

Barnham Broom Parish Council

Annual Report 2015

Dear Residents

At our AGM we received our regular reports and updates from the local community groups. I know you will all join me in thanking all the volunteers who run these groups and provide an essential service to the village.

Change of Councillors – During last year 3 councillors resigned all due to personnel reasons, Carey-Anne Waldron, Sandy Nicholson and Jon-Paul Bowles. I take this opportunity to thank them for their input during their time as councillors.

This means we now have three vacancies on Barnham Broom Parish Council and I would ask if anyone is interested in becoming a councillor, please contact myself or Heidi Frary, our clerk, for further details.

I would like to thank all my fellow councillors for their support during the past year.

Planning Application for Bell Road – Following outline planning permission given by South Norfolk Council for the construction of 24 dwellings on land south of Mill View, Bell Road, Barnham Broom on the 29th April 2014, we are still awaiting detailed planning from the developers.

Budget – Barnham Broom Parish Council were well within their budget for 2014/2015. Costs included grass cutting for playing fields, church yard grass cutting and a new lap top for our clerk, which I know is making her job easier.

I am also pleased to inform you that the £200 we won in a prize draw from South Norfolk last year, has been spent on a bench, which will form the WW1 Memorial Gardens to be sited beside the Village Hall. Another has also been purchased with funding through South Norfolk for WW1 memorial events. Mr Tickle has already kindly planned the layout and planting for the garden, which will be started as soon as construction has been completed on the new play area. We are very grateful for the time and support Mr Tickle has given to this project.

Land Rent – The Parish Council increased the rent on the land we let to Mr A Allen as from October 2014. Future increases will be based on inflation.

SAM2SIGNS – As you will have noticed the Traffic Calming SAM2Sign has appeared over the last 12 months. This is being shared with 6 other Parish Councils at a cost of £292 per parish per year. These signs are with each parish for 2 months during the year 2014/2015. It has been noted from the data received from the sign, that there has been no major speeding in the village during the times the sign has been installed. I would like to say how upset we were, when the SAMSign was stolen during the last few days of installation in our village. This meant we had to claim £3,500 off our insurance to purchase a new sign, which may add increase to our insurance premium this year.

Play Area – We were pleased to see the play area completed this summer. We are looking forward to the second phase in due course.

Broadband – We are still pursuing Norfolk County Council and the “Better Broadband for Norfolk” campaign. We will keep you informed of any progress.

HGV's – Following concerns over HGV's through the village, there was an incident during June 2014 when a large lorry was unable to pass a car parked legally on Bell Road. Police were called and the motorist had to pay for tow away call out, although he got back to his car before it was towed away. After numerous enquiries it was all dismissed as Norfolk Constabulary advised that the haulier involved had been given the correct route to travel by the Abnormal Loads Officer.

Village “Welcome Letter” – Last year we introduced a “welcome to our village” letter, which will be given to new residents moving into our village. This gives general information on village life, i.e. school, shop, bus services, bin collections, doctors surgeries etc. I have received good feedback from the letters I have delivered to new residents, who have found them very useful and thanked me for making them feel welcome.

If you know new residents who have moved near you, please let me know, in case they have slipped through the net!

Finally, I would like to remind you all of the Fund Raising effort taking place over the next 3 years, to restore the bells in the church to make sure they ring again by 11th November 2018, to mark the end of 100 years after the end of the First World War. A total of £65,000 is needed for the restoration, renovation and tuning of the 5 bells and also for the strengthening of the belfry. A working committee is planning various events to help with fund raising. I would ask everyone in the village to give their help and support to this project in any way they can. Posters advertising events will appear in due course. We need to work together as a village for this project.

Reminder - The Parish website www.barnham.broompc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk contains lots of information about the Parish Council. Our local Parish magazine (Group News) also provides monthly updates. All your Parish Councillors live in the village and are always willing to receive any issues from residents and businesses and take them to the Parish Council meetings. Their contact details are listed below. Dates of meetings, agenda and minutes are displayed on the Parish notice board outside the Village Shop. I would also like to see more of you at our monthly meetings, dates are published in Group News and also can be found on notice board outside the village shop. **Please note our monthly Parish Council Meetings now take place on the 3rd Thursday of every month, except August and December.**

I have had conversations with many of you when I have been out and about, as well as knocks on my door and phone calls which I am always happy to receive. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have a problem or query and I will give advice and help when I can.

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Contact Details

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