

Little Ellingham News

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Parish Council Meetings

The next meeting of the Council will be on **Wednesday 9th January 2019** 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.

Important Information about your Village Hall

Little Ellingham Village Hall is an extremely important asset for our Village and we know that many parishioners feel strongly about its history and use. **We need your support to keep our Village Hall operating successfully.**

Over recent months we have seen the departure of Malcolm Robertshaw from the Management Committee. Malcolm was a key member of the Committee as he took responsibility for the bookings for the Hall. His departure has left a big hole in our team and has led both the Parish Council and Management Committee to review our current set up and future possibilities.

Currently the number of bookings we have on an annual basis is not covering the cost of running the hall. We have funds in reserve to cover this shortfall for now, but longer term this position cannot continue. We need to increase interest in the Village Hall and encourage both parishioners and friends to see our Village Hall as an option for their events.

We are looking to increase the number of people involved in the Management Committee from three to six or more volunteers who can work with the Parish Council to raise the profile of our Village Hall. We hope that by increasing the numbers of people involved we can spread activity to ensure this is not an onerous task, but is one that parishioners feel is important for the village.

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 Tel: 01603 712943

County Councillor: Mr Edward Connolly
Email: ed.connolly.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk

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

The Council's website is:

<https://littleellinghampc.wixsite.com/littleellinghampc>

The editor Melanie Eversfield, email: little.ellingham@gmail.com welcomes your comments and village news about events, etc. Please submit information for the next issue **no later than 26th January 2019**

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 9th January 2019 - 7.30pm, Old School Hall
Village Hall Open Evening – Friday 11th January 2019-6pm to 8pm, Old School Hall

Currently the management committee has responsibility for the following matters:

- Promotion of the hall – locally in Little Ellingham and more widely in the neighbourhood
- Bookings – arranging bookings, completion of booking forms, overall management of bookings
- Day to day management of the hall – cleaning, keeping the premises tidy, both inside and out
- Fire and security – ensuring the security of the hall at all times
- Finance – collection of payments for bookings
- Events – staging social or other events

We have also been doing some research into other village halls and have found some useful examples of where parishes have been successful in raising the profile of their facilities. A great example is the village hall serving Weston Longville, Morton on the Hill and Attlebridge under the following link:

<http://www.hallforall.co.uk>. This website is dedicated to the village hall and allows visitors to see photographs of the facilities available and to request a booking on line. We believe this is the model to follow and we would like to set up our own village hall website and email account, and with the support of the village increase the number of Committee members who can drive this activity forward.

Against this background, we're keen to hear people's ideas for improvements to the village hall. For example, better acoustics plus black-out curtains or blinds would enable the hall to be used for a wider range of events, such as the showing of films or staging of lectures.

The Parish Councillors and Village Hall Management Committee are therefore planning to hold an **Open Evening on Friday 11th January between 6pm and 8pm at the Village Hall**. We would be delighted to see as many people as possible come and drop in to find out how they can get involved in supporting our plans. We will lay on some refreshments so that parishioners can talk to us in an informal atmosphere and find out how they can help.

If you are unable to attend on that evening and want to know more then please contact either Caroline Rebisz on crebisz7@googlemail.com or 01953 850491 or Peter Griffiths on peter.griffiths@afiweb.net or 01953 850722.

Please help us to make our Village Hall successful and for it to continue to be an asset to our village.

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.

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.

Kerry Foods Complaints Process

It is important that any parishioners who experience an issue with the Kerry Foods operation, report their concerns on the phone number previously communicated (01953 852600).

These complaints are logged by Kerry Foods and reviewed by Breckland Council to understand the impact on our local community. It also ensures that Kerry Foods and your Parish Council can address the issues which are important to our parishioners.

We know that some parishioners also email Tom Connell at Kerry Foods with issues and this route can also be used to log any concerns.

To ensure the Parish Council has full visibility of concerns raised, we would ask that you email a brief summary of the issue to the Parish Clerk or Chairman on the following email addresses. We are keeping a record of all complaints which we will use to discuss and follow up actions with both Kerry Foods and Breckland Council.

Parish Clerk – little.ellingham@gmail.com

Chairman – crebisz7@googlemail.com

Temporary Road Restrictions at Church Avenue, Little Ellingham

Norfolk County Council has made a Temporary Traffic Order affecting Church Avenue from its junction with Church Road because of works to connect a new water supply.

The road will temporarily be closed, except for access, from 10th December 2018 to 14th December 2018.

The person dealing with enquiries at Norfolk County Council is Adam Mayo, Community and Environmental Services on 0344 800 8020.

Little Ellingham Needs You!

Do you think you have what it takes to become a Parish Councillor for Little Ellingham? If so, you can find out more about the upcoming elections in May 2019 by attending a Prospective Councillor event on Tuesday 12th February 2019 from 6.00pm at the Breckland Council Conference Suite in Dereham with light refreshments being served from 5.30pm.

Further details of 'How to become a Councillor' will be available soon on the Breckland website: www.breckland.gov.uk and a programme of what to expect at the event will follow in due course.

Funding launched to support innovative projects across Breckland

Breckland Council have launched a Healthy Communities fund to help develop and nurture new and innovative projects to improve health and wellbeing of residents in the district. Three key items have been outlined; tackling loneliness, increasing physical activity and improving the health of children and young people. Tackling loneliness and increasing physical activity are key priorities for the UK as a whole with national reports highlighting how lonely people are more likely to suffer from dementia, heart disease and depression. Increasing levels of physical activity within our community will help to reduce obesity in society, and reduce demand on NHS and local government.

The primary aim of this Health Communities Fund is to uncover creative and innovative ideas from local community groups and charities that have never been tried before in Breckland. Two funds available; one to pilot and test ideas, the other to enable projects to become fully established. The aspiration is that the funding support will enable the development of ground breaking projects that make a real difference to residents across Breckland. Tackling issues like loneliness in the community, supporting the most vulnerable in society and increasing physical activity has a significant positive impact on the general well-being and mental health of residents.

For further information on the Health Communities Fund, in partnership with Norfolk County Council Public Health, download an application pack by visiting <https://www.breckland.gov.uk/community-funding>. The deadline for applications is 22nd February 2019. For further information contact community@breckland.gov.uk or 01362 656870.

Norwich Western Link Consultation – Options information

You may be aware that Norfolk County Council's Environment, Development and Transport Committee approved four options for a potential Norwich Western Link and these have been shortlisted as options. You can read more about these options here: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/major-projects-and-improvement-plans/norwich/norwich-western-link/about-the-norwich-western-link>

A public consultation on these routes will run from Monday 26th November 2018 and Friday 18th January 2019. During the consultation, people will be asked for their views on the options and these responses will help the council identify a preferred option for a Norwich Western Link in spring 2019.

You can find out more about these options and respond to the consultation online via www.norfolk.gov.uk/nwl from Monday 26th November 2018. You can also respond in person, and ask any questions you may have, at a series of staffed events taking place in local communities throughout the consultation period. You can find details of these events at: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/major-projects-and-improvement-plans/norwich/norwich-western-link/have-your-say>

Norfolk County Council – Parish Update

More reuse shops for Norfolk

The number of Norfolk Recycling Centres that offer reuse shops could increase, giving even more residents the chance to pick up a bargain and help the council save around £40,000 each year.

Norfolk County Council is looking to increase the number of shops which are currently located at nine of the 20 sites by adding another three. The reuse shops welcome donations of good quality second-hand pieces and sell these on at bargain car boot prices. Helping to give things a new home reduces the amount of unwanted items going to waste and the income from sales in the shops helps offset the cost of providing the recycling centre service. A cut of the proceeds also goes to the chosen charity, East Anglian Air Ambulance.

Further proposals to be decided upon include: -

- Further rollout of LED street lights across Norfolk to improve efficiency and reduce light pollution;
- Reviewing the highways and waste contracts to ensure the best possible deal for the council whilst maintaining the existing level of service;
- The potential transfer of some highways operational work, such as winter gritting and some pothole repairs, to a commercial company like Norse;
- DIY waste charges generating more than £0.5m savings a year, which is an increase above the early estimate of more than £0.28m.

The future of Mobile Libraries secured

The future of Norfolk's mobile libraries could be secured, thanks to a new proposal by Norfolk County Council. Councillors from the Communities Committee will decide whether to adopt changes to the service to deliver £20,000 savings.

A review of the routes based on seven criteria, considered by members in July, identified that 725 stops would be removed if it was progressed. A new proposal has now been put forward instead, which involves visiting each stop every four weeks and removing just 92 stops which are unused. This will save £100,000 per year by reducing the fleet by two vehicles. A further £100,000 savings will be saved from back office efficiencies.

The Communities Committee will also be discussing further proposals including: -

- Generating more income through services such as Trading Standards;
- Changing the opening hours of Norfolk Record Office;
- Funding to arts grants, which are used to match fund smaller projects;
- Improving the efficiency of back office staff at Norfolk Libraries (including Millennium Library) whilst ensuring there is no change to the number of libraries, opening hours or staff redundancies.