



# Parish Matters

The Newsletter of Poringland Parish Council

September 2021

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Dear Parishioners,

## Welcome to Edition 9 of Parish Matters.

With the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions, we are beginning to take tentative steps back into our events programme. First up, after a years' delay, we welcome 'A Celebration of Whitney', a tribute to the late, great Whitney Houston. Join us to enjoy some of her most memorable hits including 'I Wanna Dance with Somebody', 'So Emotional' and the record breaking ballad 'I Will Always Love You'. Tickets are limited compared to our pre-Covid events to allow people more space to move around safely

**Date:** 25<sup>th</sup> September 2021

**Time** 7.30pm til late

**Tickets:** £15 (includes tribute act and disco)



Tickets can be purchased from the Parish Office, or call 01508 492182 / email [bookings@poringland-pc.gov.uk](mailto:bookings@poringland-pc.gov.uk)

**Save The Date.** With the recent transfer of the community land on The Ridings, the Parish Council has agreed to use this large area of open space to hold a Firework Display this year. There is always contention at this time of year about people letting off fireworks, so we have decided to hold our own event and condense the noise into one display rather than numerous garden displays.

We are in the process of talking to local livestock owners to make them aware and will have more information soon so that people can make preparations for their pets. But it will be much more than just a firework display! **Keep the 6<sup>th</sup> November free and watch this space!**



**Community Land Takes Shape.** The Community Land has laid dormant whilst the legalities between the Parish Council and Norfolk Homes were settled. Now that the land has come over to us, we have started work to improve accessibility to the public. We've erected fencing, which is particularly important on the northern boundary to demarcate our land from our neighbours. We also had a good cut back of some of the vegetation. On 16<sup>th</sup> September we welcome the Norfolk Wildlife Trust to the site to help us create a wildflower meadow on the area adjacent to The Ridings. We have a lovely group of volunteers arranged to help us spread the green hay which will have been freshly cut by the Trust, and also spread some hand picked seed. We can't wait to see the results of our labours.



**Burgate Lane – The Decision.** The Parish Council is pleased to report that the Planning Inspectorate has ruled to dismiss the appeal made by Gladman Developments against the refusal of planning permission for 98 dwellings on Burgate Lane.

Amongst other reasons for dismissing the appeal, the Inspector quoted from the newly adopted Poringland Neighbourhood Plan. The Inspector advised that the application was contrary to Neighbourhood Plan policies 4 and 8 (Housing Location and Landscape respectively) and policy 7 (trees and hedgerows). The Inspector quotes 'There would be harm to the landscape of the area, including a hedge' in their conclusion to refuse the appeal. We'd like to again thank everyone who voted for the Neighbourhood plan as it now forms an equal part of the development plan and is being used to determine planning applications in the village.

**New Play Areas.** The Parish Council continues to work with both Norfolk Homes and Big Sky Developments with regards to play provision in the south west of the village. Big Sky developments is looking to supplement their play area with inclusive equipment suitable for disabled children. And Norfolk Homes is in the process of designing an obstacle course suitable for older children and adults. We'd like to thank both developers for working with us on these projects.

**Hybrid Meetings.** As a council we learnt a lot through lockdown about engaging with our parishioners in a digital era. It was clear that some parishioners preferred the online Parish Council meetings. They enabled people to tune into activities of the Parish Council, without leaving the comfort of their own home. As a result, we're investing in technology to enable us to hold our Parish Council meetings in the community centre, but allow the meetings to be streamed and for members of the public to join us virtually.

**Parish Council Meetings Have Now Moved to the 1st Wednesday of the Month. The Next Meeting will be on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

**And Finally....** A couple of special mentions this month. The first is for Ken Aldridge who was co-opted onto the Parish Council on 1<sup>st</sup> September. Welcome to

the team Ken, we look forward to working with you. And secondly, a Macmillan coffee morning will be held at 47 Poringland Road, Upper Stoke on 24<sup>th</sup> September 10-4. Please support this worthwhile event.

*Until next time - Stay safe*

**Your Parish Councillors**

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