



### Residents Car Park Permits –

Another reminder for those of you eligible for the Carnser Residents Permits, and the Coronation Car Park Residents Permits. They are now ready for collection from The Parish Office. The old ones expired on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019, and it is your responsibility to ensure that you display a current permit at all times.

**In order to determine genuine permanent residents, you must produce a copy of your most recent Council Tax Bill from North Norfolk District Council.** The information provided on this, will determine whether or not you are eligible for a free permit.

*Can't make it to the office? Not a problem, drop what I need through the letterbox or in an email, ie. name, address and copy of Council Tax bill, and vehicle registration. Any Council Tax bills left with me, will be shredded/deleted unless you ask for them to be returned. Please ensure that you leave contact email, or phone number, just in case I require further information.*

### **2019 DIARY DATES** - Events not to be missed

- **GRAY'S FUNFAIR** - will be on The Carnser from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August inclusive, do look out for their opening days and hours nearer the time. They will also be joining us once again for The Party on The Pastures on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2019
- **PARTY ON THE PASTURES – Sunday 18th August 2019 – FREE ENTRY!**

Blakeney Parish Council and the Events Committee have agreed to make this an annual event and it is shaping up very nicely. A little taster of a few things that will be happening, there is lots more and more details will be shared nearer the time...

*This wonderful day, will commence at 11am and will be officially opened by Desmond McCarthy from 'Normal for Norfolk', and Desmond has kindly agreed to present the Community Volunteer Awards, we then host the Blakeney Does Baking Competition and have a category for all, we will also be enjoying, various Craft Stalls selling a variety of wonderful wares, delicious homemade Food, including Fish & Chips, and the most wonderful cakes, a bar, Punch & Judy shows, Norfolk Wild Encounters bird display, the very popular Dog Show, Ukuleles, the wonderful Fakenham Town Band, an Auction of Promises, Stilt Walkers, Fire Performance, Car Boot, Climbing Wall, Children's rides and side stalls and much much more. With FREE entry to The Pastures, why not make a note on the calendar now, and come*

*and join us. If you are interested in having either a stall or a car boot pitch, then please do get in touch asap. Pitch fees are very reasonable. First come first served. We end the night as last year, with the superb SOUL TRADERS band; this is an event not to be missed.*

- **END OF SEASON BONFIRE & FIREWORKS EVENT . Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2019.**

The following is the **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: 2018/19** as was presented at our **Annual Parish Meeting** on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2019, hence reports correct at that point.

This has been a particularly busy year for Blakeney Parish Council and your councillors. My report below seeks to highlight some of the main issues we have faced.

**BT Mast** - As you will know, BT erected a telephone mast in September last year. The mast is on land owned by the parish council, but no prior consultation took place and Blakeney Parish Council has taken a lead in protesting against its erection. The mast is in a prominent location, sited near to the 17th century Manor Hotel and the 15th century Guildhall. Numerous letters of protest have been sent to BT and the council organised a petition which villagers and others concerned were invited to sign. Most recently, the Council approached Anglia News to gain their support to our campaign and the issue featured on Anglia News on 28 February. The position, at the time of writing, is that BT have said that they are considering the village's concerns and that a formal response will be sent by 15 March.

**Neighbourhood Plan** - You have heard more about the neighbourhood plan this evening. A neighbourhood plan is a way of helping local communities to influence the planning of the area in which they live and work. Working under the aegis of Blakeney Parish Council, the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has developed a number of policies particularly, but not exclusively, focusing on the built environment and the design of housing: in drawing up the policies the Steering Group has been greatly assisted by the feedback given by the local community, both in the consultation events we have held and the questionnaires we have invited you to complete. The final say on whether we have got the plan right will rest with the community through a formal referendum.

**Bollards** - Blakeney Parish Council is anxious to prevent unauthorised incursion by travellers on to key pieces of land. The council therefore arranged for bollards to be installed at strategic points in the village- this includes the car park at Coronation Lane, the Carnser and the village hall. An arrangement has been made with the police that, if they receive intelligence that travellers are in the locality, the parish council will be informed and volunteers will immediately erect the bollards. It would greatly assist if villagers would please not park over the bollards when they are not in use as erection then becomes impossible.

**Parish Partnership Funding** - Blakeney Parish Council is acutely aware of the concerns felt by many residents about speeding in the village. A successful bid has

been made for funding which has allowed us to install speed awareness measurement devices at key locations- they are Back Lane, New Road and Wiveton Road. Under planning laws, the devices need to be moved every month and will therefore move between those three sites which the parish council believe to be some of the worst spots for speeding.

**Traffic management** - Concerns have been expressed by residents about pedestrian safety and congestion, particularly in Westgate Street. The issue is, of course, compounded in summer months. Blakeney Parish Council has therefore decided to commission a traffic management survey to allow us to consider possible options.

**Sewage** - Last summer residents were distressed to see sewage leaking on to the Quay. Blakeney Parish council worked with Anglia Water: the problems originated from a build-up of fat and inappropriate disposals in the drainage system. Anglia Water have now offered advice to homes and businesses about safe disposal.

**Parking in Queens Close** - Our District Councillor, Karen Ward, has worked very long and very hard to seek resolution of a problem which prevented some residents of Queens Close from parking near their homes. I am delighted to say that Karen's hard work has resulted in final agreement to remove the bollards which were restricting parking-the parish council is very grateful to her.

**Grass cutting** - I reported last year that Blakeney Parish Council has assumed responsibility for grass cutting many of the highways owned verges: we hope you noticed an improvement in 2018 and that you will continue to do so in the 2019 season.

**Public events** - Blakeney Parish Council joined the nationwide tribute to the Fallen of the First World War. A beacon was lit on Mariners Hill and public recognition was given to those from the village who gave their lives. A wonderful exhibition, masterminded by Pam and John Peake, was displayed in the church: it contained information about those who had gone to war and about the village before and after the hostilities. It deservedly won enormous praise from visitors for its relevance and interest.

For the first time, Blakeney Parish Council organised a summer event - The Party on the Pastures. The idea was simply to allow residents and villagers the opportunity to enjoy the day- and it worked. There were a large number of stalls selling food, drink, crafts etc., many of whom have said they would like to return in the future. There was also entertainment including music provided by local bands and musicians. The success of the event means that the parish council has decided to hold another event in 2019- and probably in future years as well. One element of the Party was to recognise those many people in the village who make an outstanding contribution to the community. We received many excellent nominations and the overall winner was Trevor Leach who works so hard to keep the village clean and tidy.

In 2018 the weather was kinder than it had been in 2017 and the end of season bonfire and fireworks event went ahead attracting record attendance. The feedback

was excellent: food sales seemed to be at record levels to the extent that only 6 sausages were left at the end of the event!

**Planning** applications - Once again Blakeney Parish Council has received very large numbers of planning applications. We work very hard to ensure that decisions on the applications coming to us are consistent and fair both to the applicant and the wider community. The neighbourhood plan, once agreed, will form a key element in our consideration of applications.

**Thanks** - Blakeney Parish Council owes thanks to many for their help and support. We work with numbers of partner organisations in delivering our services, but it is right that I pay particular tribute to our County Councillor, Dr Marie Strong and our District Councillor, Karen Ward who both work extraordinarily hard on behalf of the village. Some of their work will be visible to you, but much will not be. And I have to say that I am sometimes not sure how they fit so much into their days. I would also like to thank my fellow councillors for all the work they do, giving generously of their time in attending meetings and taking forward actions. Last, but certainly not least, grateful thanks go to our long suffering clerk, Tracey. She works tirelessly on behalf of the village and we owe her a huge debt of gratitude.

ROSEMARY THEW

*On behalf of the Parish Council, Edward Hackford, publicly thanked our Parish Council Chairman, Rosemary Thew, for all her hard work, time, effort and dedication that she gives to the role.*

*Now onto events from the April Parish Council meeting...the first three points were fed back by our County Cllr, but I just wish to ensure that they are included specifically within our Blakeney report this month, as they items we and you have raised.*

**Traffic** - By the time you read this, we will have had a meeting with representatives from NCC Highways on 16<sup>th</sup> April, to discuss the issues raised with regard Westgate Street and traffic congestion as agreed previously, having taken into account all historic reports and actions which have been undertaken to date. There is no magic wand to please everyone.

**Parking Infringements:** Easter approaches along with the understandable complaints from bus drivers about inconsiderate parking making a mockery of their timetable and from residents who struggle to leave their own driveway as a result of cars overlapping their exit. Send your complaints to [parking.operations@west-norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:parking.operations@west-norfolk.gov.uk) with as much information as possible such as time/day of week, location etc; one or two photographs can help.

**Blue Badges and Safety:** NCC Highways Officers attending Wells with regard to the traffic regulations project have been shocked to see Blue Badge holders parking on corners putting themselves and others at risk. I gather this situation arises elsewhere so apart from common sense as to safety please

remember a Blue Badge does not mean you can park anywhere and everywhere . read the details provided with your badge. Be Safe!

### **Planning Matters –**

Application no. **PF/19/0379** . *Proposal; Two-storey extension to east elevations, new/altered dormers to front; render and vertical boarding to walls; replacement roof tiles at, **Tern Cottage, 1 Pintail Drive, Blakeney**. **Resolved** – no objection.*

Application no. **PF/19/0354** . *Proposal; Conversion of garage into office/utility room and replacement of flat roof with a pitched roof at, **Church Way, Saxlingham Road, Blakeney**. **Resolved** . no objection.*

Application no. **la/19/0497** . *Proposal; Works to remove shutters to windows and making good of window frames at, **147 High Street, Blakeney**. **Resolved** . no objection.*

*Proposal; from **Blakemore Retail (Spar)** for a non-illuminated sign on the end of their building to highlight Post Office and Spar. **Resolved** . no objection to the portrait style sign as shown.*

A successful meeting was had with the Surveyor from Openreach with regard the **B.T. Mast on Mariners Hill** and a Wayleave has been signed on behalf of BPC authorising a small sunken unit to be installed at the rear of the picket fence on Mariners Hill, which will be at ground level, and therefore visually unobtrusive. This in turn, will allow the 8.2m pole to be removed from Mariners Hill at no cost to the Parish Council. In fact, a one off payment of £ 411.86 has been made to the Parish Council. We look forward to seeing this finally resolved and our thanks go to everyone who has helped us with this unfortunate scenario.

**Accounts** totalling £9,833.66 for the month of March 2019 were approved.

All three Norfolk County Council **Parish Partnership Funding** applications were successful, our thanks to all at NCC who approved our bids.

- Wilsons Way project . Repairs and remodelling of highways footpath and access to Wilsons Way . Funded by NCC and residents of Wilsons Way.
- Red House Land/Highways . Replacement posts at The Red House Land . Funded by NCC and Red House Land Trust.
- Replacement Posts at bottom of High Street . Removal of rotten wooden posts and replace with white bollards, on Quay at bottom of High Street . Funded by NCC and BPC.

**Blakeney Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group** met on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March. The meeting was also attended by Stuart Harrison, Graham Connolly and Karen Ward from NNDC. Stuart gave feedback on our draft plan, following the 19-page document of comments which had been emailed to members of the group that afternoon, although most of the group had not had the chance to read it. We were

advised that the comments were comprehensive and were given by various NNDC departments and were designed to be constructive.

Stuart advised that NNDC believed that more evidence was required to support the policies, and on behalf of NNDC he offered to provide workshops with officers from different departments to go through the draft NPSG policies with the members of the Steering Group. Dates are to be arranged. The NPSG are going to submit their own comments on the NNDC feedback to the group Secretary to aid future discussion.

**Resolved** that we support the proposed draft **Blakeney Quay Code of Conduct** from The Blakeney Harbour Association dated 7<sup>th</sup> February 2019 as we believe that this is a good idea in principle. We would suggest that a leaflet drop is done on the boats.

**NNDC Planning Decisions or Updates, or any Planning Inspectorate Appeals since our last meeting.**

**PF/18/1889** – Erection of single storey detached outbuilding at, Three Owls Farm, Saxlingham Road, Blakeney – **Permission granted.**

**PF/19/0020** – Single storey side extension, demolition of rear seating area structure and installation of two roof lights at, Flinders, 132 High Street, Blakeney - **Permission granted.**

**LA/18/2247** – Internal & external alterations at, Flinders, 132 High Street, Blakeney – **Permission granted.**

**PF/18/1649** – Conversion of attached garage to living accommodation, including changes to fenestration. Extension to link building, including external courtyard staircase, balcony, pitched roof to replace existing lean-to roof, and first floor extension to North West elevation of existing lean-to building at, The Tanning House, Mariners Hill, Blakeney – **Permission granted.**

**LA/18/1650** – As item no. PF/18/1649 above, but for internal works according to schedule of proposed works at, The Tanning House, Mariners Hill, Blakeney – **Permission granted.**

**And Finally the Parish Council ELECTION RESULTS for Blakeney; advises that the persons whose names appear below, were validly nominated and were duly ELECTED WITHOUT CONTEST, so well done to all, we have a full house of 11 Parish Councillors and they remain unchanged, so business as usual for us!**

**YOUR SERVING PARISH COUNCILLORS ARE:-**

Rosemary Thew . (Chairman) . 740555 . Moonraker, Back Lane  
Jenny Girling (Vice-Chairman) . 740792 . 11 Queens Close  
Samantha Arlow . 741297 . 40 Langham Road  
Alban Donohoe . 741741 . Ivy House, Back Lane

Shirley Everett . 740819 . Southside, 87 Morston Road  
Barry Girling . 740792 . 11 Queens Close  
Edward Hackford . 740616 . Spring Cottage, Langham Road  
Nigel Sutcliffe . 741714 . Dallinga, 71 Morston Road  
Neil Thompson . 740177 . Langham Road  
Jess Tutt . 01328 830973 . 37 The Cornfield, Langham  
Iain Wolfe . 741967 . Packwood, 41a, New Road

*Please note that the next scheduled FULL COUNCIL MEETING is on  
**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2019**, commencing at 7pm in the Parish Office, this will be the AGM  
followed by a Full Council meeting.*

*Planning meetings are likely to be advertised in between meetings, as per the change in  
response dates, so please do look out on The Pastures noticeboard and on the Parish Council  
website for agendas. Members of the public are of course, very welcome to join us.*