.2m per year which is the equivalent of 15% of our share of Council Tax.

The next step on that path is to move the combined staff into a single building which will save a further £700,000 per year, and also reduce our energy consumption by

84%. The two councils will be meeting in the next few weeks to decide whether to go ahead with the move.

The proposed location for the joint office is at Broadland Business Park.

Improvements to the Wherrymans Way

The Wherrymans' Way footpath along the River Yare between Norwich and Reedham Ferry is being improved to enhancing accessibility and reinforcing the banks of the River Chet – this work is being funded by CIL monies from new developments in the district.

Nutrient Neutrality

You may have seen recently in the news that there has been a halt put on the approval of new housing in the area due to a policy change by Natural England called Nutrient Neutrality. This is designed to limit the amount of nutrients entering certain rivers from wastewater generated by new housing. This has meant that new planning permissions for housing cannot be given unless they can demonstrate that the individual scheme is nutrient neutral i.e. the additional impacts from wastewater are offset elsewhere in the same scheme. This impacts large scale housing and also individual houses but generally not extensions and the like (unless they are particularly large).

The exact implications on the Local Plan are being considered and the inspector has raised this with the GNDP team and a response given. Efforts are also being made to understand how schemes can become nutrient neutral and a government grant has been received to hire consultants to do just that. A delay in the granting of detailed permission will also delay the completion of housing and thus the trigger points for the payment of CIL, S 106 and the delivery of certain infrastructure improvements so is of concern in Cringleford.

Member grants

We were pleased this year to support the Trustees of the Patteson rooms with their ongoing refurbishment project – giving a grant of £3,207.21 from our member ward grants. We have previously supported a new bench in Keswick, a dehumidifier at the Keswick Reading Rooms and also an outdoor table tennis table on Round House Park.

Daniel and I have £1,000 each to award to schemes with minimal paperwork and instant payment to support local groups such as play groups, community cafes and other small scale activities so please do get in touch if you know of a group looking for funding.

Throughout the last year Daniel and I have met with Parish Councillors, residents and developers about a range of subjects and we have supported residents on a number of matters and look forward to working on your behalf in the year to come.

Daniel Elmer and William Kemp
May 2022

Appendix 4 - To receive a report from Cringleford Primary School

Report for the Parish Council Meeting – Wednesday 11th May 2022

As you would expect, since Neil Henery's last report in May 2021, our time in Cringleford CEVA Primary School has continued to be busy and, at times, difficult as we have worked hard to regain 'normality' in our provision while battling with peaks of covid cases in staff and children. Nonetheless, we remain a happy team who are keen to push on to enable the children to have a good year and get the best experiences.

Please find below a summary of highlights since September 2021.

Pupil Numbers – We currently have 449 children on role, across 15 classes, with almost every class at capacity (30 children) or in 4 classes, numbers up to 32. The current Year 2 cohort is the 'bulge year' which saw the school accept 3 classes when they began in Reception in September 2019. We have 60 new (Reception) children starting with us this September.

Demographics – The school currently records 30% of the children as those with English as an Additional Language (EAL). This is in line with the national average for the UK and a change from previous years where our number was around 20%. As such, we have engaged with a number of agencies in order to learn how we can best support these children, and their families, especially if they arrive with no English. We shall look to develop skills in staff and children as Young Interpreters, taking a lead in settling new children into our school. In June we shall hold a Schools of Sanctuary Day of Welcome, ahead of celebrating International Week.

Staff – We continue to be blessed with a full complement of great staff. We thankfully continue to attract high caliber candidates when roles are advertised, with appointments this year for class teachers, teaching assistants, a site manager and caretaker. Our specialist PE coach and music teachers strengthen the provision and offer really high quality teaching.

At the end of August 2021 Neil Henery passed the leadership of the school, through a number of superbly supportive handover meetings, over to me. He has continued to pop in to see us, join classes on trips and meet during training events in the Diocese.

School Improvement focus this year -

Phonics – we have introduced a new phonics and decodable book scheme to the children

Early Years, Year 1 and 2 with great impact and positive feedback from staff, children and parents.

Maths – staff from 5 different year groups have undertaken training with the Maths Hub on maths mastery.

Curriculum – along with the other schools in our cluster, we have focused on equipping staff in providing inspirational Science and RE learning and considered how we can meaningfully assess children's learning in these subjects.

- Disadvantaged – as already mentioned, we have begun to strengthen our approaches for children who have special educational needs, and those who deemed disadvantaged in any way.
- Vision and values – we have developed the use of our JONK (Joy of Not Knowing) values – Curiosity, Creativity, Collaboration, Resourceful, Resilient and Reflective, teaching the children what these skills and attitudes ‘look like’ and celebrating children who work hard in demonstrating them each Friday morning.

Community engagement - Through our links with Tim Yau, we have been able to open the school up again for the Cringleford Hub events, members of the church have been coming to school each week to run Kindness Club at lunchtimes and we have enjoyed watching Tim or Reverend’s Graham’s recorded assemblies each Wednesday.

Harvest was celebrated in school, with collections of food made for the Salvation Army as this tied in with those made by St Peter’s. Reverend Graham joined us for both Key Stage 1 and 2’s harvest.

At Christmas we collected sugar for Crisis at Christmas and participated in a Santa dash to raise money for St Andrew’s Hall so that vulnerable and lonely people could enjoy Christmas Dinner together. The children from Year 1 held their Nativity in the church which, as expected was very special. In December the children in Year 2 enjoyed a day of Christmas in a Box with Andy Jones from Raise Kids Work and in the week before Easter, Year 4 held an Easter in a Box day. Children who join Voice Squad each week have sung for the residents at Cavell Court on two occasions.

We have planted trees around the school environment with Richard Beese. Throughout the year we have been able to invite parents into school for class assemblies. As you would expect, this has been welcomed by all following 18 months of restrictions. We held an open evening for parents this March where they were able to come into the classrooms (for some, this was the first occasion they had been in school) to look at books and displays with their children. There was a wonderful ‘buzz’ around school during the evening.

Enrichment – Though at times we have had to re-arrange the dates, we have been able to offer after school sports clubs, trips and events. All year groups have been able to venture off site to places which have linked with the learning, such as the coast, Eaton Vale, the Sainsbury’s Centre for Visual Arts, Banham Zoo, Strangers Hall, Gressenhall, the Dinosaur Park and the theatre. We have many more planned for the summer of 2022 including residential trips. Some year groups have enjoyed Roman and Stone Age days in school and others have had parents in to talk about their jobs. We have celebrated Science week, Book Day and various other charitable days. Sports events have allowed children to join with other schools for Cross County (for which we have won the Norfolk School Sports Partnership shield for first place overall), football, netball, a dance festival and bounce (trampoline) event. Year 4 and 5 have had swimming lessons each week. Instrument lessons have continued and Year 4 have been learning how to play the trombone through music service provision. We have enjoyed several concerts from

the musicians and they play for us in Collective Worship too.

I trust this gives a flavour of life in our school and I shall look forward to any questions you should have.

Mrs. J. Humphrey

Appendix 5 - To receive a report from St Peter's Church

St. Peter's Report

If there was a weather report to discuss what life was like for St.Peter's in 2021 I think the headline would be "Sunshine with showers".

Firstly the showers. Covid still played a massive part in our year which had a huge impact on pretty much all that we did. A massive surge in Covid cases caused by the Delta variant meant that St.Peter's went back to online services only for much of the first three months of 2021 and even when we returned it was for a while with fairly stringent restrictions. Much of what we love about St.Peter's family life, both on Sundays and during the rest of the week, didn't really fully start to open until September. Just when we thought that the vaccine role out had spared us any further headaches an Omicron wave hit just in time for Christmas. While we were still, thankfully, able to keep doing things in person some people understandably stayed away either through caution or for legally having to isolate over Christmas (including, much to his chagrin, the rector...)

However there were some bright spots. Things did start to spring forth once more. The groups we used to do came back. We started to get back into the rhythms of parish life including doing some of the more major festivals including in person Remembrance services for the first time in two years. The bright spots were also often individuals in the church family and the wider Cringleford community doing so much to love their neighbour. We are hugely thankful for all the hard and often unseen work – the care, support and love shown by everyone. Indeed it was great to be able to organize a 'Thank You' event in the summer to recognize some of those who did so much during the first parts of the pandemic.

There were more bright spots as well. We kept going with things online. Our Sunday morning services are now much better broadcast than they ever were with my cobbled together laptop set up thanks to the technical gifts of Roger Danes and the financial gifts of an anonymous donor. It was wonderful to be able to expand, improve and commit to our streamed services. We were online again for another wonderful nativity and Open The Book managed to do a one off video for the school so those leaving, staff and students, could see one more Bible story acted out by our wonderful cast. Online Lent courses and school assemblies now almost seem normal but sometimes we need to remember this in it self is a sign of just how much the world has changed.

One thing that has changed in 2021 is that Neil Henery left Cringleford Primary School after a decade at the helm and an enormous amount of good work done. Mrs. Julia Humphrey took up the reins in September and it has been a real joy to begin to work with her as we continue to have strong links with our local school. We also have had people join St.Peter's as part of their training for the ordained ministry. It was wonderful to have Sam Luscombe on a month's placement in the

summer and fantastic to welcome Fiona Munn as she began a longer placement here with us.

We are now able to continue to serve the community having restarted our lunch club, Memory Lane Café and Cringletots back again while partnering with our good friends at Cringleford Hub to support the whole of the Cringleford Community. We have continued to be there for anyone in this community at the best and the worst times of their life.

We are always incredibly thankful for all those members of our church family and wider community who help St. Peter's continue to show love and care to all. We would particularly like to thank the council for their grant towards the up keep of the churchyard which has enabled our wonderful churchyard team to continue to make it a place that the whole village can enjoy.

Graham

Reverend Graham Wilkins
Rector of Cringleford and Colney

Appendix 6 - To receive a report from Cringleford Hub

The Hub slowly began to emerge from the Covid-19 lockdowns with some online activities moving to in-person on-site gatherings, whilst some online activities came to an end. Overall, it has felt like a restart for the majority of our groups and events.

Here's the highlights.

Hope Tree - This was a visual focus in the community, a place to reflect and participate in hope. After a difficult year it seemed right to get ready for hope as Easter is a time of new beginnings and the promise of new-life. Therefore, before the Easter break, on the last week of term, we gave out wooden egg ornaments on the green opposite the school. People were encouraged to decorate these wooden eggs and reflect on these questions:

- What are you hopeful for coming out of lockdown?
- Who is it you're hoping to spend time with?
- How will you live out hope after Covid-19?

We asked people to write on the eggs their messages of hope, then hang them on the Hope Tree.

Hope Quotes

After Easter the Hope Tree continued to be a place of hope and reflection. In life there are lots of things we can't be sure about, but there is always hope. Hope is more than believing that good things will happen, it is a strong and trustworthy anchor for our souls. So, we covered the Hope Tree in inspiring quotes about hope. Here's an example: "Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness." —Desmond Tutu. I encouraged people to take a quote from the Hope Tree, which they found on Round House Park, Dragonfly Lane Green, opposite the school.

Bounce & Rhyme

Unfortunately, the toddler group didn't resume in person Tuesday morning gatherings at the Willow Centre on the 13th April. After attending some training by Norfolk County Council's Children's Services, it became clear that it would be extremely problematic to run Bounce & Rhyme until further easing in post-lockdown legislation was in place. Therefore, Bounce & Rhyme Online continued on www.facebook.com/groups/toddlersincringford

The last online session was the 13th July 2021 finishing a run of 65 sessions of bible stories, crafts and songs. Each week the crafts lined up my shelves and became part of telling the whole Bible big picture.

We finished the summer term with a session in the park and then started back on 21st Sept 2021 in the Willow Centre for 'Stay & Play' every Tuesday during term-time 9.00-11.00 am. Play, story and Songs for tiddlers and toddlers (must be accompanied by an adult). Help yourself tea & coffee available. Bring your own snacks for your kids. Recommended £2.50 donation.

Easter Family Egg Decorating Competition

This saw local families getting creative making Easter egg scenes. Phil Whiting, the manager of Cringleford Tesco Express, ran the competition and provided the prizes. He said:

“Decorating eggs can be tricky and little ones will need help so we have decided to make this competition a family entry.” There were some amazing entries and lots of fun had exploring the Easter themes of bunnies, chicks and eggs.

In Search of Easter

This followed on from something we ran at Christmas 2021. It was a treasure hunt situated on Dragonfly Lane Green, opposite the school, for children and families, using a series of videos to encourage conversation and help crack a code. Videos were accessed by scanning QR codes, as the groups explore the local area. It was a fun, interactive resource that engaged children in exploring, walking, and sharing their thoughts on the Easter story. The trail also encouraged families to engage with their immediate surroundings looking for natural things that helped illustrate the Easter story.

Cringleford Thank You Picnic

The Hub celebrated ‘Freedom Day’ with our big ‘Thank You Picnic’ on Saturday the 24th of July. Sixty plus people gathered to celebrate and give thanks for all the ways Cringleford has survived the pandemic. People brought their own picnics, although there was some generous sharing of homemade treats, as we enjoyed the summer sun. There were various oversized garden games played with and enjoyed: Giant Jenga, Snakes & Ladders, Connect Four, Tangrams, Puzzle Cube and an enormous football. There was also a graffiti wall where you could write up your thanks. However, the spaghetti and marshmallow tower building challenge went down (or should I say up) the best. The highlight of the event was celebrating local heroes, we gave bunches of flowers to keyworkers and for participants to give out to neighbours who had done their all to support each other through the various lockdowns. A big thank you to Mel Spillman of Eaton Waitrose who provided the Hub with a voucher which allowed us to procure the blooms for the presentation.

Finally, there was a special presentation to Joanne Foulger, manager of Cringleford Store on Intwood Road. During the pandemic Jo went above-and-beyond the normal duties of a local shopkeeper by delivering food, running errands and checking up on people, so-much-so that she is going to be awarded a Medal of the Order of the British Empire in the Queen’s Honours list for services to our community during Covid-19.

Cringleford Assembly

During the lockdown our monthly community gathering, which launched in January 2020, was moved onto Cringleford Hub’s Youtube channel What had intended to be a community gathering morphed into a thought for the week and ran for 33 sessions, which are still available to view online here:

www.youtube.com/channel/UCSn8DRq6FtZ-K4IVRHxwG_g

From October 2021 we started back onsite and in person at Cringleford School Hall for refreshments, fun, play, music, songs, games, activities, thought-for-the-day. However, to try and catch more foot-fall we did it on the second Monday of the month straight after school. The aim of Cringleford Assembly is to gather as a community to form deeper relationships: to explore the big questions in life and what

it means to 'live well'; and to celebrate being pro-active neighbours.

Sadly, due to school hall bookings and a spike in Covid cases we had to cancel the December event and in March 2022 we moved it back to the third Sunday of the month at 9.30am.

Cringleford Halloween 2021

Over the Autumn half-term break the Hub promoted a Halloween Pumpkin Carving Competition, with prizes donated by Phil Whiting, the manager of Cringleford Tesco Express. In the end we had 40 entrants, with prizes for winners and runners-up for 0-7s, 8-11s, 12-17s and 18+. Rev. Graham and Rev. Tim dressed as Halloween Street Angels: all treats and no tricks. They lit themselves up with lights to walk the streets being a 'light on a dark night'. Kindness Klub Started back on Thursday lunchtimes at Cringleford School. With craft activities to explore kindness with the kids.

Cringleford Community Christmas Tree

The end of 2021 was a tricky time with the sudden rise in Omicron Covid-19 cases. So we moved our Christmas Star Workshop outside to Dragonfly Lane Green. The residents and kids of Round House Park brightened up the crooked fir tree some crafted festive sparkle. The wooden star decorations were decorated and individualised with messages of peace, hope and love at Christmas.

Cringlekidz Film Club & Christmas Crafts

We ran this on Tues. 21st Dec. 9.30am-Noon at the Willow Centre for 0-11-year-olds Children were accompanied by an adults and we enjoyed watching the Polar Express.

Cringleford Community Carols on the Green was cancelled due to a Covid scare. Cringleford Valentine's Week. We encouraged people to 'share the love' during February halfterm by decorating the trees opposite the school with love hearts with love quotes written on them.

Cringleford Pancake Day Races 2022

This was our their third annual Cringleford Pancake Day Race it should have been our fourth year of racing but the Covid-19 pandemic meant we had to cancel last years. So, this year we'd been really looking forward to getting the community together for some neighbourly fun. With renewed energy the hopeful racers gathered outside Cringleford Primary school on Dragonfly Lane Green straight after school hours for some pancake flipping fun. There were races for all the different age groups, with about 70 people joining in. A crate of chocolate bunnies and a box of easter eggs were kindly donated by Cringleford's Tesco Express, the sponsor of the event. The store manager, Phil Whiting, commented, "Always happy to support the local community, especially the great work that Tim and the Cringleford Hub do. It was great fun today, so good to be able to celebrate pancake day properly again."

Rev. Tim Yau – April 2022
Community Pioneer