

Wreningham Parish Council  
Annual Parish Meeting 2015  
Chair's Report

This is my fifth Annual Parish Meeting report. As always I thank my fellow councillors and to Heidi Frary, our Parish Clerk, for their diligence and support. Similarly, my thanks and appreciation go to all the parishioners who volunteer their imagination, time and energy to contribute to the health of our community. Much of that work is done within the groups listed in this APM's agenda.

Details behind this report are in the minutes and papers posted on the Wreningham web-site.

### **Parish Council**

In 2014-15 session our councillors were: Sheldon Durant, Donald Whiterod, Lizzie Brake, Jon Moon, Hilary Gauthier and myself. Sheldon and Donald have retired from the Council and recently Heidi has advised that she is moving on to be Clerk for Cringleford Parish. We welcome Keith Morris as a new councillor. The County and District Councillors and the local area police team are invited to attend Council meetings. Our Council meetings are scheduled every two months with the agenda posted on the notice boards and the web-site. Additional meetings are held as required to respond to short deadline requirements. The draft minutes are posted on the web-site after each meeting.

### **Parish Finance**

Our accounts are audited annually and are available for inspection upon request to the Clerk. We have an income of about £7,400 per year. Besides regular outgoings, we have voted to reserve an annual sum in anticipation of the 100th anniversary commemorations of the end of World War 1.

We continue to provide support for village activities. E.g.:

- Playing Field Group – which has completed its project to upgrade, replace and introduce new play equipment
- The Mardle – contribution towards publishing expenses.
- The Church insurance – to ensure it remains open and accessible.
- Respond to requests for support from clubs or societies run for Wreningham parishioners.

### **General Activities**

The Council responds as appropriate to maintenance issues:

- The playing field and its equipment is regularly inspected and problems addressed.
- A volunteer empties the two litter bins on the playing field. He is provided with supplies.
- The hedge nearest Mill Lane has had a severe pruning and the ditch beneath it cleared out.
- Top Row noticeboard was repaired as the hinge had broken.
- The rotten and weakened seat in the bus stop near to the Bird In Hand was replaced
- On-going liaison with NCC's Highway Rangers ensures village roads, etc. are kept up to standard.
- Unsafe posts/bollards have been removed from the Mill Lane corner with B1113.
- A cover was installed on a manhole which presented a fall risk at the same place.

Following persistent interventions from parishioners and the Council, NCC's Flood Protection team produced their report about the status of drainage in Wymondham Road. They then initiated certain actions to improve drainage in the immediate area.

A Dog Litter bin has been placed outside the main entrance to the playing field. This is the most accessible place for dog walkers to dispose of dog excrement. The Council has a contract with

South Norfolk Council to regularly clear away the contents.

The SAM2 speed detector was installed for a month in Church Road and recorded vehicles driving towards it. A report derived from the data it produced was posted on the website.

## **Planning**

The development on Church Road was dormant whilst the Local Development Plan went through national and district approval processes. The developer, Julian Webb, has said he will schedule contacts with parishioners as soon as the design starts taking shape and prior to submitting a planning application. An archaeological team has been to the site to assess the lay of the land.

A number of planning applications were received during the year and the Council commented in line with the Parish Plan and comments received from parishioners.

## **Mill Lane / B1113 Junction**

The safety of this junction has been an issue for many years. NCC Highways and the chair had a site meeting and inspection. A boundary survey was completed and has implications for land owners nearby. Later in the year we were advised that this junction will now be included in their Road Management Plan and it will be assessed for any necessary changes in response to the dangers and accidents we are recording at the junction.

## **Looking Forward**

In 2015-16 the Council will continue to meet as scheduled and provide a service to our parishioners. All parishioners welcome at the meetings. A few items which we expect to be involved with are:

- Identify and recruit a new Parish Clerk;
- Neighbourhood Plan – a potential project for the village;
- Emergency Plan – much delayed, but to be completed;
- Liaison with NCC regarding the B1113 / Mill Lane junction;
- Church Lane development;
- Village connection to Superfast Broadband (still coming but not yet arrived!);
- Install the SAM2 camera on two occasions in different village locations.

Michael Hill  
Chair  
Wreningham Parish Council  
12 May 2015