

Clerks Report January 2021

Firstly, can I please remind all Councillors that any email correspondence you send must include the Clerk. There have been a number of incidences where I wasn't copied in and so unaware of certain issues. Although I may not need to be directly involved, I still need to know what is happening.

Following the approval of the precept request and budget at the December meeting I can confirm the paperwork requesting the agreed sum of £70,000 has been sent to Breckland Council. I have also confirmed to Baz at Fenland Leisure we have agreed to instruct them to carry out the second phase of work on the MUGA. Baz has confirmed this will start at the end of February/ start of March and is obviously dependant on the weather. The invoice for the works will not need to be paid until we are in the next financial year.

I have also emailed Martin Pitt to confirm we are happy for him to complete the repairs to the car park. He has confirmed he aims to undertake and complete the work in the next couple of weeks.

I contacted Timothy Shearcroft to pass on the concerns raised by residents pertaining to the length of grass in the graveyard and also to request that the trees at the old school site could be cut back. Timothy confirmed he has passed on my email to the relevant people to take forward. Namely the Church Warden and the PCC in regards to the grass and has stated this will be added to the agenda of the next PCC meeting. With regards to the trees, he confirmed that Necton PCC has no jurisdiction over this site and that it is owned by Necton Church and School Estate Trust, and, possibly NCC as well. He did confirm that that my email was forwarded to Revd Stephen Thorpe as he is a Trustee.

I also contacted Vattenfall and thanked them for their offer of support with regards to Necton's flooding issues. I explained appreciated their support and would contact them if we needed any support from them in the future.

Following reports provided to me by residents via their allocated Councillors I have also reported the following.

- The drains and overgrowth on Mill Street- NCC are investigating this.
- The Trod on North Pickenham Road being driven over- NCC are not proceeding with this but have stated they will monitor.
- Flooding on the corner of Hale Road and Black Drift- NCC are going to resolve this.
- Potholes in the road at Elizabeth Drive- NCC have confirmed they will repair these.

As you know our caretaker Liz handed in her letter of resignation and I am currently advertising the vacancy. Unfortunately, her new job offer has fallen through and it has been agreed that Liz will continue with us until she secures another position elsewhere. This will

give us an opportunity to advertise and shortlist any applicants in advance and be in a position to offer the position to the successful applicant when we have a new leave date for Liz. This will provide the continuity we need for the role and Liz will maintain her position until she secures alternative employment. As she has already notified us of her intentions to leave, we have agreed she will provide us with 2 weeks' notice to be able to effect an efficient handover at the appropriate time.

A reminder again about the Community Awards, the closing date for nominations will be 31st March, this will give us opportunity to review the nominations and to choose the winner in time for this to be award at the Annual Meeting.

Finally, Councillor Stopp has informed me that due to personal circumstances he is unable to continue as a Councillor. I have accepted his resignation letter and have updated Breckland accordingly. I will shortly be advertising that we have a vacancy on the Council.