

Clerks Report May 2022

I have continued to liaise with Tom Cox at NCC regarding the work still needed at Mill street. He has confirmed that the work there has been scheduled to be completed but at this present moment he cannot confirm a date for this. I will continue to stay in contact with him regarding this.

As you may recall we still have some invoices to be paid to Npower for the street lighting. We registered a complaint regarding the seasonal billing and the charge for the two MPAN's. Whilst they were investigating this our bills were suspended. I have heard back from them this week that the charge for the two MPANS will be amended to just one standing charge but they have made a decision to remain with seasonal billing. Therefore, we should receive invoices for the months our billing was suspended whilst they investigated.

I emailed our solicitor on 19th April in regards to the land registration for the Parish Council and NRCC- as of yet I have had no response so will chase again this week.

Following confirmation of the Breckland Consultation for the call for sites and green spaces I can confirm that I have registered the Marlpit area and provided them with the information and the OS map. This was completed via their online portal.

I applied to Breckland for a grant to support Necton in the purchase of the Jubilee beacon. I have heard back from them that our grant was unsuccessful as, due to high volumes of applications they were selective with who was supported dependant on the event being organised. As we have allowed funds in our budget we can still proceed with the purchase. The beacon has been ordered and an invoice received but we were asked to hold off payment until instructed. I still have not received notification confirming the payment is due and I have emailed them asking when this is likely to be- again I am still awaiting a response.

The new caretaker has really settled into the role and has a long list of jobs to undertake. He has undertaken some training with our playground inspector today and therefore knows what to check on a weekly basis. He has already started to make a difference with some of the jobs completed. He received 3 sets of compliments from residents on the cleaning of the bus shelter and what a difference it has made. He is going to undertake some work in the play area over the next few weeks including some much needed maintenance and re-staining of the tables, benches and the treasure island pavilion as these have been neglected for some time now.

Work on the drainage issues at the allotments commenced today and should be completed in the next day or so. The new agreed compound has also been erected and this now looks much improved than the previous one. It doesn't, as agreed encroach on the car parking area at all and hopefully this will help address the issues there with the theft of materials.

I have spent quite some time working on NRCC accounts and putting new systems in place. These have added up to a number of hours in the 3 weeks up until the end of April. As agreed these hours will be paid as overtime but I can confirm that the costs is still significantly less than previously when we paid two salaries. Hopefully, once I have embedded all processes the number of hours required will reduce.

Finally, a reminder. The Rector and PCC invite the Parish Councillors to the Jubilee Thanksgiving/Pentecost Service on Sunday 5th June at 10.30am at All Saints Church, Necton. We look forward to welcoming all the Councillors at this event as part of the village celebrations for Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee