



Parish Matters

The Newsletter of Poringland Parish Council

December 2021

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Dear Parishioners,

Welcome to Edition 12 of Parish Matters.

Edition 12 of Parish Matters means that we've been publishing for a whole year! We hope you've enjoyed reading them as much as we've enjoyed writing them, as there's been some great things to report on in our parish this year – and that hasn't stopped this month!

Sunday 5th December saw the return of our Christmas light switch on. After having to make the event Covid secure last year to prevent gatherings, we were pleased to be able to welcome the public back to see the grand switch on. Santa was unavailable for the switch on due to making preparations for a grand tour of the village on 19th December, so we were thrilled to welcome Bryony Falkus, Deputy Lieutenant of Norfolk, to switch on the lights. With her she brought a gift for the people of Poringland, in the form of a commemorative plaque acknowledging the work of the community which pulled together in the challenging times of the pandemic.



The plaque bears a quote from sociologist Harriet Martineau "Live your best and act your best and think your best today"

The Plaque will reflect in a tangible way to both current and future generations how all parts of the community came together to support and to look after each other to the mutual benefit of everyone in a time of real need, and we hope to get this displayed as soon as possible.

The Switch On was a great success and we'd like to thank Loddon Band and the tremendous 'Can't Sing, Won't Sing' choir for accompanying the carol singing of everyone who attended. And to the Reverend Robert Parsonage who, despite a nasty injury, came to support us with a prayer to open the event.

And a final thanks to the councillor volunteers who, fresh off the back of firework night, spent two more weekends putting the tree up and decorating it. This was no mean feat but even Storm Arwen did not detract them.



If you've not seen the tree, please pop down to the community centre to see it.



The Sleigh Run

Returns! We have had correspondence from Santa that his sleigh will be visiting Poringland on Sunday 19th December. The route and timings will be announced soon, so keep watching our social media pages.



reminder that Covid-19 is still with us so please enjoy your Christmas and New Year, but do so by keeping yourself and your friends and family safe.

Until next time - Stay safe



Community Centre Changes. As we have been reporting, there are some really proactive projects going on at the Parish Council at the moment, on top of our regular day to day work. As a result, we're looking to do a few changes to the community centre to give the council a bit more room to work. We have submitted a planning application to convert a storage room into an office/meeting room, which mean some minor changes to the front of the building. If you'd like to view the plans, please visit <https://info.south-norfolk.gov.uk/online-applications/> and search for application 2021/2457



Response to Planning Appeal. The applicant wishing to build 9 dwellings and a commercial unit on Overtons Way has appealed South Norfolk Council's decision to refuse planning permission. The Parish Council remains concerned that the applicant has not given due consideration to several policies in the Neighbourhood Plan, particularly two environmental policies in relation to hedgerows, and has raised the Neighbourhood Plan policies to the Planning Inspectorate. Our response and the applicant's statement of appeal can be found here: <https://www.poringlandparishcouncil.gov.uk/news/response-to-planning-appeal-for-overtons-way>

**The Next Parish Council Meeting will be on
5th January 2022**



And Finally.... The Parish Council is continuing to play its part in the vaccine delivery programme. After hosting the Booster Bus last month, we will be hosting a drop in vaccine clinic, in the community centre, on Thursday 9th December between 10.30am and 5pm. Please do not contact the parish council about appointments. It is all being dealt with by the NHS. Whilst we are pleased to be able to continue to support this NHS in its vaccine roll out programme, it is another

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