



PORINGLAND PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

7.30pm – 7th May 2014

Poringland Community Centre, Overtons Way, NR14 7WB

Dear Parishioner,

Chairman of the Council:
Mr. John Ellis

Vice Chair:
Mrs. Angela Beard

Parish Councillors:
Mr. Terry Dartnell
Mrs. Christine Harrison
Mr. John Henson
Mr. David Hewer
Mrs. Jenny Kereama-Ellis
Mrs. Lisa Neal
Mr. Barry Timson
Mr. Chris Walker
Vacant

District Councillors:
Mrs. Lisa Neal
Mr. John Overton

County Councillor:
Mr. Roger Smith

Parish Council meetings
are held on the last
Wednesday in the month
apart from August and
December

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to our 2014 Newsletter and thank you all again for continued interest in and support of village community events. As ever, information about our activities can be obtained through contacting our Clerk on 01508 492182, or email poringland.pc@tiscali.co.uk or by visiting our website at www.poringlandparishcouncil.org.uk

Parish Council

The Parish Council is always encouraged by the attendance of Parishioners at its Parish meetings, as it is vital that parishioners hear the comments that Councillors make during the course of the meetings. Comments made by Parishioners during the Public part of the meeting are always appreciated.

As a result of recent comment received by the Parish Council I thought it might be helpful if I outlined the role of the Council and Councillors. The Council represents and serves the whole community and is responsible for the service it provides. It establishes policies for action and decides how money will be raised and spent on behalf of the Community and is responsible for spending public money lawfully and achieving best value for money. It is the role of Councillors to work together to serve the community and to help the Council to make decisions on behalf of the local community.

As a result of a Councillor resigning 10 members of the Parish asked for an election to take place. This was advertised but no nominations came forward, thus the process had to be repeated and will do so until a Councillor is elected. The cost to the Parish will be in excess of £3,000. It is hoped by the time that you read this newsletter we will no longer be minus a Councillor.

The Clerk is employed to provide administrative support for Council activities, giving advice on whether its decisions are lawful and to recommend ways in which decisions can be implemented. There are other responsibilities included within the Clerk's role.

The Welcome Home and Memorial Playing Field

The Playing Field Committee have had another busy and successful year. Further refurbishment of the pavilion and new chairs has contributed to making the club room an attractive venue to hire.



As a result of much interest shown in upgrading the young children's Play Area the committee are pursuing grant applications and local funding for the Play Area Equipment project to make the area a more stimulating and interesting environment for children to 'learn through play'. The committee are extremely grateful for the generous local support that they have received and to the local Mums who have enthusiastically held fund raising events, such as coffee mornings and Ladies evenings. If you have any ideas for fund raising, please get in touch with the Committee through their Secretary, Angela Beard, telephone 01508 493440

Planning

The Council has been very busy in this past year looking at a variety of planning applications, which have included Mill Close, the Heath Farm development between Caistor Lane and Stoke Road, All Saints Centre in The Footpath and the Shotesham Road development, as well as a large number of smaller residential development plans, for example extensions.

The Council is very mindful of the concerns of parishioners in connection with increased development and associated highway activity, whether vehicular or pedestrian. Your Council takes your concerns very seriously and does everything within its powers to assist the Community to help ensure public safety within the Community, which has included discussion with the Highway Authority. A review of traffic issues is being considered in an effort to address your concerns across the whole Parish area. It is very difficult at times to be able to satisfy the concerns of everyone, as the Council has to work with the powers that it has.

The Six Strategic Group

The Youth Council for the six villages, known as the 6YC is now up and running and looking at issues whereby it can assist in the development of activities within the six villages, one of which is the development of a Skate Park in Poringland. The Six Strategic Group has also worked very hard to develop the Good Neighbourhood scheme. Should you wish to obtain further details please call 07934195724 or email goodneighbourhelp@gmail.com. Further information about the Six Strategic Group can be found on their Facebook page.

The Community Centre

The use of the Community Centre has increased in the past 12 months. It provides a range of activities that can be used by all ages, covering educational, wedding parties, health and community group events, in addition to being used by a number of agencies to help enhance their service delivery to the benefit of our Norfolk Community. The Parish Council and Staff have received many compliments from a diverse group of Community Centre users, they like the facility and the support given to them in the use of the centre.

Thank You

Hopefully, this newsletter makes you aware of some of the key areas of activity that your Council has been involved in during the past year. It has been very intensive and challenging not only for the Council but also members of the Community. Your Council looks forward to engaging with as many of you as is possible during the next 12 months. We also hope that you will be able to attend the Annual Parish meeting. If you are not able to, but wish to discuss any Parish issues please contact our Clerk.

Finally I would like to thank all the Parish Councillors and the Parish Staff on your behalf for their hard work and commitment in supporting and enhancing the facilities in our community. In particular I would like to place on record the thanks of the Parish Council and the community for the excellent contribution our Clerk, Caroline Milton has made in her 28 years' service, prior to taking retirement this year and wish her well in retirement.

JOHN ELLIS

CHAIRMAN, PORINGLAND PARISH COUNCIL