

# Little Ellingham News



Published by Little Ellingham Parish Council  
Issue 55 – July 2018

## Parish Council Meetings

The next meeting of the Council will be on **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2018** beginning at 7.30pm. Parishioners are welcome to attend all Council meetings, where they are allowed to speak, during the Open Forum, which is for a short time usually at the start of the meeting. Look out for the agenda displayed during the previous week.

## Your Parish Council Needs You!

The Parish Council is working hard on behalf of the parishioners of Little Ellingham to improve the situation faced by the expansion of our neighbours, Kerry Foods. We recognise that there is a great deal of frustration being felt with progress and would want to reassure the village that we will continue to champion improvements.

We would like to hear your views on the issues which are impacting you both with the Kerry Foods site and other issues relating to the village. We would be pleased to see as many villagers as possible at our next meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm for the Open Forum. We understand that this date may not suit all so we would be happy to take your feedback by email to the following address: - [little.ellingham@gmail.com](mailto:little.ellingham@gmail.com)

Our commitment is that we will listen to all feedback and capture this in our meeting minutes. We are looking to hold a further meeting with Kerry Foods management team post this session so that we can share the issues raised by the village, receive updates on issues already raised and agree next steps. We will then monitor those agreed next steps to ensure they take place and that timescales are agreed for resolution. We will commit to feeding back to the village on progress on a regular basis.

We hope you will work with us to drive this activity forward!  
Chairman, Caroline Rebisz

## Your Councillors are:

Caroline Rebisz (Chairman), Peter Griffiths (Vice Chair), Ian Baggott,  
Richard Baker and Gordon Greenwood

All can be contacted via the **Clerk**: Melanie Eversfield  
19 Willow Close, Brundall, Norfolk NR13 5PZ  
Email: [little.ellingham@gmail.com](mailto:little.ellingham@gmail.com) Tel: 01603 712943

**District Councillor:** William (Bill) Smith  
Email: [william.smith@breckland.gov.uk](mailto:william.smith@breckland.gov.uk)

**The Council's website is:**  
<https://littleellinghampc.wixsite.com/littleellinghampc>

The editor Melanie Eversfield, email: [little.ellingham@gmail.com](mailto:little.ellingham@gmail.com) welcomes your comments and village news about events, etc. Please submit information for the next issue **no later than 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

## Parish Council Website

The website <https://littleellinghampc.wixsite.com/littleellinghampc> contains Minutes, Agendas, past newsletters and financial information regarding the Parish Council. It is regularly updated.

## Dates for your diary

Parish Council Meeting - Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2018 - 7.30pm, Old School Hall

### **What should you do if you discover fly-tipped waste after the tippers have left?**

- Do not touch the waste - Fly-tipped waste can be dangerous - it may contain syringes, broken glass, asbestos toxic chemicals or other hazardous substances
- Try to determine what and how much waste there is
- Take note of the exact location and the time you discovered the waste
- Do not disturb the site: there may be evidence that could help identify the culprits and lead to their prosecution
- Write the details down as soon as possible and report it on line. (<https://www.breckland.gov.uk/flytip>) You may be asked to help make a written statement about what you saw.

### **Dogs in the countryside**

- Keep your dog under close control.
- You and your dog should both keep to the line of the path.
- Please clean up after your dog both in the countryside and on pavements. Fouling is illegal – Including in the Churchyard!
- Please keep your dog on a lead when livestock are in fields.



### **Bottle Bank in Village Hall Car Park**

The Village Hall Committee would like to remind residents that there is a bottle bank in the village hall car park for everybody's use. The Village Hall receives a payment for this, so please support your local village hall by using the bottle bank and help raise much needed funds.

### **Little Ellingham Village Hall**

Little Ellingham Village Hall is an excellent venue for events, including wedding receptions, parties, committee meetings and club activities.

Bookings can be from individuals or organisations, both on a long-term basis or separate one-off events. For further information about booking, please contact **Malcolm Robertshaw on (01953) 851946**.

As Malcolm is moving to Barford, he is no longer able to deal with the village hall bookings. Therefore, the Parish Council is looking for a volunteer to take on this role and for opening and closing the hall before or after a booking. For further information please contact either the Chairman on 01953 850491 or the Vice Chairman on 01953 850722.

### **How to report Highway problems**

Residents can report problems relating to the Highway online via Norfolk County Council's website at the address below: -

<https://apps.norfolk.gov.uk/HighwaysDefect/>

Things such as pot holes, pavements, trees and verges and flooding can be reported. Please do not assume that someone has already reported the issue you come across. You can also check the website above to see if it has already been reported.

### **Contact details for Kerry Foods Complaints**

If parishioners have any complaints with regards to Kerry Foods (noise, smells, HGVs, etc) – here is the contact information for who to make your complaint to:

Breckland Council: Mrs Angela Masterson  
Email: [Angela.Masterson@breckland.gov.uk](mailto:Angela.Masterson@breckland.gov.uk)  
Tel: 01824 765892

Kerry Foods: Mr Tom Connell  
Email: [tom.connell@kerryfoods.co.uk](mailto:tom.connell@kerryfoods.co.uk)  
Tel: 852600

If you believe there to be a breach of planning conditions then please report to Breckland's Planning Enforcement Team online via the link below: -

<https://www.breckland.gov.uk/planningenforcement>

Anyone who completes the online form will be allocated a reference number so that you can track your complaint. Any further evidence or observations can be emailed to the Planning Enforcement Team quoting the reference number that you have been provided with.

### **Annual Report from The Friends of St. Peter's Church**

At last year's Annual Parish Meeting, and indeed the year before, we mentioned that progressing the plans for basic kitchen facilities at the back of the church remained the Friends' fundraising priority. Designed to replace the current makeshift arrangements, these will provide a sink, a worktop for kettle, coffee machine and the like, and cupboards for storage. The scheme includes the removal of a small number of pews in order to create a space for people to socialise during events and after services. The proposals have the added benefit of improving the appearance of this part of the church.

We're pleased to report this year that we have reached our fundraising target and work should start on site later this summer.

The Friends would like to say a big thank you to Breckland Council for the grant they have offered towards this project, and to Bill Smith in particular for his support. He provided an incredibly positive reference, which was key to us getting a grant from Breckland.

We should also record our thanks to the other local and national charitable trusts and organisations which are supporting this project which without the help and support of all these bodies, this project wouldn't be possible: -

- Ridgeons
- Kerry Foods
- Paul Bassam Charitable Trust
- Geoffrey Watling Charity
- The National Churches Trust
- Garfield Weston Foundation
- Allchurches Trust

And most importantly we would also like to thank everyone in Little Ellingham for their support of the Friends' fundraising events and membership scheme.

### **Annual Report from Breckland Councillor Bill Smith**

#### **Norfolk Districts Council Tax Charge Band D – 2018/2019**

Twenty years ago, Breckland Council embarked on a strategy to expand and modernise its commercial estate, thereby enabling it to generate greater earned income. While at the same time it commenced a programme of structural reforms, with the introduction of new methods of service delivery e.g. PFI, inter-authority partnerships, outsourcing.

Together those initiatives have enabled the Council to maintain its spending on services at levels commensurate to councils of a similar profile, while maintaining downward pressure on council tax. The result being that Breckland charges the lowest district council tax in the country and certainly the lowest in Norfolk, as evidenced in the table below. As the country needs to control overall public expenditure, Breckland has balanced its budget for the coming year (2018/2019), including the removal of our reliance on Government Rate Support Grant (RSG).

#### **Norfolk Districts Council Tax: Band D 2018/2019**

Council	Council Tax £	% Change	Weekly Change £	Annual Change £	District Council Tax £
	2017/18	2018/19	2018/19	2018/19	2018/19
Breckland	78.93	6.27	10p	4.95	83.88
Broadland	116.15	4.30	10p	4.99	121.14
Great Yarmouth	151.48	3.30	10p	5.00	156.48
King's Lynn	116.87	3.85	9p	4.50	121.37
North Norfolk	138.87	3.56	10p	4.95	143.82
Norwich	249.01	2.99	14p	7.45	256.46
South Norfolk	140.00	3.57	10p	5.00	145.00

#### **Breckland Council key achievements 2017/2018**

Examples of the key achievements and projects which have contributed to the Council's priorities are below: -

- Set a balanced budget for the coming year (2018/2019), including the removal of our reliance on Government Rate

Support Grant (RSG) and the allocation of £1.7m to support sustainable community projects over the coming financial year;

- Developed our draft local Local Plan, which has been through its final round of consultation and is now awaiting inspector feedback. We are currently expecting the Local Plan Examination Hearing sessions to be held in public between April and June;
- Worked with communities to develop a number of Neighbourhood Plans;
- Continued to work closely with Capita to deliver planning and building control functions. Having reviewed performance, we are currently working with our partner to further improve the service for the Council and our customers;
- Procured consultancy to provide evidence for the expansion of the Cambridge-Norwich Tech Corridor to support the delivery of business growth in the district, including at sites in Snetterton and Thetford;
- Developed a strategic health and wellbeing action plan and, in partnership with Public Health, identified Thetford as a priority area for investigation on health and wellbeing issues;
- Launched our Market Town Initiative, which includes a range of collaborative projects that will ensure each market town is economically vibrant, achieves long-term sustainability, has a clear identity, is a popular destination, has an enhanced environment, and secures third-party investment;
- Implemented a new partnership with ShopAppy, which will give local independent businesses a central web presence and enable shoppers to make purchases online 24/7;
- Implemented new Our Breckland Lottery, which will enable players to directly support local community groups through ticket sales. First draw is at the end of March;
- In partnership with Norfolk Community Foundation, allocated £250,000+ of grants to projects in the district, including children's play area and outdoor sports provisions;

- Commenced delivery of the 'Silver Social' project which is delivering workshops across the district to those who are risk of being socially isolated;
- Launched community fridges in the district's market towns, including the first in Norfolk;
- Committed funding as part of the budget setting to replace/or repair footway lights in the district.
- Introduced Public Space Protection Orders within our towns, to help tackle anti-social behaviour;
- Continued to meet as part of the antisocial behaviour advisory group which brings together multiple agencies to share and support on cases, giving a co-ordinated approach to support and action against ASB;
- Sampled food and water supplies/bathing water to prevent ill health and early intervention;
- Continued to both proactively and reactively deal with dog fouling to ensure public spaces are cleaner for residents' use;
- £10m Housing Investment Fund (HIF) central government funding to support infrastructure projects and delivery of new homes on the outskirts of Thetford;
- Secured £2.65m from New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) to upgrade Snetterton Heath's existing electricity supply and support substantial business growth;
- Secured £300,000 from the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government's Land Release Fund, which will support an infrastructure project to provide access onto Council-owned land in Shipdham and enable the development of housing in the future;
- Developed our 'Open for Business' approach, ensuring support and advice is available for businesses of all sizes. Made regular visits to key businesses in the district to provide advice and assistance on the range of support services available from the council and partners.