Parish Council Report

With national politics dominating the news at present, the good work being done by local councillors at grass roots level can easily be overshadowed. Local councillors decide upon what services and projects can be delivered in the local community and are best placed to engage with residents to find out what the real issues are and how to overcome them. They are volunteers and perform the role because they are passionate about the community that they serve. They are also democratically elected by the local community, with the next election being on Thursday 2nd May.

So, could you form part of the next Parish Council team? Nomination papers will be available from South Norfolk Council and must be delivered back to them between 19th March and 3rd April. Full guidance on the election process will also be available from South Norfolk Council, but if you require more information about the role of a councillor for Poringland, please don’t hesitate to contact the parish office.

On matters that have already been decided, the parish precept for 2019/2020 (the portion of your council tax that is paid directly to the Parish Council for local services) has been set at £161,235.54. This equates to an annual charge to a Band D property of £85.90 per annum, an increase of 1.8% from last year. We have tried to keep the increase to as little as possible despite increased costs to ourselves, yet still provide the level of services enjoyed by those in the parish. As the majority of properties in the area are in Bands A-C, then most people will be paying less than £85.90.

Both the Community Land Project and the Neighbourhood Plan are gaining momentum. Both of these projects stand to have long term benefit for the people of the parish. The transfer of land from Norfolk Homes to the Parish Council is imminent, meaning that grant applications for sport and recreational facilities can soon begin in earnest. And the Neighbourhood Plan will shortly begin formal consultation with local people. Look out for more information coming through your letterbox – and have your say!

Responsible Dog Ownership

The actions of irresponsible dog ownership are the cause of regular complaints to the parish office. There is legislation in place to discourage dog owners who do not control their dogs in public places. The Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 specifies that dogs must be kept under ‘proper control’. The interpretation of this law means that dogs must be under the control of their owner/walker at all times, whether or not they cause injury to a person. Please do not allow your dog to dash up to people or cause a hazard by running into the road. Failure to do so could lead to a fine, or even prison sentence. Secondly, South Norfolk Council has passed a Public Space Protection Order which covers all public open spaces in the South Norfolk area. This prohibits the failure to clean up dog mess and also excludes dogs from fenced play areas. Offenders can be issued with a fixed penalty notice of £80, or if taken to court, a fine up to £1,000. Details of offenders can be reported directly to South Norfolk Council.
For further information on any of our events or to book the Centre for your own private function please contact Rachel at bookings.poringlandcc@gmail.com, call 07770351794 or come and see us in the Parish Office.

**SPECIAL EVENTS AT PORINGLAND COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Our full programme of events for 2019 is on sale now!

Our first full cabaret night of the year takes place on Friday 24th May, with “SWING”, a celebration of the ‘Kings of Swing’ from a very talented trio of singers, comprising Aaron Bolton (lead singer of Frankies Guys), Michelle Bass and Poringland favourite, Dale Bullimore. Classic songs by artists such as Frank Sinatra, Nat King Cole, Dean Martin, Harry Connick Jnr and Michael Buble will be performed over three sets across the night, with a disco to fill the evening from 7:30pm-11:30pm.

Tickets are only £18.00 which includes a glass of fizz upon arrival and cheeseboard course during the evening. We will also be hosting a charity raffle for the Nook Appeal at the midpoint, so please come along and support this terrific cause.

In the autumn we welcome “RULE THE WORLD”, the nation’s top TAKE THAT TRIBUTE! This promises to be a great party night with top quality entertainment and DJ through until midnight, Saturday 7th September.

Tickets are £15.00 (and going fast!)

On October 5th we then see the much anticipated return of hilarious local comedian OLLY DAY who this time will share the bill with the fantastic NIGEL KING BAND. A true variety cabaret night which always proves popular. Tickets £15.00.

We will also be hosting HALLOWEEN parties on Saturday 26th October, with further details to follow...

Get in touch by the means above to book for any of these events

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**INDOOR CAR BOOT SALES**

Saturdays, 9:00am – 12:00pm
March 23rd, April 27th & May 25th
Sept 14th, Oct 26th, Nov 9th & 23rd

All available to book now! £7.00 per pitch (inc. 6ft table & chairs), set up from 8:15am

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**VILLAGE GARAGE SALE & VILLAGE FETE**

Two great community events to put in your diary! On Saturday June 15th we will be organising our very first VILLAGE GARAGE SALE!

Following on from the success of the Indoor Car Boot Sales, we’re bringing the event to you! Pitches will be £7.00, with £2.00 from each going to the Nook Appeal. If you’d like to take book your place on the map, get in touch! We will also be looking for road ‘stewards’ to be responsible for their local area; take this on and your pitch will be free...!

Saturday 13th July will see the return of the popular Village Fete, on the village green behind the Community Centre, from 12-5pm. Get in touch now if you are a local group, business or caterer who would like to join us....