

Little Ellingham News



Published by Little Ellingham Parish Council
Issue 64 – August 2020

Parish Council Meetings

The next meeting of the Council will be on **Wednesday 2nd September 2020** beginning at 7.30pm. Parishioners are welcome to attend all Council meetings, where they are allowed to speak, but only 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.

An update from the Chairman of the Parish Council

2020 has been quite a year already and we still have half of it to go.

The Covid-19 pandemic has caused suffering across the county and the lockdown has caused so many difficulties for residents of the parish, whether that's the struggle to get essentials from the shops, medication or the isolation from friends and family. The current pandemic has brought out the best of our community. We quickly formed a team of volunteers who have helped others doing shopping and picking up medication from the doctors. The village Facebook page has been full of offers of plants, fresh fruit and veg and various household items to recycle.

I would like to my personal thanks to all those volunteering to help our community. I know that not everyone has been able to help yet which hopefully means that we have loads of great informal arrangements in place supporting residents. We don't know at this stage how long this will all go on for so our team of volunteers will remain in place.

I would also wish to thank Scott and Paul and the wider team at Kerry Foods who provided us with number of food packages for residents. I know that these were very much appreciated by those receiving the packages.

Your Councillors are:

Caroline Rebisz (Chairman), Peter Griffiths (Vice-Chairman), Simon Atherton and Stuart Knight

All can be contacted via the **Clerk**: Mrs Melanie Eversfield
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Email: little.ellingham@gmail.com Tel: 01603 712943

District Councillor: Sarah Suggitt

Email: sarah.suggitt@breckland.gov.uk

County Councillor: Ed Connolly

Email: ed.connolly.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk

The Council's website is:

<https://littleellinghampc.info>

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 24th September 2020**

Parish Council Website

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

Dates for your diary

Parish Council Meetings

Wednesday 2nd September 2020 - 7.30pm, Old School Hall or via Zoom

On 1st July we held the Parish Council meeting via Zoom. I think that is something we will be getting used to for the rest of this year. The meeting went really well and we found it worked efficiently. The Open Forum remains open to residents and please feel free to join us at our next meeting on 2nd September. Melanie will share a message out nearer the time so if you want to attend then please register your interest.

It is regret that Sarah Drewery has resigned from the Parish Council. I would like to thank Sarah for all the support she has given over the last year. I am delighted that Sarah will continue to lead the Village Hall Committee. We now have a vacancy on the council so please get in touch with any of our councillors or Melanie if you are interested in joining us.

We are currently investigating purchasing a defibrillator for the Parish which we will probably site at the Village Hall. If you have any first aid training or financial assistance and would be comfortable in supporting this work then please contact Melanie.

Update on SAM2 (Speed Sign)

The SAM2 became faulty last year and had to go back to Westcotec for repair. Sometime later funds were made available for an upgrade to the machine allowing for the data to be downloaded in situ so it duly went back to Westcotec for the upgrade. When it came back to us with the upgrade it appeared to work fine for a short period of time before it stopped registering data once again.

Arrangements were made for a site visit by the company but before this came to fruition the company went into hibernation as a result of Covid-19 crises and the Parish Council were advised to await contact. However, it was noted that the company had started work again but they hadn't made contact as agreed. Even when contact was made there were some further stumbling blocks however, the machine has now been collected and is being repaired.

These delays are entirely disagreeable. In addition, and as you are most probably aware, the work with the SAM2 is over and above normal Parish Council duties and requires to be managed along with the availability of a member of the Parish Council. Due to a variety of factors, this has been tricky in particular over the last 6 months.

The Parish Council are cognisant however that significant parish funds are invested in this machine. We all miss its presence in the Village and share concerns about the ongoing and continuous speeding issues. It has been agreed that in due course a letter will be addressed to the Managing Director outlining our concerns.

Dogs in the countryside, Farmland and Little Ellingham

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



Little Ellingham Village Hall

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

We believe we have an exceptional facility and would encourage people to view it to discover what Little Ellingham Village Hall has to offer. Photographs are on the Parish Council website.

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 **Sarah Drewery on (01953) 851440**.