



Parish Matters

The Newsletter of Poringland Parish Council

July 2021

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Dear Parishioners,

Welcome to Edition 7 of Parish Matters.

The Countdown has begun to the Poringland Neighbourhood Plan Referendum! We'd like to thank everyone who took the time to attend our Neighbourhood Plan information events on 23rd and 24th June. During these events, all the planning policies were showcased, as was the timeline of community engagement events that had taken place since 2017. Members of the Neighbourhood Plan team were on hand to answer questions and were really pleased with the level of interest in the plan. It's been a long journey, but we believe that we have a plan that is reflective of the wishes of the community whilst still in keeping with the government's framework on local development.

Poringland Neighbourhood Plan Referendum

8th July at Poringland

Community Centre 7am – 10pm

Do you want South Norfolk Council to use the neighbourhood plan for Poringland to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?

The referendum is open to all registered electors in Poringland, so please make sure you come along and cast your vote.

[The plan can be viewed by clicking here](#) or contact the parish office for a hard copy.

Parish Council Meetings Now Move to the 1st Wednesday of the Month. The Next Meeting will be on 4th August 2021

Focus on Highway Safety. The Parish Council, working with Norfolk County Council, has agreed some different locations for the SAM vehicle monitoring sign. These areas include Norwich Road (near the One Stop) and Rectory Lane (opposite Rosebery Avenue) and will collect data on the number of vehicles using the area and the speed that vehicles are travelling. This information will allow Norfolk County Council to review the safety measures in these areas.

Norfolk Police has also asked us to remind drivers and pedestrians of their responsibilities relating to zebra crossings. The Highway Code (Rule 19) states:

'Give traffic plenty of time to see you and to stop before you start to cross. Vehicles will need more time when the road is slippery. Wait until traffic has stopped from both directions or the road is clear before crossing. Remember that traffic does not have to stop until someone has moved onto the crossing. Keep looking both ways, and listening, in case a driver or rider has not seen you and attempts to overtake a vehicle that has stopped.'

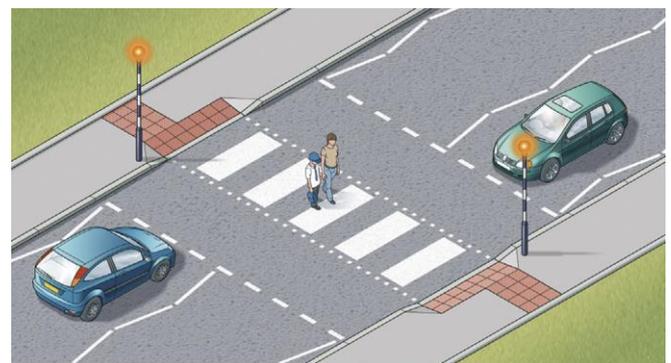


Image Courtesy of The Highway Code

Norfolk County Council is embarking on a review of these crossings. In the meantime, we ask that drivers and pedestrians are very cautious on these crossings and never make assumptions about what other road users may do.

Volunteering Opportunities. At its meeting on 30th June, the Parish Council agreed a policy for volunteers. Working closely with the Good Neighbours Scheme, which has an excellent track record of supporting volunteering in the village, the Parish Council is looking to provide volunteering opportunities for numerous projects. Some projects are regular ones, such as helping in the community café or litter picking. Others are one off projects. Looking to the future, these could include the helping to plant saplings, as the Parish Council has applied for grants to support more tree planting in the village. If you are interested in volunteering in support of projects in the community, please get in touch.

Employment Opportunities. As well as opportunities for volunteers, the Parish Council will shortly be advertising for paid positions. As we look to move out of restrictions, we have the roles of Assistant Caretaker and Parish Officer for Finance and Administration to be filled. These will be advertised soon, so keep watching our website and social media.

Annual Accounts. The Parish Council has agreed the annual accounts for the financial year 2020/2021. After being internally audited, the Parish Council agreed the annual accounts for 2020/2021. These have now been sent to PKF Littlejohn for external audit.

Full Lifting of Restrictions. Last month we wrote that we were looking forward to restrictions being lifted on 21st June. Despite the delay in the lifting of restrictions, the community centre will reopen to hirers on 5th July. If you are attending the community centre, please ensure that you sanitise your hands on entry to the centre, and wear a face covering whilst moving around the building. Our one ways system remains in place, and the café is limited to table service and the rule of six. We would also encourage people entering the building to engage in the NHS's lateral flow test scheme. These can be ordered via <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests> by calling 119 or collecting from the library.

Community Land. Work continues behind the scenes on the Community Land behind The Ridings. There will shortly be some grounds maintenance work, fencing and replacement gates being installed. We can then focus on the community consultation to bring together a project to provide extra amenity and

recreational services for the village. There is much to do to bring this to fruition, but it is such an exciting project that the council is fully committed to.

Until next time - Keep safe

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