

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF COLBY & BANNINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE JUBILEE HALL, BANNINGHAM
ON WEDNESDAY 20 APRIL 2022 at 7p.m**

PRESENT: Mr J van Poortvliet, Chairman
Mr R Anderson-Dungar, Vice-Chairman
Mr N Andrews
Mrs P Ashby
Mr S Elliott (late arrival)
Mrs M Anderson-Dungar, Clerk

The Chairman welcomed Members, and 1 member of the public

01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Mr Clarke

02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Mr Anderson-Dungar - Allotments (personal interest) and Planning Application for Orchard Barn – pecuniary interest as the agent.

03 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The meeting adjourned; the member of the public did not wish to speak.

04 RE-CONVENE THE MEETING

The meeting re-convened.

05 MINUTES

Minutes of the Meeting held on 16 March 2022, as previously circulated, were **PROPOSED, CONFIRMED AND SIGNED.**

06 INFORMATION ON MATTERS ARISING

There was nothing to report under this item.

07 VACANCIES ON THE COUNCIL

No applications or enquiries had been received.

08 REPORTS FROM POLICE, DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS

To receive written/verbal reports from representatives, including the following:

Police – Operation Randall newsletter previously circulated was **NOTED.**

District Council - no representative in attendance.

County Council - no representative in attendance.

09 ITEMS REFERRED FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

No new items referred.

10 AREAS OF PARISH COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITY

To receive updates/reports on areas of parish council responsibility:

1. PLAYING FIELD

Mrs Ashby advised that the management plan would be finalised in time for the next meeting, so that the contractor had all the correct information for the season. Stakes had been placed in the ground before cutting.

2. VILLAGE HALL

- Leads Report – the Clerk’s minutes of meeting on 12 April and Mr Elliott’s notes had been circulated. Mr Elliott arrived at this point. With the permission of the meeting, the member of the public was invited to join the discussion, which covered the following points:
 - Vision 22 was based on the planning permission granted rather than the original thoughts
 - It was confirmed that C Cllr Penfold would authorise the cost of the highway directional signs from his budget. All other signage to be financed by Village Hall. The Parish Council had already **AGREED** to meet the cost of a notice board for the Village Hall.
 - Future works – these had been identified with estimated costs to aid budget planning. A further allocation would be needed from Management Committee funds. Grants would be sought wherever possible and Diane Fields had already been in contact with Vattenfall regarding their Community Fund.
 - Grants totalling £43,000 had been achieved for costs of immediate works.
 - New external doors and most of the new windows had been installed. Windows to the front elevations plus the French doors and side screens to the Jubilee Hall would be installed once the opening had been formed for the new doors.
- Future management :
 - The Chairman referred to the documents circulated and earlier informal discussion.
 - There were questions and concerns that needed to be addressed around governance and charities. It was therefore **AGREED** to invite representatives from Community Action Norfolk to a separate meeting. The Clerk to arrange as soon as possible.
 - Mr Andrews reminded the meeting that any decision made at a separate meeting should be ratified at a Parish Council meeting.

3. VILLAGE GREEN

The contractor had been asked not to cut the crocus areas until the bulbs had died down.

4. ALLOTMENTS

Mr Anderson-Dungar to organise connectors for water butts.

5. TELEPHONE KIOSK

A letter from a resident had been circulated and was discussed. Mr Anderson-Dungar updated the meeting on the original topics agreed for the display frames, and people to work on each. Two more topics were in the final stages. The concerns were acknowledged and Mr Anderson-Dungar's offer to meet with the resident was accepted.

11 **SCHEME OF DELEGATION**

There was nothing to report under this item.

12 **CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS**

1. NEECH LOAN FUND

There was nothing further to report on the closure of the Fund as Mr Clarke was not present.

2. NORTH NORFOLK TOWN/PARISH FORUM

Notes from the open meeting held on 28 March had been circulated and were **NOTED**.

3. VATTENFALL UPDATES

The information was **NOTED**, in particular that related to the Community Fund. It was suggested that this might be a source of funding for improvements to the A140/B1145 junction. A joint approach from C Cllrs Penfold and Riley with an invitation to a meeting might be the way forward.

13 **POLICIES**

The following Policies were reviewed and re-affirmed for a further 2 years unless legislative changes dictated otherwise:

- Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Social Media Policy

All policies would be available on the Council's website.

14 **FINANCE**

1. SCHEDULE OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT

The Clerk presented the schedule which was **ACCEPTED**.

2. BANK RECONCILIATIONS TO 31 MARCH 2022

The documents previously circulated were **UNANIMOUSLY ACCEPTED**.

3. LIST OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS 1 APRIL 2021-31 MARCH 2022

The information previously circulated was **NOTED**.

4. INTERNAL/EXTERNAL AUDIT

The Clerk confirmed that Mr Kevin Eke would carry out the Internal Audit. The Council could not claim Exemption status as the Income this year had risen above £25,000, therefore the Annual Return and supporting documents required would need to be sent for External Audit.

15 **PLANNING MATTERS**

1. APPLICATIONS DETERMINED

PF/22/0423 Banningham & Colby Community Hall, Banningham, NR11 7DY

Single storey extension; replacement windows with alteration to existing/new opening in rear elevations for French doors; render to gables on front elevation

Decn: **PERMIT**

2. APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

PF/22/0891 Orchard Barn, 4 Lacey's Farm, Long Lane, Colby, NR11 7EF
Erection of single-storey rear extension

Mr Anderson-Dungar had declared a pecuniary interest so left the meeting at this point.

It was **AGREED** to **SUPPORT** the application. Mr Anderson-Dungar returned to the meeting.

16 **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned to allow further public speaking, during which the following points were raised:

- Herras fencing at Heppinn Barn – the Clerk explained that work to install a transformer was scheduled for 29 April, so the fencing would remain for the time being.
- Management Plan for the playing field – does this include dealing with mole activity? Are there regulations/rules on culling of moles on public areas? This would be researched and considered by the working group
- New Clerk – would an appointment be made soon and was there a plan in place should an appointment not be made. The Chairman advised that interviews would be held soon; should an appointment not be made, a locum clerk would be organised.
- Future management of the village hall – this would become a high priority as the renovations progress. The Chairman emphasised that the Council was very conscious of this.

17 **RE-CONVENE THE MEETING**

The meeting re-convened.

18 **RESPONSE TO PLANNING APPLICATIONS/ISSUES**

Not required, see Minute 15/2 above.

19 **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/FUTURE AGENDA**

Information:

- Annual Report and plan for the coming year – Mr Elliott had started to work on this
- Speed Awareness Message signs – the Clerk had some questions for the Highways Engineer before finalising the application form, which needed plans of proposed locations. Mr Elliott had some ideas for this.
- The meeting recorded thanks on behalf of the community to Simon Feneron and the team at The Banningham Crown for all their work to provide aid and support for the people of Ukraine.

Next Meeting:

- Minutes of the March meeting – Mr Elliott requested an amendment to remove a comment wrongly attributed to him. The Clerk advised that the Minutes had been adopted earlier, but could be re-considered at the next meeting in the light of this further information

20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the **Annual Parish Council Meeting** was confirmed as **Wednesday 11 May 2022** at 7pm in the Jubilee Hall, Banningham.

23 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at .8.25p.m.

Signed (Chairman)

Date

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF COLBY & BANNINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE JUBILEE HALL, BANNINGHAM
ON WEDNESDAY 16 MARCH 2022 at 7p.m**

PRESENT: Mr J van Poortvliet, Chairman
Mr R Anderson-Dungar, Vice-Chairman
Mr N Andrews
Mrs P Ashby
Mr S Clarke
Mr S Elliott
Mrs M Anderson-Dungar, Clerk

The Chairman welcomed Members, D Cllr Toye and C Cllr Penfold

01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None, all members present.

02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

To receive Declarations of Interest in Agenda Items and to note any Requests for Dispensations

Mr Anderson-Dungar – Allotments.

There would be no formal discussion on the planning application for the Village Hall, as the Parish Council had submitted the application. any comments from residents would be recorded.

03 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In the absence of any member of the public the meeting continued without adjournment.

04 RE-CONVENE THE MEETING

Not required, see above.

05 MINUTES

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16 February 2022, as previously circulated, were **proposed, confirmed, and signed** as a true record.

06 INFORMATION ON MATTERS ARISING

Nothing to report under this item.

07 VACANCIES ON THE COUNCIL

Nothing to report, **AGREED** to publicise on website and in future newsletter

08 REPORTS FROM POLICE, DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Police – the Operation Randall newsletter, as circulated, was **NOTED**.

District Council - Cllr Toye reported as follows:

- Ambrose House – the Panel was due to meet the next day, and all information from the Clerk had been recorded.
- Homes for Ukraine scheme – NNDC collaborating with community groups and other organisations, details on the website together with links to national schemes.
- NNDC continue to invest in public toilets, including “Changing Places” to assist impaired people. Wells and Fakenham toilets had been rebuilt
- Use of empty homes to support families on waiting lists
- Job opportunities on NNDC website

County Council - Cllr Penfold reported as follows:

- Ukraine aid, links on NCC website for form to offer accommodation, briefings for Social Services personnel. Also links on NCC website to funds requiring financial donations
- Accommodation for refugees other than in private homes would be provided at Badersfield (within the Broadland District), and there were discussions with the churches at Walsingham around using accommodation provided for pilgrims. **There was opinion** that NCC ignored Badersfield residents’ opinions and concerns. There were tensions insofar as asylum seekers were not allowed to work, but refugees could.
- 99% Council tax rise agreed
- Norwich Western Link – re-design in progress to mitigate impact on ancient woodland and rare bat colonies. A project budget/timescale update was expected in June.
- A140/B1145 junction had been discussed with Cllr Steve Riley, as it is in the Aylsham division. Cllr Riley was supportive. A joint approach to Vattenfall’s community fund would be considered
- Directional signs had been followed up with the Highways Engineer, and Cllr Penfold was happy to support the parish by financing the cost from his Highways budget for 2022/23. The Chairman thanked him.
- Changes from 40mph limit to 30mph on B1145 near Colby School – Highways were supportive in principle. Mr Anderson-Dungar referred to parent parking on the vision splay

09 ITEMS REFERRED FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Village Hall – in its usual slot on the agenda.

10 AREAS OF PARISH COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITY

The following updates/reports were given::

1. **PLAYING FIELD**

Management Plan – draft plan to 2026 to be circulated to the working group soon. Paths had been cut around the edge, the car park attended to, and the grass cut as an indicator of the wildflower locations. The Clerk to ask the

contractor to meet the group on site, and also to let him know about the extensive mole activity! Some tree guards had been displaced by the wind.

2. VILLAGE HALL

- Leads Report – Mr Elliott had circulated a summary from the Leads meeting the previous evening that included:
 - Awards for All grant of £9701 for lighting, thanks recorded to Mrs Fields and the Clerk. This brings the total of grants to just over £40,000.
 - Bar update in progress, Sandy Lane Club funds used for repairs
 - Close to formal appointment of contractor for heating/lighting
 - Windows and doors awaited
 - Planning application to include all proposals had been submitted
 - Roof repairs to Sandy Lane Club area to be undertaken in April, including installation of rooflights sourced by Tony Pritchard
 - New storage area in the annexe and work to the front doors almost completed
 - Rendering suggested at a cost of approximately £5000 – will look for potential funding opportunities
 - Fence repairs under way
 - New logo, marketing etc in progress
 - Funds committed were close to the allocation of £15,000, so an approach may be made for a further allocation.
 - Wi-Fi upgraded
 - Thanks recorded to Colby & Banningham WI for the new Lincat boiler installed in the kitchen (the old one had been moved to the bar area) and for display boards.

All **AGREED** that good progress had been made.

- Future Management – it was **AGREED** to meet on Wednesday 30 March at 7pm.

3. VILLAGE GREEN

The green has had the first cut of the season, the primroses planted by Green Fingers Garden Club had come through, the bulbs were in flower and the privet hedge would be attended to by the working party. Bowls pavilion repainting was almost finished and new entrance gates had been fitted to the bowls green.

4. ALLOTMENTS

Water butts were in position awaiting connection.

5. TELEPHONE BOX

Reference and thanks for work to date had been included in the recent newsletter Tony Blackburn had provided additional information on the village hall to be incorporated into that information panel which would be completed soon.

11 **SCHEME OF DELEGATION**

The Clerk advised that she had commissioned the asbestos survey of the village hall at a cost of £500 + VAT as this was a legal requirement

12 CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS

1. NEECH LOAN FUND

Mr Clarke, as the Council's representative, advised that the Trustees had taken the decision to close the fund with £200,000 to be transferred to the Norfolk based and run Clan Trust, ringfenced for areas identified by the Neech Trustees. All future funding would be as grants rather than loans, and all outstanding loans given by the Neech Loan Fund would be written off so that the transfer is debt-free. Councillors were encouraged to look at the Clan Trust website for full information.

2. NORFOLK PARISH TRAINING & SUPPORT

The latest newsletter and training information had been circulated via email and was **NOTED**.

3. ADVICE/TRAINING SUBSCRIPTION FOR 2022/23

Information and costs of both the Norfolk Association of Local Councils and Norfolk Parish Training & Support had been circulated and were discussed. It was **PROPOSED and AGREED** to join the Norfolk Association of Local Councils for 2022/23 at a cost of £110.78.

4. NORFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL HIGHWAYS

Notification of the Street scene Inspector's visit during the week commencing 11 April 2022. Councillors to notify of Clerk of items for attention.

5. NORTH NORFOLK TOWN/PARISH FORUM

The invitation and background information to the Zoom meeting on Monday 28 March had been circulated, agenda and joining information to follow.

13 POLICIES

1. FINANCIAL RISK ASSESSMENTS

It was **AGREED** to retain one goalpost, and to remove reference to Norfolk PTS in accordance with the decision under 12/3 above. The document and recommendations were **PROPOSED and ADOPTED**.

As Mr Clarke had to leave early, planning matters were brought forward to this point on the agenda.

14 PLANNING MATTERS

1. APPLICATIONS DETERMINED

Nothing at the date of publication of this Agenda.

2. APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

PF/22/0423 Colby & Banningham Community Hall Banningham NR11 7DY

Single storey extension; replacement windows with alteration to existing/new opening in rear elevations for French doors; render to gables on front elevation

Although no formal response would be made other than comments from residents (of which there were none) Councillors were pleased to see everything included in the application as an intention to cover all aspects. The Project Group was asked to consider an amendment to the glazed wall to include a triangle at the top, and to look again at continuation of the suspended ceiling.

15 ADJOURNMENT

In the absence of any member of the public the meeting continued without adjournment.

16 RE-CONVENE THE MEETING

Not required, see above.

17 RESPONSE TO PLANNING APPLICATIONS/ISSUES

No formal response – see above. Mr Clarke left the meeting at this point.

18 FINANCE

1. SCHEDULE OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT

The Clerk presented the schedule which was **agreed**. The payment to Norfolk ALC would be added following the decision at 12/3 above.

2. BANK RECONCILIATIONS TO 28 FEBRUARY 2022

These had been circulated and were **agreed**.

3. LIST OF RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS 1 APRIL 2021 TO 28 FEBRUARY 2022

These had been circulated and were **agreed**.

4. CLERK'S PAY INCREASE

In accordance with the agreement and new scales agreed by NALC.SLCC, the Clerk's hourly rate at SCP22 would increase to £14.30, backdated to 1 April 2021. Calculations were tabled and **agreed**.

19 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/FUTURE AGENDA

Information:

- Application pack for the Clerk's post following the **agreed** advertisement placed with a closing date of 5 April.

20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To confirm that the next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 20 April 2022 at 7pm in the Jubilee Hall, Banningham and that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Monday 16 May 2022 at 7pm in the Jubilee Hall

23 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50.p.m.

Signed (Chairman)

Date



Issue 23 | May 2022

 @RuralCrimeNfk

Operation Randall

tackling rural crime
Newsletter

Introduction

Another month has rushed past and here we are again. The past month has been a successful month with several events happening as well as several positive outcomes in relation to some investigations that I will touch on in this newsletter. I am also pleased to say the team I work with (Community Safety Operational Unit) is expanding and four new PCs will be deployed to our team, which will bolster our drone capabilities for the force primarily but also assist in other areas. I am pleased to announce PC Chris Holmes will be one of the new PCs joining us and when he is not providing drone cover, he will be working alongside me. Chris comes with a wealth of knowledge in rural crime and has a particular interest in heritage crime.

Last weekend, PC Lovelock and I along with colleagues in the Suffolk rural crime team, Environment Agency and another team from the Special Constabulary, including the horses, attending the two-day East Anglian Game Country at Euston. It was a fantastic event: the weather was incredibly kind, and the footfall was high. We had many conversations with people about rural matters. We were also joined by the Norfolk Police and Crime Commissioner Giles Orpen-Smellie on the Saturday of the event.

In relation to engagement events, I am pleased to announce we have arranged two Rural Crime Briefings at two different locations for this coming year when we will be joined by Norfolk Chief Constable, Paul Sanford and the Police and Crime Commissioner, Giles Orpen-Smellie at both events.

Engagement Events

We have two dates for the diary when I will be joined by the Chief Constable and the Police and Crime Commissioner as well as my Inspector and Sergeant. These are informal events with an opportunity to see a small presentation on the work we do and have a chat with any of us. While these are informal events and people are free to drop in and out as they please, please let us know if you're planning to attend so we have an idea of how many people to expect. Please drop us an email at OperationRandall@norfolk.police.uk so we can make sure we have enough space. That said, if the day arrives and you'd like to join us, please still do come along...you will certainly not be turned away!

So, the dates and venues are:

Tuesday 21 June 2022, 2pm to 4pm at Camelia Barn, Pipistrelle Farm, Rectory Road, Tivetshall St. Margaret, NR15 2EJ (near Diss/Long Stratton).

Wednesday 5 October 2022, 2pm to 4pm, Glebe Farm Barn, Church Lane, Gressenhall, Dereham, NR19 2QQ (near Dereham).

I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank the owners of these locations for allowing us to use them for the day. Don't panic if you can't make these events we will be arranging further opportunities around the county.



NEED TO TALK TO US?

PC Chris Shelley | christopher.shelley@norfolk.police.uk | 07900 407106

Hare Coursing—OP Galileo

The general season for hare coursing has now come to an end as crops get much taller and the ground becomes dry and hard. That said, sadly we have seen an increase in calls around the Breckland and South Norfolk border around the Diss/Attleborough area. We would ask people to remain vigilant and report any issues.

In relation to overall statistics, I am pleased to report this year we have seen a 42% decrease in calls to police in relation to hare coursing and 25% reduction in confirmed incidents. Our work with the other seven forces in the eastern region has had a positive affect on breaking down the borders and tackling criminality.

Wildlife Investigations

The previous month has seen some progress in some investigations while others remain ongoing. We were notified of work at a small tributary of the River Wensum in the Breckland area that unfortunately resulted in water voles and their burrows being disturbed. The person responsible was very shocked that they had committed a criminal offence. We had a good discussion with them, and a community resolution was used as a successful outcome with a large donation to a local wildlife charity.

The other investigation we were able to close this month was a report of a person 'pricking eggs' of Greylag Geese. Unfortunately, these birds tend to be very messy and do cause pollution issues in waterways, so their numbers sometimes need controlling. However, such methods must be done under a strict licence granted by Natural England. Licences must be applied for every individual case and there is no general licence to control Greylag Geese

during the closed season. Once again, the individuals involved in this investigation thought they were doing the right thing and the discrepancy arose while they applied for the licence this year having realised a licence was needed. This was also dealt with via a community resolution which again resulted in a donation to a local wildlife charity.

What is egg pricking?

In general terms it is where a needle (generally) is used to put a small hole in the egg making the egg unviable. However, the bird will continue to incubate the eggs stopping them from laying another batch of viable eggs therefore slowly reducing numbers over time. This must be always be carried out under licence and licences are only issued by Natural England when appropriate to control numbers of birds. It is a criminal offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act to take or destroy an egg of any wild bird unless that licence is in place.

What are Community Resolutions?

Community resolutions are one way we can deal with crimes considered to be "low level". The idea behind them is that they give some closure with an apology or compensation to those who have been harmed. The 'offender' must admit wrongdoing and be genuinely remorseful, and not have a record for similar offending. These sorts of outcomes are a real positive for wildlife crimes at times as rather than a court issuing a fine, similar sums of money can be directed into relevant charities supporting the species that has been harmed.

WhatsApp Group

The Operation Randall WhatsApp group is expanding. At present the group mainly consists of partner agencies, key landowners and administrators of other social media rural groups. I am currently looking at increasing the size of this group so if you meet one or more of the above criteria – work for a partner agency, key landowner or you administer another rural group on social media - or if you think you would benefit or be able to contribute in any way, I want to hear from you. You can contact me on email at christopher.shelley@norfolk.pnn.police.uk

Tractor GPS Thefts

As our arable farms move into spring and spring dressings start, unfortunately this is when we typically see the theft of GPS systems. Please remember leaving machines in fields should be a last resort. Wherever possible, always remove the GPS systems and clearly mark all systems with permanent marker or even better, engrave the system. Engraving or marking your system with your postcode and surname/farm name is often enough.

Dogs Worrying Livestock and The Countryside Code

As we come into the warmer months, we all want to get outside into the countryside, but we must also respect our surroundings and everybody else using it. Remembering the Countryside Code – its core message is: leave the area how you found it (respect, protect, enjoy), take your litter with you and leave gates how you found them (if shut, shut them behind you).

I would like to remind everybody if you own or are responsible for a dog you are liable to prosecution if your dog attacks livestock or disturbs wildlife contrary to the Wildlife and Countryside Act. You will see several signs

asking for dogs to be kept on leads, and this is especially important this time of year on many of our popular walking areas as vulnerable ground nesting birds will be disturbed by loose dogs. Just because you can't see the nests doesn't mean they aren't there and the fact you can't see them means the birds have done their jobs correctly! Please always respect the signs that are there to prevent harm and potentially protect you from prosecution. It is also important to remember that not everybody is a dog lover and having your bundle of joy running up to them can be incredibly stressful.

Use of Traps and Pest Control

If you are using any kind of trap, make sure it is set legally and is correctly and suitably covered so it doesn't harm untargeted species, in particular birds and cats. The same also applies to using rat poisons and similar lethal substances as these can have serious adverse effects on other species and must be deployed in suitable positions or locations where other animals cannot access them.

WhatsApp Group

The Operation Randall WhatsApp group is expanding. At present the group mainly consists of partner agencies, key landowners and administrators of other social media rural groups. I am currently looking at increasing the size of this group so if you meet one or more of the above criteria – work for a partner agency, key landowner or you administer another rural group on social media - or if you think you would benefit or be able to contribute in any way, I want to hear from you. You can contact me on email at christopher.shelley@norfolk.pnn.police.uk

Bird Flu/Housing Requirement

It will come as a big relief for many poultry keepers that from Monday the 2 May 2022, the housing requirement for all poultry will come to an end. However, that doesn't mean the risk of bird flu to poultry is any less. This season has seen the highest-ever confirmed cases across the country, and some protection zones remain in place, particularly in Suffolk where some housing requirements will remain.

The government's chief vets are still encouraging owners of any poultry to remain vigilant and maintain stringent bio-security measures.

If you find deceased wild waterfowl (swans, geese or ducks) or other deceased wild birds, such as gulls or birds of prey, you should report them to the Defra helpline on 03459 33 55 77. Do not touch or pick up any deceased or visibly sick birds that you find.

Cable Thefts

It will come as no surprise, I'm sure, that the price of scrap metal has increased significantly in recent months. At the same time BT cables from underground positions have been stolen across the country. The theft of these cables is incredibly disruptive to the community.

Please be vigilant and contact us if you see manhole covers moved or people hanging around manhole covers and something doesn't look right...if it looks suspicious, it probably is. I would encourage people to capture any number plates you see as these can quickly be checked against legitimate companies. Companies like BT or other providers do subcontract work to other organisations, but they will generally be in marked vehicles.

WhatsApp Group

The Operation Randall WhatsApp group is expanding. At present the group mainly consists of partner agencies, key landowners and administrators of other social media rural groups. I am currently looking at increasing the size of this group so if you meet one or more of the above criteria – work for a partner agency, key landowner or you administer another rural group on social media - or if you think you would benefit or be able to contribute in any way, I want to hear from you. You can contact me on email at christopher.shelley@norfolk.pnn.police.uk

May in the Countryside

Livestock farmyards become much quieter in the late spring/summer months with cattle and sheep nearly all turned out onto summer grazing. That doesn't mean livestock farmers get it easy this time of the year: all livestock must be checked daily with the grazing land correctly managed alongside producing the feed for the winter months. I have already seen one or two grass fields cut for silage but moving into May nearly all the first cut will be completed. Silage is either stored in the large clamps you see or in sealed bales (black bales) that are then stored to provide a really nutritious feed for winter months.

In addition, all livestock has to be regularly wormed, vaccinated and protected against flies during the summer months, which takes up a considerable amount of time and, of course, sheep will shortly need to be sheared. Fleeces were once a valuable by-product of the sheep industry however sadly, there is now a very small market for this product and is sometimes seen as waste. Farmers will pay around £2 to the shearer to shear the sheep and there's the cost of staff needed to keep the sheep moving through the races towards the shearer as well as those who fold the fleeces and gather the sheep initially. A farmer is paid around 80p per kilo for average quality and each fleece weighs between 1-3Kg therefore the price of the fleece is unlikely to cover the cost of the shearer. There are many entrepreneurs looking at other ways to use wool to try to increase its worth but with the increase in the use of synthetic fabrics over many years, the value of what was once a huge industry in the UK has plummeted.

On the arable farms all fields are planted with sugar beet and maize being the last few to be completed. Farmers will be busy applying dressings of fertiliser

and tackling the many pests and diseases that threaten the crops.

As we step into May our countryside comes alive with insects and birds coming to life and the signs of new life are a plenty - the morning chorus is full of many different sounds. So many of our summer migratory birds have returned and are busy keeping their nests in order and looking after the eggs or young. There are also many parts of the countryside that become vulnerable in the summer to disturbance, especially our ground nesting birds including little terns along the coast and lapwings in land to name just a few.

Foxes will be more active than ever and often more visible than normal, including in many urban areas, as they look for food to feed their young that are generally born around this time of year. Badgers also become more active as cubs born in January time start to explore their outside area. Also, many of the adults will also start to spend time above ground during daylight.

Final Word

Thank you again for taking the time to read this month's update and, as always, please do get in contact if you wish to raise any concerns or ideas.

Have a great month.

Chris

Please note if you are reading this version of our monthly newsletter, this is a simplified version created for ease of distribution on parish websites, community pages and similar outlets.

If you wish to receive a copy of this newsletter directly to your email in its fullest form with images and interactive options please visit: norfolk.police.uk/contact-us/police-connect-sign make sure you select 'Rural Crime' to receive direct to your email.



NORFOLK
CONSTABULARY

@RuralCrimeNfk



POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER
FOR JUSTICE, FOR SAFETY,
FOR NORFOLK

Operation
Randall
tackling rural crime

Rural Crime Briefing

Join us on one of the below dates to have an informal discussion and presentation with:



- **Chief Constable Paul Sanford**
- **Police and Crime Commissioner Giles Orpen-Smellie**
- **OP Randall PC Chris Shelley**
- **Insp Ian Cox and Sgt Matt Paine of Community Safety Operational Unit**

We will offer a small presentation on some of the work being done in the area of rural crime around the county. Then an opportunity for you to talk with key members of the force around any concerns or questions you have.

These are informal events and whilst the presentation will be at the beginning please feel free to drop by at any point. Whilst not essential, we kindly ask if you plan to attend to drop us an email to OperationRandall@norfolk.police.uk so we can keep track of numbers attending where possible.

Tuesday 21st of June 2022

Time: 1400hrs— 1600hrs

Camelia Barn, Pipistrelle Farm, Rectory Road, Tivetshall St. Margaret, NR15 2EJ (near Diss/Long Stratton)

WHAT3WORDS

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Wednesday 5th of October 2022

Time: 1400hrs— 1600hrs

Glebe Farm Barn, Church Lane, Gressenhall, Dereham, NR19 2QQ (near Dereham)

WHAT3WORDS

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Colby and Banningham Parish Council

Annual Report and Plan for 2022/23

1. Introduction

This is a summary of the work undertaken in 2021/22 and plan and programme of work for 2022/2023 which has been agreed by the Parish Council. The budget for the year was set in January 2022, and the precept kept at the previous year's level of £16034.00.

2. Context

2.1 Colby & Banningham are two villages in the heart of North Norfolk which were combined into one civil parish in the 1930's. Both villages saw some infill development in the mid-1970's, and apart from a few individual houses, not much development has taken place since then.

2.2 Colby and Banningham Parish Councils merged in 1933 and following a major re-organisation of Local Government in 1974, became part of the North Norfolk District Council area. The parish currently contains 190 properties and 550 residents.

2.3 The villages each have a parish church, both of which are part of the United Benefice of King's Beck (the stream that connects most of the 8 villages that make up the Benefice) which includes Felmingham, Skeyton, Sloley, Suffield, Swanton Abbott and Tuttington, as well as Banningham and Colby.

2.4 The excellent Colby School, with its wonderful eco-reputation, is located within the parish. It has 144 pupils aged from 4 – 11 years old and was rated good after inspection in January 2017

2.5 There is also a great pub and restaurant "The Banningham Crown," which has a strong reputation and attracts visitors from all over the area.

2.6 Other facilities include a playing field on Bridge Road which was gifted to the parish by the Eldens, of Highbury Farm, in 1979. The Parish Council maintain it, with help from "Wild About Colby" (WAC) - this group has carried out several environmental projects including the copse maintenance and creation of a wildflower margin. The formal group has disbanded, but its members are still involved as individuals.

2.7 Banningham Village Green is located near to St Botolph's Church and The Banningham Crown. The Parish Council has maintained it since the late 1950's and in 2006, "bought" it from North Norfolk District Council for £1. Banningham Bowls Club leases part of the green. Previously, the green was well known for its cycle speedway track until the early 1960's!

2.8 There are 3 allotments in the parish, on Colby Road which are owned by the Parish Council. All are let at present. The Council also has a piece of arable land for which tenders are invited on an annual basis.

2.9 The Village Hall was extended in the late 1970's from the original Reading Room built in 1912 to become the Jubilee Hall and the Sandy Lane social club and is now "home" to a number of local activities and meetings as well as being available for private hire. The facility is held by the Parish Council and managed by a Village Hall Committee

2.10 The Parish Council is also responsible for 3 noticeboards and 2 village signs in the parish, maintaining a parish website (which displays all Parish Council documents), commenting on planning applications and contributes towards the upkeep of the Banningham and Colby churchyards.

2.11 The Parish Council currently has 6 of the 7 seats filled. All Councillors live in the parish and have a wealth of local knowledge. Parish Councils are the third tier of local government, the other two being Norfolk County Council and North Norfolk District Council.

3. Key Achievements and Actions against the 2021/22 plan

3.1 To complete the planting of wildflowers and maintain both the Playing Field and the Village Green and organise an opening event.

- With help from individuals and members of the Green Fingers Garden Club, wildflowers, primroses, and crocus bulbs were planted in both areas
- Waterflow was controlled on the playing field to help the young trees thrive.
- Replacements were planted
- The small car park was completed
- The field was opened for use
- Work began on a long-term management plan
- The working party continues to look after the areas
- A new contractor was appointed for grounds maintenance

3.2 To determine improvement plans for the Village Hall set against the new marketing plan and to deliver agreed sets of improvement works against identified funding utilising the very positive support for the project already received from residents.

- Four successful grant applications were made, realising almost ~£43,000 to boost the funds for the cost of works
- Replacement windows/doors were ordered and most installed
- The walls were insulated
- The Jubilee Hall was decorated, also the foyer and external doors
- Wi-Fi was upgraded and equipment is ready for installation in the Sandy Lane side of the building to ensure coverage throughout the building

- A new dedicated website for the village hall was built, and is almost ready to launch
- A resident has offered to organise all social media for the village hall
- Greene King have advised on making the bar area functional again and some work has been done
- Planning permission has been granted for all the proposed works, both short and longer term
- Appointments of electrical and heating contractors will be made soon
- Works to Sandy Lane Club roof now started

3.3 To arrange for a new lighted tree during the Christmas period on the Village Green and a Christmas lights competition and event for the parish.

- An 8ft Christmas tree was purchased locally and installed on the green, decorated with solar powered lights
- A Christmas lights competition was organised, the Chairman and his family spent an enjoyable evening “on tour” to judge the displays and found some very worthy winners
- A successful event was held on the green with mulled wine (with help from The Banningham Crown), mince pies and nibbles. Residents welcomed the opportunity to catch up with neighbours, welcome new people and generally be allowed out after all the Covid restrictions! It will definitely be repeated this year!
- The floodlit Church added to the atmosphere

3.4 To investigate how broadband coverage in the parish might be improved, taking advantage of any funding support schemes.

- With the help of a resident who had begun work to explore the possibilities of improved coverage, we canvassed residents to support a Community Partnership scheme
- All the required information was collated and sent to BT/Openreach, and after some while, we were advised that a scheme would not be open to us as we are destined for improved facilities under the proposed upgrade to the Aylsham exchange
- But there is no definite timeline, so we are waiting with interest. Work has begun on the network infrastructure, and we are hoping for a better service by the end of this year – but there is no definite time commitment

3.5 To continue to improve how information and news is passed to residents to enhance understanding and engagement.

- We continue to produce newsletters, some are sent out electronically, but we have found that most still prefer a paper copy
- Separate newsletters were prepared for the broadband initiative mentioned above
- Documents for parish council meetings, other news and information is posted on the Council website, and where possible on the Facebook page

3.6 To conduct routine parish business responsibly and efficiently to ensure that the parish maintains a good reputation.

- Parish Council meetings are held monthly, on the 3rd Wednesday, in the Jubilee Hall
- Meetings are open to the public to attend, and there is time allowed for public participation
- All meetings are now “in person” following the expiry of the legislation that allowed Councils to meet virtually
- Where necessary to meet deadlines, separate meetings are held to consider planning applications
- During this year, a pre-application meeting was held to consider proposals for two sites in the parish ahead of submission of formal applications. This was a “first” for the parish and something to be repeated in the future if appropriate.
- Financial reports are given to every parish council meeting and budgets are closely monitored throughout the year.

4. Priorities for 2022/23

4.1 To complete and begin to implement the long-term management plan for both the Playing Field and the Village Green.

4.2 To complete the regeneration building plans for the Village Hall using the identified and any additional sourced funding.

4.3 To complete and implement a clear and formally adopted new model of governance and management of the Village Hall utilising where required the expertise of Community Action Norfolk

4.3 To repeat and improve the successful Christmas celebration on the Village Green.

4.4 To appoint, induct and support a new clerk to the Parish Council

4.5 To continue to improve the flow of information and news to residents including through the use of social media to improve understanding and engagement.

4.6 To conduct routine parish business and manage resources responsibly and efficiently to ensure that the parish maintains a good reputation.

5. Outline Financial Plan for 2021/22

5.1 The Parish Council has set a precept of £16034 for the financial year 2022/23 based on projected net expenditure.

5.2 All payments are made in accordance with the Council's adopted Financial Regulations.

Colby & Banningham Parish Council
RECONCILIATION - Unity Current Account T1 20388689

From Accounts	£29,769.54
Payments not cashed Add	£697.65
Receipts not entered Subtract	
<hr/>	
Statement should be	£30,467.19

Colby & Banningham Parish Council
RECONCILIATION - Unity Instant Access Account 20388692

From Accounts	£30,696.42
Payments not cashed Add	
Receipts not entered Subtract	
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Statement should be	£30,696.42