



# Parish Matters

The Newsletter of Poringland Parish Council

April 2021

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Dear Parishioners,

## Welcome to Edition 4 of Parish Matters!

We're pleased to bring you edition 4 of Parish Matters. The response we received on previous editions was very positive so have decided to continue with this publication. We're delighted that readers are finding the information in here useful.

As we write this, we have seen our first lifting of Covid restrictions and people being able to meet outside. It has been a pleasure seeing our opens spaces being well used, and people being sensible and sticking to limits on groups. As a reminder, these are the rules from 29<sup>th</sup> March:

29 March



Rule of 6 or two households outdoors. No household mixing indoors.



Outdoor sport and leisure facilities.



Organised outdoor sport allowed (children and adults).



Minimise travel. No holidays.



Outdoor parent & child groups (up to 15 parents).

## Café Reopening

We're pleased to announce that the café at the community centre will be reopening from the 12<sup>th</sup> April,

subject to government guidance. This will be for takeaway and outdoor service only as per Covid restrictions, but it's a first step back to providing the safe social space that the village has valued. We're in the process of making some improvements to the outdoor area, such as outdoor seating and a lovely awning, which will make this area all the more appealing and comfortable. We've really missed our lovely customers and we hope to see you very soon.



## Community Land Transferred to the Parish Council

It's taken longer than we anticipated, but the Parish Council has taken ownership of numerous areas of community land around The Ridings. These areas include the Potters Way Play Area, the land adjacent to the Royal Oak, and the large expanse of land to the west of The Ridings. We're thrilled that this land, that will be of benefit to the community, can be safeguarded by the Parish Council. We will be looking to refresh the consultation for use of this land as its been five years since our last discussion, so look out for announcements on how you can get involved.



## Elections on 6<sup>th</sup> May

It is still planned to have the elections for Norfolk County Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner at the community centre on the 6<sup>th</sup> May. Use of the community centre for this purpose is permissible under Covid regulations and we would like to assure you of the cleanliness and Covid security of the community centre and encourage you to come out and vote.

## Asymptomatic Covid Testing

We would like to thank everyone who supported the asymptomatic Covid-19 testing at the pavilion during the week commencing 15<sup>th</sup> March. One in three people with Covid-19 has no symptoms, so its important that tests are done, even if you are symptom free. You can book a lateral flow test (for those with no symptoms) here: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/care-support-and-health/health-and-wellbeing/adults-health/coronavirus/testing/symptom-free-testing>

Staff at the community centre are now testing twice weekly to help keep visitors and colleagues safe.

**Planning Applications** It has been a really busy month for planning applications and they dominated our meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> March. There were two applications of note that have been causing controversy in the village. The first was an amended application for 9 dwellings and a commercial unit on Overtons Way and the second is for up to 19 new dwellings to the North of Heath Loke (west of Sebald Crescent). The Parish Council's strenuous objections to these applications have been sent to South Norfolk Council and will be able to be viewed on South Norfolk Council's planning website at <https://info.south-norfolk.gov.uk/online-applications> using references 2020/1689 and 2021/0488 respectively. It is likely that these two applications will be decided by South Norfolk Council's development management committee so the debate and decisions can be viewed in a public forum.

We have received notification that Gladman Homes has appealed the refusal of planning permission for 98 homes on Burgate Lane. The Parish Council will be discussing its response to this appeal at its next meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> April. This meeting will be via Microsoft Teams and the link to access the meeting will be available by 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

**Neighbourhood Plan Update** The consultation on the amended policy 2 of the Neighbourhood Plan finished on 29<sup>th</sup> March. The process now is for South Norfolk Council's Cabinet to consider the whole plan - hopefully on 19<sup>th</sup> April. Should Cabinet agree that the plan can be passed to the referendum stage, the plan will hold 'significant weight' when any planning decisions are made. No less than 28 days after this decision, the plan can be sent to referendum for registered electors of Poringland to have the final decision on whether the plan is adopted.

**Vacancy on the Parish Council** There is a vacancy on the Parish Council due to John Hodgson relocating. We will miss John greatly as he has done some great work for the council. We are currently in a period of asking the village if they would like a by-election to fill the position (see notice attached). If 10 electors have not requested a by-election by the 6<sup>th</sup> April, then the Parish Council is free to co-opt a new member. This is a great opportunity to contribute to the community, as we have some great projects going on at the moment.

**And Finally.....** Thank you to the PTA for setting up the Easter Egg hunt around the village, it's great event for local children to enjoy.

*until next time - Keep safe*

### *Your Parish Councillors*

***John Joyce (Chairman)***

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# Casual Vacancy in the Office of Parish Councillor

## PARISH OF PORINGLAND

Notice is hereby given:

- (1) A casual vacancy in the office of Parish Councillor exists in the above Parish.
- (2) An election by ballot according to the Election Rules will be held if a request in writing to that effect, signed by ten local government electors for the electoral area, is delivered to **The Managing Director, Broadland and South Norfolk Councils, Thorpe Lodge, 1 Yarmouth Road, Thorpe St. Andrew, Norwich, NR7 0DU** not later than 6 April 2021.

**If an election is requested a poll cannot take place until 6 May 2021 as a result of the Local Government and Police and Crime Commissioner (Coronavirus) (Postponement of Elections and Referendums) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 and the Coronavirus Act 2020.**

- (3) If an election is not requested, the Parish Council will fill this vacancy by co-option.

Parish/Town Clerk: Faye Le Bon

Address: Poringland Community Centre, Overtons Way, Poringland, NR14 7WB

Dated: 16 March 2021