Colby and Banningham Parish Council

Newsletter - October 2026

1. Clerk to the Parish Council

At the end of September, Colin Studholme retired as our clerk. Colin has been a great help both in our day-to-day work but also in our projects like the planting of trees and bulbs in the parish, the acquisition of the Speed Awareness Monitor (SAM) and the transition of the Community Hall to a charity. He leaves the parish much improved and we thank him for his work and commitment.

We are however delighted to welcome Sara Burns who has already taken up post as our new clerk. Sara was appointed after an open competitive process and is already experienced as a clerk for other parishes. Sara lives fairly locally and her contact details are set out at the foot of this newsletter.

Can we remind everyone that all of the meetings of the Parish Council are open to members of the public to attend – the dates of these are posted on the website and on noticeboards in the parish.

2. Events in the Parish

On Saturday 18 July, we held another successful village event which was attended by around 80 people and feedback received from many has shown it was well appreciated. Thank you to all those who worked so hard to make this happen.

We are working on organising another Christmas at the Green event which we hope will take place in the week before Christmas - details in the next newsletter !

3. Speed Awareness Monitor (SAM)

We have a SAM which we share with Suffield Parish Council it is regularly moved around 6 places in the parish. We now collect data on the speed of traffic at each position and regularly share this with the police to inform their enforcement activities. The data clearly shows that most traffic speeding occurs on Colby Long Road and also on the B1145. We are in discussion with the police to ask for them to take action in these places

We have also received a request to include Mill Road as a place to monitor and we will request permission from Highways for this.

4. Daffodil bulbs available

In previous years, the Parish Council has planted a variety of bulbs on the village green and round the Community Hall. As these have been appreciated, we have purchased more daffodil bulbs for planting and have two ideas for using them. We would like them to be along the grass and banks on the sides of roads and this is where you can help to make our parish look better.

If you have such an area outside your property and you are happy to plant them this autumn, we can give you a bag of these bulbs. If you would like to take up this free offer, then please make contact with Sara Burns, our new Parish Clerk – her contact details are at the end of this newsletter.

The second idea is to plant some bulbs on some of the most used roads which come into the parish. Initially, we will try on the Ingworth Road into Banningham and High Noon Road into Colby.

We plan to do this on the mornings of Sunday 15th November and Saturday 21st November. Can you please come and help. We will meet at the village green in Banningham at 10.00 on each of these days. Please bring a trowel or a spade.

5. Safety Measures

You may have seen gates at the side of roads leading into villages. These are recommended as measures which do encourage motorists to reduce speeds as they enter built up areas. We are talking to Highways engineers about using these in our parish – they have to install them but we have to purchase them.

We are also investigating purchasing some grit bins as we have received a number of concerns about ice on parts of Bridge Road during the winter months – these would need the support of residents in the area concerned as they would be asked to help to spread the grit when there is icy weather (local authorities only grit specific roads). The Parish council will have to fund these.

You may also have seen the excellent work done to open up and maintain the drainage channels alongside many of our roads. This will help to reduce flooding and we have thanked Highways.

6. Playground

The new playground in Eldens Retreat continues to be well used. The parish council does undertake regular inspections of all of the equipment to ensure its continuing safety – but if you notice anything of concern, again, please let us know.

We regularly check the trees we planted in the field a few years ago – the tree guards are put on to prevent the bark being stripped by deer.

6. Help Available

North Norfolk District Council (NNDC) are advertising a new scheme to help anyone experiencing domestic abuse, feeling unsafe at home or in a relationship and wanting help. You can contact NNDC on 01263 513811 (or any of their staff) and simply “Ask for Annie”. You will be offered a safe and confidential way to talk. More information and advice are available on-line at **www.north-norfolk.gov.uk/info/domestic-abuse/ask-for-annie-discreet-domestic-abuse-help/**

8. Community Hall

You may recall from the last newsletter that we planned to install access ramps to the 2 doors at the rear of the hall. We raised funds to do this - some through our County Councillor, some from our own Council funds and the rest from our crowd funding site which anyone can contribute into -- **www.crowdfunder.co.uk/banningham-ad-colby-community-hall** .

Please call David Holgate on 07860 498729 for more information about the hall or if you are interested in using it. As a reminder, there is a website to find out about using our Community Hall - **https://www.banninghamcommunityhall.co.uk**

Finally, we currently hand deliver this newsletter to all homes in the parish but we can save resources if you agree to receive these by email. Please let Sara Burns, our clerk, know your address and email. If you have any questions about this newsletter, then please do call the Parish Clerk on 07979 109019 or e-mail clerk@colby-banningham-pc.gov.uk .