



*In this issue*

- The Parish Matters—grants available, safety first, swing into action, bee-ing friendly and the Pavilion opens for business
- Doggy matters
- Our recreational plans for the Parish—more activities for all
- Please respect our woodlands
- First residents move into new developments

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

**Grants available.** The Parish Council can offer a grant of up to £1000 each year. This can be given to one group, or split between several groups, depending upon how many applications we receive. Contact the Clerk ([clerk@cringlefordpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@cringlefordpc.org.uk)) for more information. Last year Crackerjacks Pre-school received funding for new playground equipment (see right). Your District Councillors also have a grant pot available each year for their parishes of £1000 each to give to local organisations. Please contact them directly for more information. For larger projects, South Norfolk Council is able to assist groups with advice and support if they are looking for funding.



**Safety first.** Eaton and Cringleford Vets asked the Parish Council if it could help make safe the drainage ditch outside its surgery on Cantley Lane because at least one member of the public fell into it. We liaised with Norfolk County Council to have a fence installed around the ditch and are pleased to report the fence is now in place. If you have any concerns like this that you have noticed around the Parish, please do contact our Clerk.

**Swing into action.** Following a request from a parishioner, we are pleased to say that we will shortly be installing a baby cradle swing on the playground on Dragonfly Lane. This will allow babies somewhere to play whilst their older siblings and friends are using the other equipment. We are also happy to say the zip-wire in the woods at the Recreation Ground is now back in action after much-needed repairs that kept it closed for several weeks. Don't forget, we have five playgrounds around the Parish, with a variety of equipment for all ages.

**Bee-ing friendly.** Following last year's trial with wildflowers, we will be continuing to leave some areas unmown until late summer to encourage wildlife and especially bees. Look out for these signs.



*Pavilion opens for business.* After more than a year the Pavilion refurbishment has been completed. The keys were handed over on 19th May with the first booking on 20th. There were some teething issues, but most have been resolved. We hope you like the improvements that have been made. Bookings should be made via our office (01603 457222; [admin@cringlefordpc.org.uk](mailto:admin@cringlefordpc.org.uk)).

### Doggy matters

Several residents have commented on the amount of dog fouling on footpaths. We have 14 dog bins around the Parish and so there is really no excuse. In ordinary times we also have containers in several locations with free dog bags in them. We hope to reinstate them shortly. Please do be a responsible owner – if you are caught not picking up the waste then District Council Enforcement Officers have the power to issue on-the-spot fines.

A concerned resident has contacted us regarding dogs approaching other dogs. Please remember that if a dog is on a lead, it is for a reason and it probably means its owner does not want their dog to be approached by your loose dog. Please be respectful of everyone’s different circumstances so that we can all use the open spaces together and please be careful to ensure that your dogs are always under control. Recently, an unleashed dog ran from the Recreation Ground, down the Loke, and chased some sheep who were in lamb on the adjacent field. Sadly, the stress of this caused two of the sheep to pass away. If your dog does not recall properly then please keep it leashed when on Council land.

Please will owners also stop their dogs digging holes on the Recreation Ground. It is extremely dangerous to users of the field, especially sports groups. Our fields are open for all at the minute, and we would hate to have to reconsider access to dogs because of health and safety complaints.



*Our Parish Clerk , Sonya, Blythe, receives the keys to the refurbished Pavilion from Robert Olley of NCL Contractors*

## Our recreational plans for the Parish—more activities for all

As Cringleford expands, it is important to create attractive additional recreational activities for all ages. Our current plans involve three priorities – formal sports (such as football and badminton), active recreation (e.g. dance groups, gymnastics, skateboarding), and quieter outdoor pursuits—walking, cycling and gardening.

There is provision for new football facilities at the St Giles Park development and plans are being finalised with the active involvement of Cringleford Football Club. In addition, we are proposing to expand the pavilion planned by the developer to allow additional uses e.g. dance and badminton. By careful design of the building, it may



*Recreational areas including football pitches under construction at St Giles Park*

also be possible to make provision for a nursery or other facilities. Near The Willow Centre, where the football field is currently, a multi-use games area is being considered that will allow additional sports such as netball. Sadly though, changes proposed to Thickthorn junction mean some planned activities may be lost, but it is hoped a BMX track and a skate park at the St Giles site will still be possible (depending on the final design of the junction). Other cycle tracks in the Parish are also under consideration and we are consulting with a focus group of young people to help our deliberations. A specialist company has been appointed to advise the Council on the viability of all the options.

There is a valuable green space to the south of the St Giles development that will be used as a green area for walkers and cyclists. This will be developed using experience from Marston Marshes and Ladybelt Country Park (just outside East Carlton). Other green spaces, such as the areas near Cringleford Primary School and The Willow Centre are being investigated as possible community sites for options like an outdoor auditorium. There is modest provision for allotments at Cringleford Heights and there will be a community

orchard there, and at St Giles Park. Our Recreation Group are also investigating the potential for community gardens across Cringleford.

In the woodland near The Willow Centre, a sensory activity centre is to be created using experience from the Royal Horticultural Society. It will be carefully designed and will only occupy a very small area of the woodland – so existing users will not be disadvantaged. A particular feature is that it will be suitable for disabled children (who are very poorly served in this respect in Norfolk) and a major disabled charity has partnered with the Council to create this facility. At the same time, the woodland area, under the guidance of the volunteer Parish Tree Warden, will be expanded with planting done by children from Cringleford Primary School.

If you have any ideas for recreation areas in the Parish, or may want help us develop them, please do get in touch with us, either by contacting our Clerk (01603 250198, [clerk@cringlefordpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@cringlefordpc.org.uk)), or by coming along to a Parish Meeting. They are held the second Thursday of every month except August. Attendance information is published on our website in each agenda.

### Please respect our woodlands

We all value our green spaces, more so in the last year, whether this be for recreational or aesthetic purposes, appreciation of the increased biodiversity they provide or the positive benefits they have on our physical and mental health.

According to the Woodland Trust, there are many benefits to trees and woodlands being incorporated into developments. These include: reducing flooding, improving air quality, mitigating the ‘urban heat island’, reducing noise, improving biodiversity and improving the health and wellbeing of residents. Trees are amazing organisms, with a single tree having the ability to uptake an average of about 6m<sup>3</sup> of water per year from the ground. This leads to water finding it easier to infiltrate the ground, thereby reducing surface water. Their leaves also intercept rain, preventing some water reaching the ground at all. Leaves are also important for their ability to absorb gases and trap small particles, mitigating the impacts of air pollution. The leaves in the canopy are also the part of a tree from where water

evaporates, leading to the cooling of air temperatures. Trees also don't absorb as much heat as built surfaces and can provide direct shading, again reducing ambient temperatures in these areas.

It is also important to remember not only the benefits these urban green areas have for humans, but also for the wildlife communities that call them home. Trees and hedges within urban areas provide important corridors and connections between otherwise isolated, small fragments of remaining habitat that can reduce the impact of new developments on species such as bats. Our trees and hedges also provide shelter, nest sites and food for wildlife that lives in these areas.

We are fortunate to have high quality green spaces within Cringleford, including within newer developments like Roundhouse Park. These green spaces are there for everyone's enjoyment and for the myriad other benefits they, and woodlands in particular, provide. In order to maintain these benefits, we must look after and cherish these areas.

Unfortunately, one of the woodland areas alongside Hart's Lane was damaged by the work of a few individuals who had begun to construct a small skateboard track. This involved the movement of soil and damage to a number of trees and shrubs. To allow this area to recover, we have taken the decision to fence off this part of the woodland to reduce disturbance to the trees, groundcover and the other wildlife that lives there.

We hope that our residents can understand and support this decision as we don't want irreparable damage to be caused to these areas which provide such huge benefits to both people and wildlife.



*Some of the damage done to the woodland. Clockwise from top: ground dug out to form dip and ramp; half excavated tree stump; branches cut to clear a path*

## First residents move into new developments

The new developments have road names now. You can find them on our website at: <https://www.cringelfordpc.org.uk/newsletter/>.

*St Giles Park* (information supplied by Big Sky). The Big Sky Living's Development at St Giles Park for 350 homes is progressing well and the first phase of 60 homes now has its first residents. The two show homes have been re-opened following the easing of lockdown with sales onsite continuing. The second and third phases of a further 77 homes are underway, and it is anticipated the fourth phase of another 34 homes will start by October. These three phases will deliver 69 affordable homes.

Offsite highway works on Cantley Lane close to the junction with Brettingham Avenue have now been completed although 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, continues with on-site infrastructure works including roads, sewers and the structural landscaping that includes the proposed sports pitches. These are progressing well.

*Roundhouse Gate* (information supplied by Kier/Tilia Homes). Following the completion of our road works on Roundhouse Way, the frontage of the site at the main entrance has greatly improved. The green spaces (open areas) have now been rotovated and seeded, and we look forward to our kerb appeal being enhanced when the grass takes hold. Also, as a consequence of the road works, we have recently changed the movement of traffic onto site at the roundabout on Round House Way leading to Sorrel Grove. This has now become the main access rather than providing access to the site via previous temporary access/egress point just off the roundabout.

Works generally are going well, with the main distributor road (Sorrel Grove) to the pumping station just off Round House Way planned to be completed during July 2021. The current site compound will be moved around September 2021 to a new site ready for our second building phase that will ensure the safety of our new residents and customers visiting our sales area.

# 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](http://cringlefordpc.org.uk)

**Church Hall bookings**  
**Patteson Room bookings**

01603 259138

01508 218732



## District Councillors

Daniel Elmer - [delmer@s-norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:delmer@s-norfolk.gov.uk)

William Kemp - [wkemp@s-norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:wkemp@s-norfolk.gov.uk)



**Norfolk** County Council

## County Councillor

David Bills - [david.bills.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:david.bills.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk)

Facebook

**Road works information**

[one.network/](http://one.network/)

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

[www.norfolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads/report-a-problem](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads/report-a-problem)



## The Willow Centre

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

- [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
- [battery](#) collection point is open
- [book swap](#) in the bistro area is not operating at present



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