

Minutes of the Meeting of Poringland Annual Parish Meeting

Wednesday 5th May 2021 7pm

Meeting Held by Video Conference

1. Attendance and Apologies for Absence

There were 14 attendees and the meeting was chaired by John Joyce, Chairman of Poringland Parish Council. Also in attendance was the Clerk to the Council.

Apologies were received from Sherry Locke (Norfolk Constabulary), Peter Lowndes-Burt (Parish Councillor), John Overton (Parish and District Councillor), David Gooderham (Fuel Allotment Trust) Becky Arnold (Head Teacher, Framingham Earl High School) and Robert Parsonage (All Saints' Church).

2. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 1st May 2019

The minutes of the meeting of the 1st May 2019 were agreed after a proposal from David Hewer and a second from Trevor Spruce.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

None Raised.

4. Parish Council Reports

a) Chairman's Report

John Joyce gave the Chairman's report (Appendix 1).

It was requested that questions be asked under item 6.

b) Financial Report and Annual Report

The Parish Clerk as Responsible Financial Officer presented the financial report (Appendix 2).

It was requested that questions be asked under item 6.

5. Reports from Village Organisations

a) Poringland Covid-19 Vaccination Centre and Heathgate Surgery – Report by Gary Whiting

Mr Whiting recognised the success of the vaccine centre operating from Poringland community centre. It was initially thought that the vaccine centre would be run in a similar manner to the flu clinics, but things escalated very quickly. A primary care network of 9 GP practices was formed to create a community vaccine centre, which covered an area from Poringland to Harleston to Attleborough. A central area would have been preferable in a location such as Long Stratton but there was nowhere suitable. Knowing how well the flu clinics in the community centre worked, Poringland Parish Council was approached.

The Clerk and the Caretaker were thanked for their assistance over the Christmas period for helping with the initial arrangements. As a result, the CQC and the CCG gave approval for a non-surgical setting to be used as a vaccine clinic.

Over the twelve week programme 22,500 vaccinations were managed at the centre. 10,500 of these were Pfizer vaccines managed through the centre and the remaining 10,000 vaccines were Astra Zeneca managed through the GP practices. The second 12 week programme has now started for second vaccinations, and the programme is currently on week 5.

In South Norfolk as of 25th April, 83,000 first vaccines have been administered and Poringland has contributed a significant portion of this. On behalf of the 9 practices, the volunteers were thanked for their contribution to the programme.

The ethos of partnership working to provide services and amenities for local people was noted. The people of Poringland were thanked for supporting the centre.

The last vaccines are due to be administered during the second week of June. The Primary Care Network has decided not to participate in Phase 2 of the vaccination programme for the under 50s. This part of the programme would not have worked for either party, but there will be local vaccination centres in Norwich, Attleborough and Harleston.

Q) There has been very positive feedback for the vaccination centre. With news of a booster vaccine in autumn, will the community centre feature in this?

A) There has not been sufficient information to the Primary Care Network as to how the booster programme will run. In addition to this, it is unsure how the booster will tie in with the flu jabs (as you cannot have vaccinations too close together). It is suggested that the booster will only be for cohorts 1-4, but there will be additional pressure for the flu vaccine as this is now for over 50s, rather than over 60s. There remains too many unanswered questions to comment on whether the community centre will feature in the booster programme.

Away from the vaccine programme, it is not true that Heathgate surgery is 'back open for business' because it was never closed during the pandemic. The way the surgery operated just changed. There is a triage process prior to offering face to face consultations. There has been an exponential increase (approx. 40%) in demand for primary care services. As a result there is a 3-4 week wait for those who are not in urgent need. It is important that patients take responsibility for their own health as patients' expectations are often greater than provisions allow and the pharmacy sector is playing a significant role with over the counter medication.

Heathgate surgery has appointed a new GP partner for 3 days a week to help manage the demand.

It is important that this message is passed on for people better understand the reality if they are informed.

b) Poringland Men's Shed – Report by Henry Gowman

Mr Gowman introduced the Men's Shed as an organisation that is open to all men aged over 18, to combat matters of mental health and to promote social wellbeing. Despite lockdown, the group is in 'fine fettle'. Recent projects have included:

- Refurbishing the phone box to house a defibrillator.
- Creating mini crazy golf sets for care homes.
- Repaired items that would have otherwise gone to landfill.
- Built lots of bird boxes and bug boxes.
- Created a replica village sign for Yelverton.
- Created a duck house for Yelverton pond.
- Making 'Santa's Sleigh' for Poringland Parish Council.

The Shed improves confidence, wellbeing and self worth of its members.

They currently have a long lease on the caretaker's bungalow at Framingham Earl High School, and this location works well with intergenerational projects. A lease on a proposed new building on the Playing Field is in the process of being put together by the Parish Council's solicitors.

c) Tree Warden Scheme – Report by Henry Gowman

Mr Gowman has been visiting and advising on many trees in the local area. He is trying to get trees replaced on new developments where the original ones had died. Developers are reluctant to replace the trees. Frustratingly, this death of the original trees would be less of a problem had the more appropriate trees be planted at the correct time of year. South Norfolk Council is looking to improve its tree maintenance plan as part of planning conditions.

He is participating in the meeting on 24th May with Norfolk Wildlife Trust to look at the community woodland to discuss options for how it can be managed. He would like to form a working group that would help to manage the woodland.

The government wants more tree planting by November and local councils now have a number of trees that are available for planting. A plan is needed to plant all these trees.

He thanked the Parish Council for the Copper Beech in celebration of 30 years of the tree warden scheme.

Q) Is the Men's shed only open to men?

A) Every year a vote is taken on allowing women to access the shed, and the vote is always against this. Ideally a mirror image 'women's shed' could be built at the Playing Field.

d) Report from Norfolk County Council – Report by Vic Thomson

Cllr Thomson reported that the Covid crisis had shown just how much people care. Grants have been submitted to local businesses and residents to help them through this crisis. On 2nd February, the Covid figures were 188 cases per 100,000 people, the most recent report shows 10 cases per 100,000 people. This is partly because of the vaccine and partly because of people taking care.

Flooding is high on the agenda in Norfolk, with much of Norfolk's flooding coming off the fields. The 30-40 water agencies are now to work together to help resolve some of the local flooding issues.

Poringland will benefit from two new village gateways under Norfolk County Council's parish partnership scheme.

During the year, the B1332 was completely resurfaced and the A47 west signage improved. The project for the improvements to the A146/B1332 junction has been agreed, the funding just needs to be obtained.

There has been a warning released about fires from barbeques and patio heaters. These are happening as a result of people being allowed to socialise outside, but wanting to stay warm in the recent inclement weather.

More people are walking and cycling, and the use of the electric scooters in Norwich has now outpaced the Beryl Bikes.

Work has started on the new Harford Bridges recycling centre, which should be opening in October.

Norfolk County Council has 1 million trees to plant across the county, and bids will open in May.

Polling stations will be open between 7am and 10pm on 6th May. Due to Covid restrictions, voters are being asked to bring their own pencil to the polling station.

With regards to school admissions in September 2021, there are no problems with admissions to the primary school. On paper the high school is over subscribed, but the only children not to have been accepted are those which are out of catchment. All children in catchment who have applied for a place at the high school have been offered a place. The numbers are looking acceptable up until 2026, but sites are still being reviewed for a new primary school.

Mr Gowman commented that it would be good to use the tree planting scheme to replace roadside hedgerows, as these help to prevent flooding and snowdrifts.

e) The Good Neighbours Scheme – Report by David Hewer

Mr Hewer presented his report (attached under Appendix 3).

Mr Hewer noted that the Strategic 6 group has not met due to Covid.

f) Sand and Gravel Charity – Report by Chris Walker

Mr Walker presented his report (attached under Appendix 4).

Q) Does there need to be an election for the trustees soon?

A) It was believed that this had been done. Chris Walker and the Clerk are to review.

g) Welcome Home and Memorial Playing Fields Trust

John Overton had sent his apologies for the meeting. The report is attached in Appendix 5.

h) South Norfolk Council – Report by Lisa Neal and Trevor Spruce

Cllr Neal reported that tens of thousands of residents and businesses had been supported by Covid grants distributed by the council. These have protected livelihoods and saved jobs. South Norfolk Council was one of the quickest District Councils in Norfolk in distributing money.

The Help Hub extended their hours to support vulnerable people.

The Leisure Centres had to close and $\frac{1}{4}$ of all staff were redeployed. 73 staff volunteered at the NNUH in support of the NHS.

Cllr Spruce reported that the government supported the leisure industry to the tune of £2.5m and this would also support mental health. The improvements to Framingham Earl Sports Centre would be put on hold.

He thanked John Henson, John Joyce and the Clerk for their work on the Neighbourhood Plan and this was reflected in the refusal of the proposed development on the land east of Overtons Way earlier in the day.

i) Report from Norfolk Constabulary – Report by P.C Sherry Locke

P.C. Locke had provided apologies for the meeting. The report is appended under Appendix 6.

j) Report from the Fuel Allotment Trust – Report by David Gooderham

Mr Gooderham had provided apologies for the meeting. The report is appended under Appendix 7.

k) Report from Framingham Earl High School – Report by Rebecca Arnold

Mrs Arnold had provided apologies for the meeting. The report is appended under Appendix 8.

j) Report from All Saints Church – Report by Robert Parsonage

Rev. Parsonage had provided apologies for the meeting. The report is appended under Appendix 9.

6. Parishioner Questions and Comments

None raised.

John Joyce thanked everyone for their attendance, and advised that the next Parish Council meeting on 26th May would be back at the community centre.

The meeting closed at 9pm

CHAIRMAN

Annual Parish Meeting - Chair's Report 5th May 2021

The past year has been unprecedented, not only nationally but locally as well. Being part of a global pandemic is a situation that not one of us predicted, but we should be proud of the way our community responded.

So many people stepped up to help others in the village so if we do not mention everyone it is not through deliberate omission. The Good Neighbours Scheme dispatched volunteers to collect shopping and prescriptions and to make befriending telephone calls to those who had found themselves isolated by shielding. They worked in tandem with South Norfolk Council's Help Hub, who gave guidance on all aspects of the pandemic, from obtaining essentials to coping financially. The Poringland Fuel Allotment Trust was proactive in increasing awareness of their grant service for local people. With these facilities available, the Parish Council sent out a flier to all households, making people aware of all the help that is out there. We also updated our website with details for local support services, ranging from domestic violence to mental health to home schooling.

Despite the pandemic, the business of the Parish Council continued, but in a much different format. We were one of the first parish councils to adopt online meetings and we're pleased that members of the public were able to join us. The government is not extending the legislation to allow us to meet online beyond 7th May, so we will be back meeting in person from our meeting on 26th May. We are confident that we can do this safely in our Covid-secure building.

In August we decided to open the café at the community centre. The pandemic actually influenced this decision in a positive way, as we identified a need for a safe space where people could meet in accordance with Covid-restrictions. We have had such positive feedback from this venture and look forward to when we can operate fully with no Covid restrictions.

We did not allow Covid-19 to stop our Christmas celebrations. Our 26ft tree lit up the community centre, Santa toured the village in his sleigh, and the CCTV footage of his secret turning on of the Christmas Tree lights went viral with over 5,000 views.

Despite Covid-19, there has been a lot of progress in the village during the year. The B1332 was resurfaced along the length of the village. Whilst we appreciate this did cause an element of disruption, works were done during the school holidays, at a time of limited commuting as many people were working from home. This was a £750,000 investment in our village for which we are grateful to the County Council.

The Parish Council also worked closely with Norfolk Homes to transfer several areas of land to us. These include the Potters Way play area, the community woodland, the large expanse of land to the west of The Ridings, and the wildlife rich lagoon to the south of the woodland. Our focus this year is to see how we can best manage these lands with a diverse range of uses to benefit our parishioners and the environment. We'd like to thank Norfolk Homes for their support to enable these transfers to go through smoothly.

In support of making the community woodland a place for everyone to enjoy, we invested in some bulbs and volunteer working parties to plant them. Sadly, we couldn't make the working parties larger, due to the Covid restrictions at the time, but it brought to our attention the number of people in the village who wanted to volunteer for this type of project. We hope that there will be similar projects for local people to take part in in the future. We also embraced 'Penelope the Python' by giving her, her own sign, enabling her to grow as more and more people visit and allowing each generation of children to help her grow.

We installed two new football goals on the Mulberry play area. These goals were designed to not only facilitate football, but to be used as a climbing frame and are robust enough to sit on as well. It has been a pleasure seeing children of all ages enjoying this new facility.

Tim Boucher, our previous chairman, stood down at Christmas after four years leading the parish council. The village has much to thank Tim for over his time on the parish council and we look forward to his continued involvement in his new role as Vice Chairman.

Undoubtedly our biggest project of the year was the use of the community centre as a vaccine clinic. The Parish Council spent most of the Christmas period in discussions with the NHS and in the set up of the clinic. There was so much to consider from security, highway access, storage of the vaccine, to keeping the building clean. We would like to thank everyone who has taken the time to comment on the set up at the community centre. This has been a collaborative effort between the NHS, Parish Council and volunteers, all of which have the one aim – to support our community through this pandemic.

Our Neighbourhood Plan is close to being completed, with the referendum likely to take place by early July. Throughout the early consultations we listened to the aspirations of local people and, through several rounds of public consultation created planning policies that would meet these aspirations. Whilst planning matters in Poringland will no doubt always be contentious we hope that, should the electors of the village wish to adopt it, through the referendum, the Neighbourhood Plan will help shape the development to welcome new people into the village whilst not adversely affecting those who already live here.

The Neighbourhood Plan wasn't the only form of community engagement we were doing this year. We launched 'Parish Matters', a monthly publication to keep people up to date with the news of the Parish Council. At the moment it is just available online, but we hope to issue a paper format when Covid regulations permit.

I started this report talking about the historic response to the pandemic. I would like to conclude it with how we continue to respond to this situation. Let's continue to keep to the government's guidance to prevent the spread of the virus, let's support local business as they recover from being forced to close and also to keep looking out for those who are vulnerable, lonely and in need of our support.

John Joyce, Chairman of Poringland Parish Council

Parish Council Financial for Annual Parish Meeting – 5th May 2021

The 2020/2021 financial year has been a difficult one for the Parish Council. When we set our budget for this year in January 2020, we could not have foreseen the pandemic and the impact it would have upon the Parish Council's finances.

The Parish Council's largest income generator is the community centre and this was severely impacted by the pandemic. When we were forced to close on 20th March 2020, we hoped this was only to be for a short amount of time. Community centres were finally allowed to open again on 5th July, but unfortunately our regular hirers were either vulnerable and shielding, or not yet permitted to restart their groups, as was the case with exercise groups. It was only on 31st July where we welcomed our first hirers back. Where we could, we allowed them double the space for their usual hire fee to ensure their classes could operate with social distancing in place and still be viable. The Parish Council had to take into account the social wellbeing of the parishioners that used the community centre, and this was deemed more important than economics and maximising our hire fee. All private events this year had to be cancelled and all events run by the Parish Council also suffered the same fate. There was a limited amount of compensation from central government in the form of a £10,000 grant, but with a community centre which turned over in excess of £75,000 the previous year, this was never going to make up for the loss of income.

The Parish Council reviewed its budget in September 2021 as the one set in January 2020 could never be realistic given the circumstances. Despite the loss of income, there was also the opportunity to re-evaluate the expenditure of the council. In particular, when we lost members of staff, decisions were made not to rush into recruitment. Only now are we starting to recruit as we have confidence in business being closer to normal when restrictions are lifted.

Much of our funds can only be spent for specific purposes. We closed the year with £203K in Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). This is a charge put on developers per square metre of qualifying development in the parish. Presently 15% of the charge comes to the Parish Council, but upon adoption of our Neighbourhood Plan, this percentage will increase to 25%. As the name of the charge suggests, these funds must only be spent on infrastructure improvements within the parish. During this year we spent some CIL on the new football goals on the Mulberry play area, and increasing the storage areas at the community centre. With the new areas of community land being transferred to the Parish Council, it is likely that a portion of this may be allocated to helping achieve the community aspirations for this area.

Other funds, known as commuted sums, are restricted to specific areas of the village, usually the maintenance of the areas of land that have been transferred to us. We currently hold the following commuted sums:

£34K allocated to the Devlin Drive play area

£29K allocated to the Mulberry Play area and field

£45K allocated to Trafalgar Square and the Victory Avenue play area

£32K allocated to the Bus Shelters

£97K allocated to the Rosebery park play area and communal gardens

£2K allocated to dog bins in the David Wilson Homes estate

£16K for the Community Woodland and Lagoons

Poringland Parish Council made the decision to increase its portion of the council tax by 1.9% to £91.28 per annum. This equates to an increase of £1.67 per annum (just over 3p per week) for a Band D household (less if you reside in a property banded A-C).

The tax base has played a part in this increase this year. The precept we ask for is divided by the tax base (based on the number of council tax paying properties) to calculate the Band D portion of the council tax. With all the development Poringland has had in the past year, normally the village's tax base would increase with the increased number of properties. Because of the impact of Covid 19, many people have fallen out of the council tax system, through no fault of their own. As a result, the tax base only rose by 1 property, from 1,964 to 1,965 despite the increase in houses. This will hopefully correct itself in future years as the economic recovery process gets underway.

Having reviewed the Band D council tax for other parishes in South Norfolk, Poringland remains lower than other councils with a comparable tax base (eg: Cringleford with a tax base of 1,903 has a Band D Council Tax of £157.98, Redenhall with Harleston with a tax base of 1686 and a Band D Council Tax of £198.66 and Long Stratton with a tax base of 1398 and a Band D Council Tax of £128.89). South Norfolk Council has advised that the increase in the average Band D Council Tax for Town and Parish Councils is 1% and results in an average Band D Council Tax figure of £83.39, therefore the increase Poringland has levied is marginally higher than the South Norfolk Average, but that is not unexpected with a parish of our size with the services it provides. The increase on behalf of the other precepting authorities for a Band D property were:

Norfolk County Council *£56.43 (+3.98%)*

Police and Crime Commissioner *£14.94 (+5.68%)*

South Norfolk Council *£5.00 (+3.23%)*

In conclusion, as Poringland continues to grow, the Parish Council will continue to invest in the services that is under its jurisdiction for the benefit of parishioners. Investments are reviewed regularly so as to ensure that a good return is received, the money is available when required, and most importantly the money is safe.

Faye LeBon

5th May 2021

Summary of Parish Council Accounts 2020/2021

Income	Original Budget 2020/2021 £	Revised Budget 2020/2021 £	Actual 2020/2021 £	Over /Under 2020/2021 £	Budget 2021/2022 £	Inc / Dec on 2020/2021 Budget
Precept	175,938	175,938	175,938	0.00	179,364	+1.9%
Interest	4,000	4,000	5,161	1,161	3,100	-23%
Burial Ground	1,500	1,500	6,273	4,773	2,500	+67%
Miscellaneous	500	500	400	-100	500	0.00%
Grants	4,300	4,300	28,819	24,519	4,450	+3%
S106 Commuted Sum	0	0	17,501	17,501	0.00	0.00%
CIL	0	0	1,868	1,868	0.00	0.00%
Community Centre	78,000	17,750	28,308	11,411	70,000	+295%
Use of Earmarked Monies	29,690	29,690	13,356	-16,334	36,800	+24%
Total	293,928	233,678	277,624	43,899	296,714	+27%
Tax Base (adjusted no. of properties)			1,964			1,965
Band D Tax*			£89.58			£91.28
% inc/dec Band D Council Tax						+1.9%

* Band D Council Tax is calculated as Precept divided by Tax Base.

Expenditure	Original Budget 2020/2021 £	Revised Budget 2020/2021 £	Actual 2020/2021 £	Over / Under (-) Spend 2020/2021 £	Budget 2021/2022 £	Inc / Dec on 2020/2021 Budget
Staff Costs	151,058	136,000	131,801	-4,199	153,230	+12%
General Admin	18,815	18,815	16,519	-2,296	21,230	+13%
Burial Ground	6,000	6,000	5,601	-399	6,500	+8%
Community Centre	58,655	40,655	34,806	-5,849	57,990	+30%
Outside Spaces	11,870	11,260	7,873	-3,387	9,514	-15%
Playing Field	14,040	14,040	3,312	-10,728	9,100	-35%
Donations	700	700	375	-325	750	+7%
Professional Fees*	1500	1,500	2,400	900	1,500	0.00%
Land Project*	7,500	7,500	0	-7,500	7,500	0.00%
Contingency	1,600	1,600	0	-1,600	1,600	0.00%
Total	271,738	238,070	202,687	-35,383	268,914	+13%
Commuted Sums, CIL and Reserves	22,190	29,690	13,356		27,800	
Grand Total	293,928	267,760	216,043		296,714	

* From reserves

2021/2022 includes a full year café trading and is reflected in community centre income and expenditure

Cash and Short Term Investments 31/03/2021

Account	Balance
Unity Trust Current	77,324.50
Unity Trust Deposit	146,221.53
Petty Cash / Bar and Café Floats	550.00
Nationwide Instant Access Saver	121,861.41
CCLA	40,000.00
United Trust	50,000.00
Hampshire Trust Bond 1	55,000.00
Cambridge & Counties 120 Day Saver	78,009.52
Santander Bond 1	60,430.43
Julian Hodge Bond 1	22,000.00
	651,397.39

Long Term Investments 31/03/2021

Account	Balance
Fidelity	£30,000.00
Hampshire Trust Bond 2	£20,000.00
Julian Hodge Bond 2	£55,000.00
	£105,000.00

All financial information is taken from unaudited accounts

5+ Good Neighbour Scheme

Report to Annual Parish Meeting, Poringland 2021

The Scheme started to be set up in 2011.

This was in conjunction with Community Action Norfolk (CAN) who provided a set up grant of £500. This covered initial training, insurance, DBS checks and a mobile telephone.

With a small core of local residents, we were able to meet at the Nightingale Centre free of charge to consider the setting up of a Good Neighbour Scheme for the benefit of the local community.

We appointed a designated Safeguarding Person, treasurer and secretary

It was felt we should only cover the area referred to as the 5+ (Poringland, Framingham Earl and Pigot, Caistor St Edmund, Bixley and Stoke Holy Cross).

We used the Community News for advertising the scheme and in 2013 we went live.

The services we offered were as follows:

- Transport to hospitals/clinics/surgeries/dentists
- Shopping, errands and household chores
- Collection of prescriptions
- Minor repairs, DIY, Furniture moves
- Help with pets
- Occasional gardening
- Form filling, letter writing
- Befriending
- Support for parent with young children

We identified our major risk was the security of our volunteer and client personal data.

The system was set up to ensure only the Duty Officer had the client information and passed this onto the volunteer.

Initially we determined the service each volunteer would be willing to accept and the duty officer would link the volunteer to the client. All the records had to be matched and the monthly analysis was becoming a chore.

We revised our telephone handset to enable the identification of all our volunteers giving us the ability to text to all volunteers and they to advise back if they were available to carry out a request as well as the duty officer completing a far easier record of jobs.

We added the provision home assessment and free smoke alarms following training from the Fire Service. Unfortunately budgets dried up to provision of replacement alarms so this was discontinued.

In addition our area of operation became wider as we included Brooke due to the provision of 2 volunteers and included the full area of the Heathgate practice. We have tried on two occasions to include Trowse but not received any volunteers for that area.

Currently we have 5 duty officers and 26 volunteers. Two are about to join us and we look forward to their help.

The pandemic was our major work load over the past year.

On the 23rd March 2020 we had a problem in that some of our volunteers had to shield, others had other resultant problems. From that date we had just one active Duty Officer who linked all calls and requests from clients and the SN Hub. All I can say is it worked well. Every job we received we complied with.

We had one person mainly on Pharmacy jobs and others dedicated to shopping.

To give an indication statistics for 2019 and 2020 were

	2019	2020
Shopping	90	365
Prescriptions	7	232
Hosp Transport	208	90
Home& DIY	12	4
Befriending	304	235
Other	26	35
	647	961

So far as shopping has been concerned the shoppers have had to go wide and far to obtain some of dietary requirements of clients.

We also supported the vaccination project with approx. 18 volunteers who do shifts of approx. 4.5 hours, many in very cold conditions, and who have done approx. 14 shifts each.

My thanks go to all the volunteers who have helped our community over the past 12 months.

2021 PORINGLAND ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Report from -
Poringland Sand and Gravel Allotment Charity
Charity No. 264618

The Poringland Sand and Gravel Allotment Charity makes grants available to clubs, groups and societies comprising Poringland parishioners.

The Charity is run by 4 Trustees who are each appointed for a 4-year term by Poringland Parish Council but who are not necessarily parish councillors. Presently the Trustees are Pat Easter, Jenny Huxtable, Caroline Milton and myself.

Our financial year ends on 30 June and our accounts are independently examined each year. During the 2019/20 year, the latest available, we received income of just over £1,650 from our various investments and interest earned. During that period, we awarded grants totalling £1,250 to local organisations. As at 30 June 2020 our funds stood at over £69k.

Perhaps not surprisingly, with organisations not meeting during the pandemic, we have received few requests for support since June last year.

Therefore, any local clubs, groups or societies who wish to seek assistance from the Charity should apply in writing to either the Chair, Mrs. Pat Easter or the Secretary, Mrs. Caroline Milton. Their addresses can be found in the 5+ and Contact magazines.

Thank you.

Chris Walker, Trustee

May 2021

Annual report: Chairman: John Overton.

Wednesday : 5th May 2021.

It's been a very on off with the presence of the Covid Pandemic and the restricted use of the building.

With the sad decline of the Bowls club in Poringland and Poringland Wanderers F.C. restricted when they can play due to the lock-downs, and after some 50 years or so, sadly the club had to call it a day with both Sunday sides, this was due to lack of players and volunteers.

Unfortunately local football is no longer a social occasion as it was back in the early 1900s , it's a great shame when looking at the history of football in the village , the club was formed in 1903.

Both Saturday sides are still very buoyant , unfortunately Youth football within the club has also gone into decline, this obviously has an impact on user income.

The good news is that the School Breakfast club is still buoyant during term time. Moving forward with the agreement of the trust subject to the legalities it has been agreed in principal for the "Men's Shed" to take over the bowls club and its surrounding area for its workshops etc, the lease is presently with the Solicitors , the planning application and all that goes with it is being handled directly by the Men's shed.

The Trust were please to receive grants for the facility from South Norfolk Council payable due to the current pandemic situation, these moneys have been ringfenced by the Parish Council on behalf of the Playing Field.

The lockdown and the lack of use to the building has given the trust the opportunity to look at some of the maintenance issues that needed attention, and thanks to the

The Pavilion is starting to look refreshed. Our thanks to the pavilion caretaker for the splendid work he has been carrying out and to the rest of the team that have been involved.

The trust have also taken the opportunity to call in a specialist company to look at a structural survey, there have been a couple of substantial cracks appear in the walls in the toilet block area that have been monitored , these appeared quite a few years ago and had glass strips put on them to check for movement , fortunately we are now in a position to let the experts tell the trust the good or bad news , we await their findings.

Unfortunately, like all these things , this building was built in the 60s with monies raised by the football club to improve the then Nissen Hut facility , the works were carried out by local trades who gave up their spare time, unfortunately the records are sparse as to foundations , foul water systems , underground pipe work, asbestos if any contained in the building , pipework generally and general specifications and the scope of works it was built to , I think a lot of rural villages were involved with this type of scenario back then, most of them don't meet present regulations.

There are some exciting plans in the pipeline for this facility , some refurbishment , kitchen , shower blocks etc, but before we can carry out any of these we must await the findings of the structural engineers.

Hopefully we will be looking at a brighter future for this facility that tends to slip of the radar.

John Overton:

Chairman: Poringland Welcome Home & Memorial Playing Field Trust.

Poringland Police Report

It has been a very difficult year for individuals, businesses and community groups alike and the effect of the pandemic and the associated restrictions have impacted on how we have policed our towns and villages.

Throughout 2020/2021 your local Safer Neighbourhood Team have continued to respond to priority calls as well as conducting reassurance patrols, utilising the 4Es approach to policing, seeking to engage, explain, educate and only as a very last resort enforce the restrictions in place at the time.

Your local Beat Manager has always enjoyed a very close working relationship with the community and we are very aware that the restrictions have meant that we have been unable to conduct face to face engagement. With the publication of the Government's "road map out of lockdown" and an easing of the restrictions, as long as the situation continues to improve, we look forward to resuming face to face meetings if we can but only if it is safe to do so. In the meantime, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to the Parish Council, local community and businesses for their understanding and support during what has been undoubtedly a very difficult year.

The Poringland Safer Neighbourhood Team have held a Public Meeting on the Teams platform in March 2021 where local issues were discussed and local policing priorities were set.

For the next three months the team will be concentrating on Speeding, Burglary/Theft and Anti-Social Behaviour. If you have any concerns or information to pass then please contact the team using their email SNTPoringland@norfolk.police.uk.

The next public meeting will be held in June 2021 and full details will be made available nearer the time.

Please follow South Norfolk Police on twitter @SouthNorfPolice or our South Norfolk Police Facebook page.

Below are the crime statistics for the last 12 months.

Crime type	Total		
Arson	1	Possession of drugs	5
ASB	11	Possession of weapons	2
Bicycle Theft	3	Public Fear, Alarm or Distress	29
Burglary - Business and Community	3	Racially or Religiously Aggravated Public Fear, Alarm or Distress	1
Criminal Damage	23	Robbery of Personal Property	2
Domestic	57	Theft from a Vehicle	2
		Total	139



Framingham Earl High School Overview for Poringland Parish Council

Background:

Framingham Earl High School is a convertor academy with the Sapienta Educational Trust. www.framinghamearlhighschool.co.uk (website) @FraminghamEarl (Twitter)

The following schools feed into Framingham Earl High School: Poringland Primary School & Nursery, Rockland St. Mary Primary School, Surlingham Community Primary School, Trowse Primary School, Stoke Holy Cross Primary School and Brooke VC CE Primary School

The Published Admission Number (PAN) for the school is 160 Year 7. For September 2021 we have accepted 163 students due to movement into catchment post the application date to Norfolk County Council.

	Number of students on roll	Attendance 2020/21 Year Average (Red – attendance since 15/03/21)	Number of students Pupil Premium (eligible for Free School Meals)	Number of students on the SEND register
11	151	(94.4%) 96.0%	16 (10)	2 EHCP 15 SEN Support Register
10	162	(95.0%) 96.5%	25 (14)	6 EHCP 19 SEN Support Register
9	154	(95.0%) 96.6%	29 (22)	5 EHCP 18 SEN Support Register
8	165	(95.3%) 97.7%	22 (12)	6 EHCP 20 SEN Support Register
7	160	(96.4%) 95.9%	39 (27)	6 EHCP 33 SEN Support Register

Staffing:

Mrs Becky Arnold – Headteacher, Mr James Edwards – Deputy Headteacher, Mr Dan Keates – Assistant Headteacher, Mrs Lisa Andrews – Assistant Headteacher, Mrs Anna Harvey Assistant Headteacher, Miss Anna Boyle – PA to Headteacher

Teaching Staff 40.4 Full Time Equivalent teachers

Support Staff 9.7 FTE Learning Support Assistants and 2.8 FTE HLTA

Site Developments 2020/21:

Astro turfing of some social areas, new benches and equipment for social times, additional food point, reconfiguration of rooms inc. development of Computer Science, Art, Drama and Food Technology. Planned for Summer 2021 resurfacing work on carparking, new hall windows and canopy across social areas. Bid placed with Wolfson Foundation to upgrade current Design & Technology room.

Community Links: (we are currently working on a Community Connect magazine that will highlight all our links)

Highlights for 2020/21: Poringland Men's Shed using the school bungalow as a base and completing some intergenerational project work (once COVID lifts), South Norfolk Council lease of Sports Centre to allow wider usage, A2Better transport scheme to build a clear Travel Plan, The Garage to develop Drama support for key individual students struggling to engage positively in school.

School Improvement Priority Areas for 2020/21:

Quality of Education:

1. Embed KS3 and Option choice curriculum changes from 2019/20 and further develop in 2020/21: our key aim is to allow students to flourish – we want our students to be able to talk with confidence about the what and why of the curriculum they study whilst identifying their own areas of strengths and development needs
2. Review Curriculum offer at KS4: Is it aspirational? Are our courses well suited to our communities needs? Are character education opportunities embedded equally with qualifications opportunities?
3. Further develop SEN expertise with all staff: Develop greater expertise amongst all staff so they can cater for the needs of students and know the best strategies to support learning flourish. ‘Little and Often’ CPD which is bespoke to FEHS students delivered by our SEN team. Ensure that the strategies given are achievable and monitor that they are followed. Build into curriculum SEN support from Y7 to Y11 – avoid any ‘drop off’ moments.

Behaviour and Attitudes:

1. Review of the pastoral structure following permanent appointments for SLT in Autumn 2020 (delayed from Easter 2020 due to Covid) – explore potential appointment of non-teaching pastoral manager and the impact this will have on DoL roles
2. Further develop nurturing teacher student relationships: Focus on nurturing positive relationships to allow staff to understand reasons for behaviour and where it comes from. Use models such as Zone of Regulation and Mental Health First Aid training to empower staff in their conversations and assessments of students. Develop environment within school so all feel able to share/contribute with strategies to support students. (Wellbeing Policy & Action Plan)

Personal Development:

1. Embed further character education into curriculum: exploration with students of how to learn, different learning strategies, co-curricular engagement and wellbeing support. Love of learning as an aspiration for all. Explore possibility of developing a ‘FEHS Award’ linked to character for those who complete various activities above and beyond the classroom requirements (independent learning tasks, sports teams, student leadership, House events, Student voice groups etc.)

2. Raise Aspirations: Creating a ‘cool to achieve’ culture where all stakeholders are involved in celebrating success and that success is not simply an academic measure. Ensure celebration of achievement is seen as a positive. Whole school to be involved with celebrating achievement. Develop stronger links with academic Sixth Forms and continue to foster links with educational establishments such as UEA, STEM Award, Royal Geographical Society. Develop use of tools such as Unifrog to allow parents and students to explore opportunities for post 16 and beyond.

Leadership and Management:

1. Further develop consistency of Line Leadership and Quality Assurance measures used throughout the school. Develop use of Lessons Learned for all staff and empower Directors of Subject to support teams by using overview tools to match staff expertise and areas for development
2. Embed Wellbeing strategy across the school which focuses on both staff and students
3. Link with previous target on permanence of SLT – allow new post holders to understand their roles and flourish

Poringland Annual Parish Meeting – 5th May 2021

Report from All Saints Church Poringland

With apologies that I cannot be present, personally, to provide a report, but below is a summary of some of the areas and activities which might be of interest to you:

Foodbank. Poringland Foodbank is managed out of All Saints Church Vestry and Octagon, as both a delivery and donation point. From the start of the pandemic in March 2020, up to the present, it has made 104 emergency deliveries, taking various numbers of boxes and bags, mostly to local households, but sometimes to surrounding villages. It has proved a life-line for a number of families and individuals. Additionally, because of financial support from individual donors, local fund-raising, and Poringland Fuel Allotment Trust, finances have been available to provide additional fresh food items, purchased on the day, and delivered together with the foodboxes (which can only contain long shelf-life items). These extra fresh, items, in particular, have been very gratefully received.

Schools and Youth work. With schools closed from March 2020, the youth worker initially had to be furloughed, but on-line platforms were developed and this quickly allowed contacts with young people to resume, and youth work continued in this way, albeit in a limited fashion. Poringland Primary school were provided with online school assemblies and pre-school children met ‘online’ with Edward Bear. In September 2020 after-school youth clubs were allowed to open again, but this became start/stop when national infection rates increased. To date, however, with the successful vaccination program, we are delighted that access to Framingham Earl High School is once again allowed, and the lunch club and the after-school drop-in have restarted.

Church. During the first lockdown the church developed its digital know-how and we have managed to provide Sunday services on line, on YouTube, as a dial-up service, and latterly, in person as well. Although a number of weddings had to be postponed, throughout we have provided funeral services, with numbers of local deaths, thankfully, not showing too much of an increase from previous years, however with social distancing in place, and limitations on numbers allowed to gather, it has been an uphill challenge to offer effective support and bring comfort to those who are grieving. The ‘Coffee-Stop’ weekly drop-in, at Poringland Village Hall, has not met for a year, though we are hoping to re-open again later this month; this drop-in has been a life line for people who are lonely and needing someone to speak to. Although visiting has often not been possible, maintaining telephone contact with potentially lonely and/or vulnerable people has been essential.

Outreach Post Office. The Octagon outreach post-office offers an essential service to people in the southern end of our community. This was highlighted, recently, when the service was interrupted for a few weeks because of a change in post-office personnel. A significant number of people enquired as to when the post-office would resume, saying how much they depended on it. However, it is not only meeting a need for postal services. I was told about a customer who attended and sat in the ‘socially-distanced’ chair waiting to be served, only to let others go before her. She said she’d only come in, so she could spend 5 minutes or so, talking to the teller, in between customers. This would be her only chance, she said, all week, of speaking with someone else. She eventually left after buying one stamp.

Singing. The CSWS singing group, which sang at Poringland Parish Council’s 2019 Christmas celebrations, had previously met and practised in the Royal Oak pub, but as with all singing groups, it has not been able to meet, in-person, for well over a year. The group continues to meet online, but is looking forward to in-person meetings starting again very soon.

Poringland Village Hall / All Saints Centre. We were able to give significant financial help to Time Childcare Playgroup, who meet in Poringland Village Hall, by giving them one year of rent-free usage, to help them through the lockdowns while they received less income from limited numbers of children, but still having to maintain staff numbers. Maintenance, repair and cleaning costs to the Village Hall remain very high and time-consuming, and we are currently seeking partners to provide the additional funds we require to build All Saints Centre, to replace Poringland Village Hall.

Christmas 2020. Finally, at Christmas, we celebrated, as we normally do, by lighting up the church and the tower. When the lights were due to come down, in January 2021, we took the decision to keep them switched on a little longer. It was simply to shine a bit of light to counter the darkness of yet another lockdown, and to take us through the dark winter days. Just after Easter, out of the blue, I got an email from someone, unknown to me, who thanked me they could see the lights from their window. She went on: "This year has been extremely hard, as I lost my Mum unexpectedly, my daughter is only young so she sees her 'Nonna' in many different ways - the church lights staying on this year is just one of the things she thinks Mum controlled for her, so I just wanted to say thank you." ... None of us know what others may be enduring behind closed doors. All the more reason to offer a smile, a helping hand or a kind word to those around us. The impact may well be huge.

Revd Robert Parsonage / 4th May 2021