



# Parish Matters

The Newsletter of Poringland Parish Council

February 2022

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Dear Parishioners,

## Welcome to Edition 13 of Parish Matters.

The first one in 2022 as there have been a few changes in the office at Poringland Parish Council

Firstly, our Parish Clerk, Faye LeBon, left the Parish Council at the end of January after three years with us. In that time, we have seen a great deal of change including new events and several innovations that the Parish Council have supported. We completed our Neighbourhood Plan which gave us a fantastic insight into what is important to our community and allowed us to write a plan to shape how we tackle development in the next few years. We've introduced Christmas events, a Community Café and a firework display which the village has embraced and supported. We've taken possession of nearly 30 acres of land and can now plan how to develop it for the benefit of the whole community. Faye has been a big part of all that good work and we wish her well in the future.

We have begun the process of recruiting a new Parish Clerk. Look out for the advert if you think you may be interested. In the meantime, we have made temporary arrangements to cover the role. Jimmy Miller, an experienced locum clerk, will be working with us for a few months.

**Community Land.** The Parish Council has received strong bids from five Architect firms to work with us to develop plans for the Community Land off the Ridings. We are currently conducting a thorough selection process to identify the preferred bidder. The initial programme should allow us to consult parish residents about options for developing the land, based on the previous feedback. The plan is to create something that will benefit the community and provide for future generations to use. We should be able to carry out the consultation in the Summer.

The Community Café has been one of our successes during the Covid pandemic. The

Parish Council set it up on a "not-for-profit" basis and it has been well supported by a wide range of local people. Costs have been rising and, unfortunately, we have to raise our prices slightly to cover some of those costs and will have to look again when VAT rises again in April. We have been reluctant to do so, but we have to balance providing a cost effective service for local people with a need to cover our running costs.



We are also currently advertising for a part-time Café Assistant (10 hours a week). If you are interested please contact the Parish Council by emailing [clerk@poringland-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@poringland-pc.gov.uk).

Also we are looking to increase our bank of people available to work our bar during the evenings at various events on the weekends. This would be very occasional work but again if you are interested please email the Clerk on the email address above.

**The Queens Jubilee.** An extra bank holiday is planned this year for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations which will run from Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June. The Parish Council are currently discussing the details of an event we plan to host for local residents during this weekend. We will be joining up with our neighbours in Framingham Earl, other local groups and inviting those from all the surrounding areas. Please watch this space for more information very soon.



**Community Centre Changes.** The Parish Office is becoming increasingly busy. We are therefore converting a store cupboard in the Community Centre into a new office and meeting room. We need a bit more space for our staff team and somewhere to hold confidential discussions with parishioners, contractors, hirers etc. Planning permission has been granted and we hope to secure a builder in the next few weeks. We'll keep you up to date with progress and keep disruption to a minimum when the work is carried out.

**Returning Events to the Community Centre.** As Covid restrictions lift we are delighted to be able to report a number of events will be returning to the Community Centre. We already have many different classes and groups who have returned. For a full list of these please see our *What's On* sheet on the notice boards and via our website [www.poringlandcommunitycentre.co.uk](http://www.poringlandcommunitycentre.co.uk).

However we are also delighted to welcome back:-

**The Indoor Car Boot Sale.** The first one on 19<sup>th</sup> February and then 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2022. This is now organised externally and if you are interested in a pitch please email Rachel at [poringlandevents@gmail.com](mailto:poringlandevents@gmail.com)

**The Mind, Body & Well Being Event.** To be held on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2022. From 10am-4pm with free entry. See poster for more details on notice boards.

**Free Events at the Community Centre:-**

**Wildlife Connections in Claylands.** To be held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022. From 7.30pm-8.30pm with free entry. A talk given by Helen Baczkowska about the Norfolk Wildlife Trust's Claylands project and the role we can all play in helping wildlife in our area. No booking required.

**A personal view of South London during the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War.** To be held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2022. From 7pm-8.30pm with free entry. A talk given by Ken Milne of school life during that eventful time. To book a place on this free talk please call Ken on 01508 494933.

**The Next Parish Council Meeting will be on  
2<sup>nd</sup> March 2022**

*until next time - Stay safe*

### Your Parish Councillors

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