

# Clerks Report October 2021

As you will have noticed the bike shelter is now in place following the laying of the concrete pad and I am awaiting to see if we were successful in obtaining some grant funding towards the cost of this. I have had correspondence from Breckland to confirm the scheme was very popular and this has resulted in a slight delay in them confirming who would receive any funding due to the large volume of applications. The holes in the car park that were brought to our attention some months back were filled at the same time as the pad was laid and hopefully this will resolve the issues.

Following agreement to instruct an arborist to trim back the trees on the playing field The Norfolk Arborist has confirmed this work will be undertaken on 6<sup>th</sup> December. He has already submitted the application to Breckland to gain permission to undertake the work and now needs to wait to see if there are any objections to this being carried out. I am waiting for one more quote for the trees at the entrance to the village and so will update next month.

I have received some very good news from Tom Cox, our NCC Highway Technician. He has confirmed that some of the land on the bend at Mill Street is in fact owned by NCC. It appears that he has discovered that, after undertaking further boundary enquiries NCC own more than was originally thought. This now means the ditch and overgrowth issues can be resolved. He has confirmed they will clear the ditch, banks and trees that are there. He is awaiting reports from a tree surgeon and has stated that the road may well need to be closed there whilst the area is cleared and therefore, may mean it will take slightly longer to commence the works than usual. I have confirmed that we are happy to wait as we now have the comfort in knowing this problem area is going to be resolved at long last.

Tom Cox has also confirmed that the work to replace the broken bollards along the road on Hale Road should also commence soon.

We are continuing to press on with the process to update Land Registry and we have had the land valued. This is needed for Land registry purposes and, as expected there will be a fee for this. It's expected to be approximately £200 which is to be split between the PC and NRCC. Although this fee is not something we would want to pay we do need to have these valuations in order to proceed. Once the valuations are received I will inform our solicitor and we can then proceed with next steps.

I have emailed the contractor instructed to undertake the work required at the allotments and he has confirmed he is on track to be able to commence the works as agreed this month. He hasn't confirmed an exact date but has stated he would let me know what date he will start.

Following on from discussions regarding a defibrillator being positioned at the shop in the village I can confirm Wayne is currently investigating grant options and is looking to see if we can obtain a grant for the full cost of this machine. In the meantime, I have contacted the owner of the shop via email to confirm he is happy for this to be wall mounted on his property.

Following the presentation at the last meeting from PC Gilluley and the promotion of Speedwatch I can confirm that neither myself nor PC Gilluley have had any volunteers come forward. Councillor Curtis did volunteer her services at the last meeting but, as you may recall a minimum of 6 people are required. I will keep the posters in the noticeboard.

Lastly following approval of the tender pack for the grass cutting at the last meeting (noting the amendment to request a separate quote for the area at the entrance to the village) I have now sent these to all companies. We now have to wait until 20<sup>th</sup> November to see if any of these submit an expression of interest.