

Colby & Banningham Parish Council

Parish Council update Newsletter – February 2022

1. Parish Precept

Most of our Council Tax goes to the County and District Councils. A very small amount comes to the Parish Council which, recognising the current big increases in the cost of living, has agreed to maintain the precept at the same level as the previous 2 years. However, the current inflation will mean we will have to make savings on our own expenditure plans.

2. Parish Council Clerk

Mo Anderson-Dungar has been the Parish Clerk for almost 27 years but has now decided it is time to step down. We therefore are now looking for someone to take up this responsibility. Below is a brief advert. If you might be interested in working for and helping your community, please do give us a call. Training will be available if you have little knowledge about this role.

(Mo – please put in the advert here – I can't cut and paste a PDF) Will do!

3. Village Hall

Thanks to all those residents who are doing so much to help make progress! This includes

- An application for an Awards for All grant is now in for lighting and electrical work
- Reroofing quotes are being collected for the roof on the old part of the hall.
- Work to replace the windows and doors is expected to start in April.
- Work on the suspended ceiling is now being planned.
- Fire system requirements are being investigated.
- Greene King have agreed to help to improve the bar.
- Decorating the front doors and the bar and new storage areas is proceeding.
- A new website has been developed and is almost ready.
- New signs and noticeboards for the Hall are now planned.
- **Wi-fi upgrade**

As this modernisation proceeds, we are now thinking about how to run the Hall for the future. We have identified the following key responsibilities which need to be organised:

- Dealing with bookings – from the initial enquiry to the completion of the hire
- showing potential hirers around the facility
- checking the premises after bookings
- Checking that all services and equipment are in good order and reporting repairs/replacements needed to Management
- Carrying out minor repairs where possible
- Liaison with caterers/bar providers/**music providers (this is important for disco equipment as it all needs to be PAT)**

- Maintaining the accounts for the hall and producing regular reports to Management, including an annual budget prepared in November each year, following annual review of hire fees

There's a lot to do, but with a few volunteers we can spread the load! Please contact us if you would like to find out more!

4. Information Point

The old red telephone box about 200 metres north of the village green has now been upgraded and painted (thanks to Tony Blackburn) and contains information about the village, its history and facilities – including circular walks (thanks to Andy Mills). More information will be added. Do take a look if you are in the area and please direct any interested visitors there.

5. Fibre Broadband

Noel Bartrum, who has been leading on this, has spotted that new equipment is starting to appear on telegraph poles in the village - already evident from St Botolph's Church in Banningham down to Bridge Road. This is cable splitting equipment which then feeds to a Connectorised Block Terminal at the top of the pole (where the fibre cables for individual customers will be screwed into the Block). This does indicate the early stages of the planned improvements which we have mentioned before.

We hope that you and your families will remain safe and well and if you have any further questions, then please do call the Parish Clerk on 01263 732530 or e-mail clerk@colby-banningham-pc.gov.uk .

Do we want to promote the date of the Annual Parish Meeting agreed as 16 May 2022?

Do we want to say anything about the proposed launch of the hall over the platinum jubilee weekend?

Should we mention County Broadband as they have been active in the parish and I've also been contacted by residents who have received similar email to Noel?