Parish Council Report

It’s been another busy quarter, with two main areas of focus for the Parish Council’s attention. Earlier in the year, the Parish Council represented the community at the South Norfolk Council Development Management Committee to lodge objections to Phase 2 of the Heath Farm development. Unfortunately the plans were passed by a narrow majority, and the Parish Council continues to monitor non-compliance with planning conditions. The second area of focus is the Community Governance Review, which is looking at Parish boundaries and administrative areas. Poringland is exploring a number of different options which could bring bold proposals for increased administrative areas, a reduction in duplicated costs, and a more consistent approach to services provided to the villages. Watch this space for more information!

Annual Parish Meeting

On 3rd May 2017, the Council hosted the Annual Parish Meeting, which was attended by 88 residents. Guest speakers included David Wilson Homes, who answered queries regarding the Heath Farm development; and Anglian Water, who updated those present on the project to replace the water main. Lively discussion took place on both topics, and the respective representatives were made aware of the depth of feeling on both matters within the village. It was felt that the meeting was a useful opportunity for residents to raise their concerns in an open forum, rather than the Parish Council meetings, where members of the public can observe but not speak.

Community Land Project

The Community Land Project is gathering pace, with meetings taking place and an architect appointed to draw up a master plan for the site. The Council has received drawings offering a range of options for services on the site including allotments, sports facilities, and outdoor gym, a skate park/BMX track and parking areas for the facilities. Once these have been studied, another community consultation event will take place, with the results of this informing the final site plan and next phases of the project. Updates will be published on the Council’s website.

Community Centre Success

The Parish Council was pleased to learn in April that the income of the Community Centre had grown by 20% in 2016/17, largely due to the success of ticketed events as well as an increase in regular hire. The Centre is now very close to breaking even on day to day running costs, with scope for capital expenditure for improvements.

Poringland Parish Council Action Plan

The Parish Council’s Action Plan for 2017/18 has been published, together with the updated Action Plan for 2016/17 showing what the Council has achieved in the last 12 months. Over the next year, the Council will be looking at updating the Parish Plan, to gain an understanding of the key priorities for residents in the village. The Council will also be exploring opportunities to undertake a Neighbourhood Plan, giving local plans and policies for development in Poringland. Although we cannot necessarily prevent sites being developed, we can influence what we want them to look like, and it is important that residents are engaged with this process throughout. The Action Plans can be viewed at http://www.poringlandparishcouncil.gov.uk/miscellaneous.html.
For further information on any our events or to book the Community Centre for your own private function please contact Rachel at bookings.poringlandcc@gmail.com, call 07770351794 or come in and see us in the Parish Office.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO US!
In July the Community Centre will be celebrating its TENTH BIRTHDAY!! To commemorate this milestone we would like to invite all local residents to our first VILLAGE FETE which will take place on the grounds behind the Community Centre on SATURDAY 8th JULY 2017 from 12:00pm - 5:00pm.
This will be a traditional, free family fun day with loads of games and activities to get involved in, performances from local groups, display stands from local charities, businesses and organisations and the South Norfolk Council Roadshow. K-Teas Cafe will be open throughout plus there will be a Hog Roast, Stonefired Pizza, ice cream, sweets and fresh donuts! Our fully licensed bar will also be open all afternoon.
Furthermore, we will be crowning the 2017 "Star Baker" with the return of "The Great Poringland Bake-Off" which this year is asking you to bake your finest 10th Birthday Cake. Once again you will have the opportunity to act as the judge, with all proceeds going to the EACH Nook Appeal and a fantastic prize on offer for the winner.
Please join us for a great afternoon out! If you would like to get involved in having a stand then please contact Rachel using the details above.

PARTY LIKE IT’S….. 2007!
To mark our decade of opening we would also like to offer local residents the opportunity to book a Party at 2007’s price! Yes, throughout June and July you can book our Evening Party Package for the reduced price of £130.00 - a fantastic saving of £20.00. This buys you the whole hall from 7:00pm - 11:00pm and includes the staffed bar as well as all furniture laid out according to your specifications, so perfect for any forthcoming significant birthday, anniversary, Christmas party or special occasion. You also have the option to run your party until midnight, include kitchen use, our raised stage area and/or our gorgeous fairy lights for an additional fee. The offer is strictly limited but can be booked up as far in advance as you'd like to go! (Booking limited to one per household and not available for standard hire or existing bookings). To take advantage of this offer please contact Rachel using the details above.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS
Friday 30th June sees the return of the super-talented Spiritualist Medium Angie Morris to the Centre. Doors 7:00pm with session starting at 7:30pm and bar open both before and during the interval. This was a sold-out event in January and is sure to be popular again.
On Saturday 22nd July we will shouting "Schoolz Out!" and celebrating the end of the academic year with our first 90s Night School Disco!! With entertainment provided by the brilliant James D’s Party Time, come and enjoy the start of the summer holidays with our photobooth, tuckshop and authentic lunchtime snack, all for only £10.00. Either 90s fancy dress or school uniform encouraged by not compulsory.
We are extremely excited to be bringing the acclaimed Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons Tribute Act "Frankie’s Guys" to the Centre on Saturday 23rd September. This popular group typically only play much bigger venues so it’s a real coup to have them in and a fantastic opportunity for local residents. Tickets are almost sold out but there are a few left at only £18.00 for a full evening’s entertainment from 7:30pm - 12:00am with two sets by the band and disco in between.
If you would like to book tickets for any of these events please contact Rachel using the details above.