

Carbrooke Parish Council

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held in Carbrooke Village Hall at 7pm on Monday 8 April 2019.

The Annual Parish Meeting is an opportunity for parishioners to discuss parish affairs and to pass resolutions thereon (although it should be noted that such resolutions will not bind the Parish Council).

AGENDA

1. Welcome and apologies for absence
2. To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 9 April 2018
3. Members of the public to discuss and vote on parish affairs
4. To receive the Chairman's Report
5. To receive the County Councillor's report
6. To receive the Breckland Councillor's report
7. To receive the Village Hall Trust's report
8. To receive the Blenheim Grange Residents Association report
9. To receive the Millennium Green Trust's report
10. To receive the Carbrooke Heritage Group's report
11. To receive Carbrooke PCC's report
12. To receive Carbrooke Fuel Allotment Charity's report

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Tony Coppen
Chairman of Carbrooke Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting for Carbrooke held at 7pm on 8 April 2019 at Carbrooke Village Hall

Present Cllr Coppen (Chair), S Dekeyzer, J Nind, J Tinson, M Wormald.
In attendance N Hartley (Parish Clerk). Cllr T Hewett (Breckland Council)
Two members of the public.

1. Welcome and apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Borrett, who was unwell and Cllr Bowes.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 April 2018 were approved and signed.

3. Parish Affairs

None.

4. Chairman's Report

A copy of Cllr Coppen's report is attached to the minutes.

5. County Councillor's Report

A copy of Cllr Bowes' report is attached to the minutes.

6. Breckland Councillor's Report

A copy of Cllr Hewett's report is attached to the minutes.

7. Village Hall Trust's Report

A copy of Mr Buscall's report is attached to the minutes.

8. Blenheim Grange Residents Association Report

A copy of Cllr Wormald's report is attached to the minutes.

9. Millennium Green Trust

Cllr Coppen noted that the children's play area had been installed on the Green over the course of the year and was proving very popular. Community Service workers are working on the Green twice a month. The Summer Fete will be on the Green on 29 June. There are still problems with some people not clearing up after their dogs. The Trust had written to Watton Town Council to ask if it would contribute toward the maintenance cost of the Green, as a number of the town's residents use the Green, but had been told the Town Council did not have funds for this.

10. Carbrooke Heritage Group

A copy of Mrs Weatherell's report is attached to the minutes.

11. Carbrooke PCC

A copy of Mrs Weatherell's report is attached to the minutes.

12. Carbrooke Fuel Allotment Charity

Cllr Borrett's report noted that in December 2018 the Fuel Allotment Charity paid out thirty nine grants of £35 each and three grants of £30 each. To qualify for a grant in 2019, you must have lived in Carbrooke for more than 2 years and be aged 65 or over, or be registered a handicapped person of any age. To register, please contact Derek Watts at Dove Barn, Summer Lane before 1 December 2019.

Chairman's Report

Over the course of the year, the Council has installed a Defibrillator in the old phone box next to the church.

The Council has supported the community with grants to the church (to maintain the churchyard) the Heritage Group (for a book on the school) the Village Green and Blenheim Grange Residents Association.

The Council supported the Summer Fete with a donation towards its cost.

At Blenheim Grange, the Council is seeking to install a new bus shelter on Norwich Road and to have a road crossing installed at this point.

The Council will be applying for grants for new Outdoor Fitness equipment at Blenheim Grange and Millennium Green.

The Council is working to achieve a uniform 30mph speed limit along Norwich Road and a 20 mph limit outside the school. The Council has purchased a moveable speed sign and hopes the data collected from this may help its case.

The Council would also like to see the return of the bus to take children to and from school.

County Councillor's Report

Caring for our County

Norfolk County Council Annual Report 2018/19

[The 2019/20 budget](#)

In February 2019 Norfolk County Council agreed a £409 million revenue budget for 2019-20. This budget is balanced, is robust and allocates our resources across Norfolk's people and communities in the best way we can, while protecting the frontline services the people of Norfolk rely on so dearly.

The Council's Government funding has reduced by a total of £204m between 2010/11 and 2018/19 and its revenue support grant will fall from £39m to zero in 2020/21. During this period, the council has made savings of £364m, including efficiency savings of £246m. This has resulted in the difficult but necessary decision to increase the County Council's share of Council Tax by 2.99% this year.

The key points of the budget are:

- A £409m net revenue budget – representing the Council Tax income which contributes to running the council and its services
- The Council's share of band D bills will rise to £1,362.24 from April.
- Savings of £31.6m in 2019/20, rising to a total of £79.4m over the next three years
- Examples of increased investment from April include £6m to address growing demand on adult social services, and £14.5m to tackle pressures on the looked-after children service

Caring for your infrastructure

£12.7m road improvement schemes nearing completion

In November 2018 Norfolk received an additional £12.694m from the Government to spend on road maintenance.

To date 125,000m² of worn out highway surface has been removed and replaced with 26,600 tonnes of brand new asphalt.

Funding success for Greater Norwich transport bid

Greater Norwich has been awarded £6.1m by the Department for Transport, following a successful bid in the first round of Transforming Cities funding.

Transport for Norwich put forward eight sustainable transport schemes and applied for a £7.3m contribution from the £60m pot. Of these, six were awarded money.

For more information about the project and full details of the newly-funded projects, please visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/transformingcities.

Delivering the Western Link

The County Council is proposing to create a Norwich Western Link to improve travel between the A47 and Broadland Northway (formerly the Northern Distributor Road) and tackle transport problems in the area.

The council published four shortlisted options for a Norwich Western Link - three new dual carriageway roads and a single carriageway upgrade to the B1535

The council is aiming to start construction on the Norwich Western Link in late 2022.

For more information about the project visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/nwl.

Norfolk ranked fourth in national highways and transport survey

Norfolk has been ranked fourth out of 28 similar councils in a national independent survey which looks at satisfaction with highways and transport services.

The highest scores for the county were for traffic levels and congestion, and the condition of roads and footpaths. These are all things that people consistently say are important to them and in which Norfolk is ranked strongly compared to other councils.

Altogether 113 local authorities signed up for the 2018 survey. Out of the 28 county councils and larger unitary authorities in the peer group, Norfolk ranked in the top 10 for:

- Condition of highways
- Highway maintenance
- Public transport info
- Ease of access (for disabled people)
- Local bus services
- Community transport
- Pavements and footpaths
- Cycle routes and facilities
- Traffic levels and congestion
- Management of roadworks
- Traffic management

Great Yarmouth Third River Crossing

Norfolk County Council has awarded the contract for Great Yarmouth's Third River Crossing to BAM Farrans – a joint venture between two construction industry leaders.

Following a competitive tender process, BAM Farrans will now be working with the project team at the county council to finalise the detailed design and construction requirements for the bridge.

So far, £98m of funding from the Department for Transport has been awarded to Norfolk County Council towards the anticipated £120m cost of the project.

For more information about the Third River Crossing, please visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/3rc.

£11m boost for broadband in Norfolk

Thousands more homes and businesses in Norfolk will be able to access Superfast Broadband thanks to Norfolk County Council securing an extra £11m funding.

Currently 92% of homes and businesses have access to download speeds of 24Mbps+ per second. The Better Broadband for Norfolk (BBfN) programme is set to deliver 95% coverage across the county by the end of March 2020, but the council is not content to stop there.

BBfN rollout started in July 2013 when 42% of Norfolk properties had access to Superfast broadband. The new contract is expected to be signed early this year (2019).

To find out if superfast broadband is available in your area, visit www.betterbroadbandnorfolk.co.uk.

Caring for your economy

Our approach to improving mobile phone signals recognised as national best practice

Norfolk County Council has received national praise in Parliament for its approach to improving mobile phone signals in the county.

The Council's Digital Innovation and Efficiency Committee commissioned a survey earlier this year on mobile signals across the county. The results were used to create an interactive map and more than 200 council owned sites have now been identified in areas of poor mobile reception. These are being offered to mobile operators as potential sites for new masts.

Full Fibre boost for Norfolk businesses

Norfolk County Council secured £8m from the UK Government Digital, Culture, Media & Sport department's Local Full Fibre Network (LFFN) fund.

The £8m funding is part of an £11m programme to upgrade more than 370 of Norfolk's public-sector buildings to the latest ultrafast connection speeds. It will enable 230 schools, 108 Norfolk County Council Corporate buildings (including 38 libraries) and 34 fire stations to be upgraded to gigabit (1,000 mbps) fibre internet connections within two years.

Norfolk businesses can also apply to a voucher scheme that will provide up to £2,500 per business to fund their connection and pay the first-year running costs.

Caring for your children and families

New Early Childhood and Family Service

This year we launched our new Early Childhood and Family Service. We believe this will have greater reach to those more isolated children and families in need of help and advice, through increased local support, easier to access information and crucial outreach work while continuing to deliver services previously offered.

This commitment means adapting the way we deliver services in response to the changing needs of Norfolk's children and young people. This transformative approach is one we are implementing across all our services.

We will be moving, not removing, some services into libraries, nurseries and community centres, alongside our 15 new service bases. Crucially, this more efficient use of infrastructure means money can be invested on delivering the services that we know are needed and valued by you to a greater number of children and young people, across Norfolk.

£120m investment special school places

Norfolk County Council will be investing £120m in special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) provision in the County

In March 2019 we secured Government funding of up to £17m to build a new 170 place school in the county for children aged 3-19 with complex needs.

We proposed plans to create more than 500 extra school places, in four new special schools plus specialist bases at mainstream schools.

We have approved an initial investment of £4.8m in the current financial year, to allow the first phase of work to begin as quickly as possible.

A new special school, specialising in social, emotional and mental health, is likely to be the first project to get underway. The school will be developed on the former Alderman Swindell School site, in Great Yarmouth.

New homes for care leavers open after £5m investment

The first of 11 homes for Norfolk's care leavers has opened this year, following £5m of investment from Norfolk County Council.

The County Council has worked with young people to make sure that the accommodation meets their needs and four of the homes are now finished.

When finished there will be a total of 25-30 beds across the 11 properties.

Without the new properties the young people would need to live in residential care or in placements with another provider, at a cost of up to £6,500 per week. The new homes ensure they have the right support, are able to learn to live in communities in a supported way and reduce the overall cost to the Council.

Adult Social Care

New services to help ensure no lonely day in Norfolk

People affected by loneliness and social isolation in Norfolk can now turn to a comprehensive range of new services for help and support.

The new services include a county-wide network of "Life Connectors" who work directly with people to provide coaching, practical advice and support to help people make and maintain relationships and strong links within their community.

The new services include outreach, promoting volunteering opportunities and benefits, asset mapping and addressing rural issues such as transport and use of technology in order to support people to become and stay well-connected in their local area.

Celebrating the launch of the Carers Charter

The Carers Charter was launched on 30 November at County Hall.

The event coincided with Carers Rights Day, a national campaign which brings unpaid carers, organisations and local communities together to help carers understand their rights.

The adoption of the Charter by the County Council is a bold, innovative and radical move designed to improve the lives of carers. They constitute an enormous and largely hidden resource saving the public purse billions of pounds a year.

For more information visit carersmatternorfolk.org.uk

We are investing £29m in Housing with Care

This year we announced £29m capital investment scheme to deliver 3,000 extra homes for older people in Norfolk over the next ten years.

Norfolk requires 2,842 extra care units by 2028.

Increasing the provision of extra care housing to match future demand will deliver approximately £4m gross revenue saving per year.

The Living Well Homes for Norfolk Strategy and Position Statement can be found here (www.norfolk.gov.uk/livingwellhomes)

Finally I would like to mention a couple of local items.

I am pleased to say that the SAM2 which I contributed towards from my 2018/2019 members budget has been installed.

Other news that maybe of interest to the community is that, after representations from myself it was agreed by the Chairman of the EDT Committee that the provision of enforceable 20mph limits outside schools could be included in the Parish Partnership Scheme in future rounds. The Parish Partnership Scheme offers parishes 50% funding from the County council for a variety of small highways schemes. Any community organisation, including the Parish Council can contribute towards the other 50% but the application has to come from the Parish Council.

Please feel free to contact me about any local issue that I may be able to help you with.

Claire Bowes

County Councillor, Watton Division

claire.bowes.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk

07789796937

Breckland District Councillor Annual Report

Carbrooke

8th April 2019

DC Theresa Hewett

It has been a privilege to represent Carbrooke again over the last year at Breckland District Council. Saham Toney Ward is a two-member ward and District Councillors have responsibilities for the following areas:

- Planning and Building Control
- Rubbish and recycling
- Council Tax and Benefits
- Housing
- Environment
- Licensing
- Community, Wellbeing and Leisure
- Business Rates and Support
- Health and Safety
- Commercial Property
- Elections and Local Governance

The Ward of Saham Toney covers five diverse areas: Saham Toney, Carbrooke, Bradenham, Ovington and Scoulton. Although each village is unique, the residents share many similar priorities, concerns and issues. My key role is to represent and assist my residents, no matter their party allegiance or preference. I visit the villages regularly and seek to attend as many of the five parish council meetings as possible, despite occasional clashes. Where a number of opposing opinions and views are held around an issue I seek to listen to all residents who wish to express their view, and work towards resolutions where I can. Sometimes I find myself between a rock and a hard place, and at these times inevitably it is difficult to please everyone. These are the times when I use my best judgement, this could mean expressing the majority view or making my own call on a decision.

Here are a few headlines from the Council's work this year:

Breckland Council continues to present a **balanced budget** moving forward, thanks to continuous review of income and expenditure. Savings in back office and shared services have contributed, together with an income of over £2M per annum from our investments (all helping keeping Council Tax down – Breckland still has the **lowest district Council Tax** in the UK) whilst maintaining front line services. Negotiations for large contracts, be they in-house or outsourced, are always long and diligent, obtaining the best value for service for residents and the council, and we continue to review the work done on your behalf by our partners such as Parkwood, Serco and Capita.

We support the community with **grants to the tune of £1.4million** in a community reserve. The **Breckland Lottery** is projected to raise £40,000 for good causes in the next year.

Achievements also include:

Market Town Initiative

Breckland Landlord Forum

Co-location of DWP to Breckland offices in Dereham and Thetford

National Awards shortlisting for our Breckland Training Services and our Silver Social project for older people
Continued work with Breckland Bridge property and development partnership
Snetterton (Employment site) Power Project
Regeneration Team
Submission of Local Plan – and continued work on this
First phase of Thetford SUE started
Outline permission for 4000 houses for Attleborough SUE given
Innovation Den
Shopappy app – continues to encourage people to shop locally
Breckworld app – fronted by Stephen Fry – in top 20 listed tourist apps
Continue to tackle unsightly sites across Breckland

Please do not hesitate to call or email should you have any comments or concerns you would like me to pass on. My phone number is 01362 820354 and my email is t.hewett@breckland.gov.uk

Many thanks.

Theresa Hewett

Theresa Hewett | Ward Member (Saham Toney)
Breckland Council | DDI: 01362 820354 | E: Theresa.Hewett@breckland.gov.uk

Carbrooke Village Hall

Carbrooke Village Hall has had a busy year raising the money to renovate the building and then carrying out the necessary work. The Hall has rebuilt and refurnished the toilet and kitchen block. It has a new disabled toilet and has improved and opened up the main access to the building to make it lighter and easier to navigate. New plumbing, radiators, electrics, blinds, flooring and crockery have been installed. The Hall has been repainted throughout. The outside of the building is being re-landscaped and it is hoped that this will be finished in the next month. The chairs in the bar should be replaced in the next few months once we hear how successful we are in our latest Tesco grant. More than £80,000 in grants has been raised to carry out the work. Once we have completed the hall, we will begin to try to open up the hall to new groups particularly as Preschool has moved over to the main School on a permanent basis. So far we have a new baby and mothers group, yoga group and an art club. We are keen to turn it into a vibrant village hub so if anybody has ideas and thoughts about new clubs they would like to see, please do get in contact. The bar continues to be very successful and is now open on a Sunday lunchtime every fortnight as well as Friday night. The Wednesday morning café is always well attended and an excellent way of bringing the local community together. I would like to thank the Village Hall committee for all their hard work through this busy year and also Alan Willer and Karrie Richards.

Ed Buscall

Blenheim Grange Residents Association Report

The Blenheim Grange estate is evolving with what at times seems to be painfully slow evolution

Projects that we would like to see come to a final conclusion are still in the pipeline .the Post Box that we were asked if we would accept onto Parish land back in September it is in spite of numerous attempts to get a straight answer from the Post Office not yet in service.

The general play area has several updates and repairs outstanding these are provisionally expected to be done when the weather finally properly recovers from winter.The play area is well used and during the week play groups regularly spend time there ,more often than before Adult/Parential supervision is happening

The damaged fencing at the front of the estate ,a request has been made by a resident for a bus shelter on the B1108 towards Watton and an idea has put forward to install one just off the pavement onto our land this would involve removing a section of the fence which could then be reused to replace the damaged section and make a cost saving.This is currently being evaluated as a possible way forward.

The need to continually clear up after street drinkers regrettably is still ongoing and the situation is not likely to change unless a higher authority than ours takes a more proactive approach.

Work to make the estate a nicer place is ongoing the latest project to make an area behind our cabin more attractive to wildlife but less so for drinkers happed early march with welcome work also carried out by the Wildlife conservation group.

Various events such as Christmas and Halloween and Easter and summer Fetes have happened largely because of the expertise and hard work of one specific Resident (Shaun)

Andrew and Julia Rees from the Ashill fountain of life Church have continued their excellent work with our Children Julia has now introduced an evening Girly group for early to mid-teen Girls for a couple of hours a month. A mini bus also takes our children to Ashill so they can be involved in the Kidz club.

Concerns continually being expressed revolve around traffic and general highway code type offences that we understand can't be resolved until the roads are adopted,

The other major item is causing considerable frustration as it is an obvious safety issue that those who could correct it seem determined to turn a blind eye to. I refer of course to the lack of safe zones to enable our school children to safely cross the B1108 both outside the estate and where the speed limit changes from 60 Mph to 40 Mph in the area of the FlyingFish.

We have been promised our Community centre when 51 houses have been sold by Westmere homes at present of the 4 completed which can be seen from outside the rear of Spar 3 are displaying sold signs

The parish church of St Paul & St Paul Carbrooke Annual report

It has been another busy year in which we have been able to continue to hold a service on most Sundays. Lay worship assistants in the parish have enabled us to keep the church

open for services when no member of the clergy is available. Particularly memorable this year was the service to mark the 100th anniversary of the signing of the armistice in 1918. Many people in the village came together to knit and crochet poppies, which were displayed cascading down from the church tower. Many residents attended the special service on Nov 11th too. We introduced carols by candle-light last year and this was well supported and we continue to host the benediction Darkness to Light service marking the start of Advent. We have been pleased to host various events in the church while the village hall was being upgraded, including weekly coffee mornings, committee meetings, heritage events, Christmas bazaar and parish council meetings. The school continues to use the building for special services. This is a village building so we are delighted that it is in use during the week as well as on Sundays. Sadly our application for heritage lottery funding was turned down again. Norfolk Churches Trust and the Geoffrey Whatling Trust have kindly given us grants for urgent repairs amounting to £13,000 so we still have over £300,000 to find to restore this historic grade 1 listed building! We thank the parish council for their contribution to the cutting of the grass in the churchyard. We are hoping to graze sheep on the older part of the churchyard to reduce churchyard maintenance costs.

Carbrooke Heritage Group Report

The Heritage Group continue to hold meetings at 1 or 2 month intervals, and our Face book page attracts interest from those further afield. Since last year we have had a lot going on, we were involved with the 2018 fete, using the church Teddies to tell some of the history of the village in June. We arranged another visit to the Stanta Training Area, and a trip to Watton Museum to see how they set up their museum, and ways we can help them – and they us. We were involved with the Community production of Poppies, in Remembrance of the men, women and animals who have died in war, and set up a small presentation in the church over that weekend. The Village Armour has also been restored, and it appears it is from the Civil War, not Medieval as originally thought, but still as important and almost unique. The Village Information Boards were erected in the summer and have proved a great talking point. We have had 2 talks, one on the history of Agriculture particularly relating to Norfolk, and another on the work of the Commonwealth War Cemeteries, and are planning further talks for this year. We have been transcribing the school logs during the time of WW2 which are a fascinating view of village life during that time, and are working on getting them published, we have also been investigating producing local souvenirs to sell, such as posters, tea towels or mugs, although the initial outlay is a difficulty. On 27th April we will be celebrating Carbrooke Longevity at the Smith family reunion. Norah living in USA and Betty from Scotland, return to their Carbrooke roots, to meet up with Sister Enid and brother Brian, still living in Carbrooke. All 3 sisters are in their 90's, with Brian aged 87. Other local and not so local family members will be attending too. Their mother ran Carbrooke Post Office for many years during the 20th century, with the whole family involved in Carbrooke Village life. We will be hosting a tea party, to celebrate with the Smith family, at 2 pm, and invite Carbrooke residents past or present to join us. We are also looking at attempting another Community Project in the form of a Village time line. To be created on a series of boards and created by our residents using art, sewing, knitting, embroidery, wood work, metal work or any other form of craft to tell the Carbrooke story. If anyone is interested in being involved contact me, as we hope to arrange a planning meeting to discuss. We also plan an information stall at the fete on 29th June. Our next Heritage Meeting and AGM will be held in the church on 5 June at 7pm. Everyone is welcome.

