

TROWSE with NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL
The Manor Rooms, The Street, Trowse, Norwich NR14 8ST
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**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting
held on Monday, 24 April 2017 at 7.30 p.m.
in the Manor Rooms, The Street, Trowse**

Present:

	Cllr L Fabre – presiding	
Cllr A Greenizan	Cllr R Herring	Cllr D Benterman
Cllr H Smith	Cllr C Steward	Cllr S Cattee
SNC Cllr T Lewis	NCC Cllr R Smith	Revd J Scott
Mr S Odell	PC Sansbury	Mr D Dobinson
Mrs G Roberts	Mrs D Steward	Mr N Roberts
Gina Lopes – Clerk to Trowse with Newton Parish Council – in attendance		

2017/1) Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone present to the meeting.

2017/2) Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted as follows:

Cllr Prentice
Cllr Brown
Mr Hewitt
M Brookes
Mr Hodge
Norfolk Ski Club

2017/3) Minutes of the 25 April 2016 Annual Parish Meeting

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on 25 April 2016 as a true and accurate record of the meeting; the minutes were duly signed by the Chairman

2017/4) Annual Report from the Chairman of Trowse with Newton Parish Council

The Chairman read her annual report as follows:-

Firstly I would like to welcome you all to the meeting and a special welcome to Councillors Hazel Smith and Daniel Benterman who have recently been co-opted onto the council.

They have taken the two places vacated by Councillors Cindy Eves and Jane Flatt who had both left the council after many years of service.

I was at a meeting recently with other parish councils across the district and the conversation led to vacancies at parish level and how difficult it is to fill the aforementioned vacancies, not so in Trowse I thought –Great place to live.

What have the council been up to on your behalf over the last year?

The Common

Regular maintenance of the play area in particular resurfacing of the play area and a placement train to replace the much used but very worn train.

Already being well used by all ages!!

Parking

Parking within the village is becoming increasingly more challenging for both villagers and visitors.

When Norwich is playing at home or there are other activities going on nearby it is very difficult to find a parking space and I believe recently a villager was "awarded" a parking fine for parking near to her home South Norfolk are sending a warden on match days and those who do park illegally will be fined.

We have approached Norfolk County Council and at our march meeting met with David Stephen who listened to our concerns and said he would be in contact with us to discuss options to try to alleviate the problem.

We all know how difficult it is to park at county hall and that staff continually use Whitlingham Lane, The Street and White Horse Lane.

We will let the village know as soon as we have some sort of solution.

Developments

Over the last year we have been keeping in contact with both Norfolk Homes and Arminghall Trust.

Norfolk Homes are slowly progressing and look to be starting on site in September this year.

We understand that Arminghall Trust are still looking for a purchaser for their land no progress as yet.

Be assured that we will pass on any information to the village as soon as possible.

Parish Boundaries

These are being reviewed by local government. We attended a meeting with the 6+1 group of which we are a member. We are one of the larger parishes and it would be unlikely that we would be combining with another as we are viable as we are.

Speeding

We have been successful in bidding for a SAMs machine designed to be used to monitor speeds of vehicles—we are waiting for it to be installed and then register speeds of vehicles throughout the village. The aim is simply to make a case for slowing traffic down here's hoping.

I would like to thank

Roger Smith NCC who is retiring at the May council Elections for his unstinting support for the parish over the years and I know we all wish him well.

Trevor Lewis for his advice and guidance—much appreciated.

Gina for her continuing tolerance and patience she displays and keeps us in order.

Last but certainly not least to the volunteer councillors without which this council would not exist—Thank you to you all

Lyn Fabre, Chair, Trowse with Newton Parish Council

2017/5) Guest Speakers

The following reports were received and accepted:-

PC Stuart Sansbury

Firstly it was great to see all of you earlier this evening. The main points that I raised are as follows:

I held an Action Day on 21st April, and in Trowse in particular we

- Issued 17 Traffic Offence Reports relating to Contravening a bus lane.
- Conducted speed awareness on White Horse Lane using a mobile SAM's machine
- Conducted checks along Whitlingham Lane for vehicle ASB.

When I am speed gun trained, I will be able to conduct 20mph speed checks in Trowse and will do more spot checks in relation to the White Horse Lane bylaw.

Whitlingham Lane remains one of my district priorities and I will continue to focus my efforts on ASB. Last month I issued a ticket to a motorist at the bottom of Whitlingham Lane for no insurance, no mot and no driving licence.

I am eager to hear as to whether you would like a Community Speedwatch in Trowse, and I will get in contact with PC Squires to get in contact with you regarding this.

The SAM machine based at Poringland has helped lower the speed of drivers. I'm looking forward to hearing when and where in Trowse SAM machine will be installed.

I am in possession of Police cones and will continue to assist the local church on match days. Churchwatch posters have been distributed locally and I encourage anyone to contact us on 101 or 999 if they see anyone acting suspiciously near our churches.

I am in the process of contacting the highways dept at the council to enquire about whether a local traffic order can be put in place in Whitlingham Lane.

I am eager to hear whether you would be interested in a Respect Your Neighbourhood Scheme in Trowse, which has already begun in Poringland.

I am keen to go to Trowse primary school to interact and educate the children about road safety and for them to go in a marked police car.

The next street surgery will be held on at Budgens, Poringland at 1200-1300hrs on 3rd June and at the 'Fair on the Yare', Claxton at 1200-1600hrs on 4th June. Please come and see me about any problems.

In the meantime please do not hesitate to contact us

at poringlandstationdistributionlist@norfolk.pnn.police.uk. You can also follow us on the South Norfolk Police Facebook and Twitter pages.

Police Constable 1200

Poringland Beat Manager South Norfolk District, Norfolk Constabulary

Poringland Police Station, Overtons Way, Poringland, Norfolk, NR14 7WB. Tel: 01603 276207 www.norfolk.police.uk

Graeme Hewitt, Whitlingham Country Park

Written report was noted as follows:

Bye Laws

The Park Byelaws are now in force and information relating to them can be found on the new signs located in each car park, see attached for an example. Any person contravening the byelaws may be subject to a written formal warning or prosecution.

Volunteering

Six volunteers have been recruited for the Park as a result of the advertising campaign. All the volunteers are now undergoing in house training and are already making a difference to some neglected areas of the Park. I am grateful to the support of the local community for assisting with advertising and promoting the idea. It has been particularly pleasing to engage with the local Parish Councils who have been most helpful. Volunteering has now been added to the Park website and will run as a rolling recruitment.

Health and Safety

The decision was taken to close the woodland areas as Storm Doris hit on the 23rd February. Eleven trees were lost during the storm but no damage to person or property was recorded.

The annual tree surveys are now being carried out by staff and contractors and will be completed in May.

Events

The Events program has got off to a busy start with excellent attendance at the Easter Egg Adventure and Willow Weaving sessions. My appreciation goes to all those who have contributed to circulating the flyers and assisting with promotion.

Mary Brookes, Trowse Villager

Written report was noted as follows:

Firstly, we would like to thank the Parish Council for the grant for 2016 towards the cost of the production of the Newsletter and also for the promise of a further grant for 2017.

During the course of the year, James Braby and I have continued to make progress with the task of editing and printing the Villager on the new printer. One of the biggest challenges has been establishing true costs for the exercise and ensuring that the magazine can be produced economically. The aim is to make the Villager as self-funding as possible and for this we need to encourage new advertising. Anyone who might be interested in placing an advertisement or who knows of anyone who might wish to, the contact details are in every issue. The more advertising we can encourage, the more we can do to improve the presentation of the magazine, more colour, better paper and so on. Our current print run is 508 copies and our next challenge is to make sure we are delivering to every property within the Ecclesiastical and Civic parish boundaries. If you know of anybody who would be willing to help with the distribution I would love to hear from them.

Although The Villager is produced by The Church we would like to stress we welcome interesting articles, stories, recipes, local history from all the organisations to stop the magazine becoming nothing but advertising and to encourage people to read it.

To help finance the overhead costs of the printer and to help pay for church printing needs, flyers, pew sheets, posters etc. we are offering printing and copying services to local people and organisations at competitive rates.

Stuart Odell, Headteacher, Trowse Primary School

Your local school continues to be an amazing place. Standards continue to be high and we are regarded as one of the best schools around. I was interviewing for a post recently in school and a candidate said 'this is a private school isn't it?' You may have an opinion on whether or not you think that is a compliment- but I took it as one! Your local school is very highly regarded. I have the great pleasure of turning up to work at the school every day. The school continues to be as popular as ever. We are full and continue to have frequent requests for places.

Standards

We are particularly proud of the academic standards here. We know that this takes a lot of hard work from all the staff and a lot of support from our parents. Children do best when they are well supported by all the adults in their lives and feel that home and school are working together in their best interests. The 2016 summer tests were the first year of a new style of test for 11 year olds. They were hard. Our children rose to the challenge and did very well indeed. As a Head I have the ability to search the Department of Education database for other schools data, the idea being I can find somewhere that did better and contact them to find out how- a good thing! This year (as in previous years I have to say) when searching for 'similar' schools a message comes up telling me: *there is no better performing similar schools within a 75 mile radius*. We also had a letter from the Dfe specifically congratulating us on our reading results where the children were in the top 1% of results nationally. Not bad eh!?

Money!

There is always more news about schools; more changes being made, tight budgets etc... At Trowse Primary we had a total of £550,547 income in the financial year 2016-17 with the money from the LA as well as all other self-generated income. We spent £546,395 of it! 77% of this was staff salaries. We can just about get by at the moment, with me taking on a teaching role two afternoons a week to help balance the books. However, we all appreciate that there needs to be more money in the system moving forward. The early indicative figure on a new 'National Funding Formula' for all schools next April show that our budget will be cut- not by much, but a cut doesn't help with maintaining our standards.

Mile-a-day

This time last year I wrote about the fact the children were starting a 'marathon challenge' where each pupil would run a marathon in the run up to the London marathon- one mile a day for 26 days. Well, they did it and it has stuck! Before the summer holidays last year we ran to Rio before the Olympics and we continue to run every day. You will often see the children doing their laps of the common! The following link is to a youtube video put together by the NHS and Norwich CCG about us and another local school. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r5-kEYkFvOE&safe=active>

New School Building –Progress Report...

So- where are we up to? Well, the site as I understand it is secured from Norfolk Homes. They have not started building yet, so no school will be built in the near future. When they start to develop, I imagine the school will follow on soon after. In the meantime, the Local Authority are getting on with planning a building, so they are ready to go when they can. Outline plans are being drawn up and a design for the site set out.

Once all this is done it will then wait on the back burner until Norfolk Homes develop the site.

Things to Look Forward to....

The summer term will be full of excitement and fun too with opportunity a-plenty! There will be educational visits arranged, opportunities to compete in the sporting arena either at our own sports day, or representing the school in competition. There will be sailing and performances. Our school is a special and exciting place- I bet you wish you worked here!

SNC Cllr Lewis asked if Mr Odell was aware of the proposals from Norfolk County Council not to provide street lights on the Norfolk Homes development and Mr Odell was not but will now follow this up. NCC Cllr Smith confirmed that the Capital Priorities Group that spend on schools still have the £5Million allocated for Trowse school but this is being held up by the developers

Revd Janice Scott, St. Andrew's Church

We have had two main ongoing projects during the past year, one of which is the cleaning and restoration of the huge painting of the resurrection, which hangs on the south wall of the church. It's an 18th century work by J. Heins, a renowned Norwich painter, many of whose works hang in Norwich Castle Museum art gallery.

The original quote for the work was £13,000, which we managed to raise by generous donations and a number of grants. However, since repairs in church buildings are VAT exempt, we had naively supposed the work on the painting would be VAT exempt. We were wrong, which shot the costs up by another £3000. On top of that, when the restorers set to work removing the ancient glue from the back of the painting, they found it was a much demanding job than they had anticipated, and costs shot up again to an eye-watering £21,500.

Thanks to some more very generous donations, some of which are anonymous, and a most welcome grant from SNDC, we now have £17,000, but we need another £4000 in order to complete the work. Several of us have been to view the work in transit, and the newly cleaned painting is already stunning. Many previously hidden details have come to light, including a self-portrait of the artist in the face of a hitherto unseen angel. When the painting is replaced we expect it to be quite a tourist attraction and to bring more people into the village to view it. It is part of the heritage of the village. We're asking people to sponsor squares of the painting for £15 per square. Details are on our website - www.trowsechurch.co.uk - or you can simply text TROW75 £5 to 70070 to give a fiver towards the costs.

Our second project is the ongoing saga of the proposed occasional car park on church meadow. Again with the valued support of the parish council and SNDC we're now at the point of approaching the Secretary of State for permission to develop a small area of the land for parking. I don't need to tell you the problems on match days or triathlon days or indeed any sports days particularly in the summer. There's not a spare inch of space anywhere within about five miles of the village, and with around 50 people attending church on a Sunday morning, many from outside the village and many of



them elderly, we have a big problem. Hopefully we're now nearing a solution, which I'd love to see in place by 2018.

Other than that we jog along much as usual. We now hold many different events in church and welcome support from the village at these events. We have Keith Skipper coming next Saturday evening (29th April). Tickets for that are £10 and include a glass of wine and refreshments, so that should be an evening to remember.

May I finish by thanking the parish council, SNDC and the County Council for their continued support, which is very much appreciated.

NCC Cllr Smith praised the "Trowse Villager" and felt it was very informative and helpful. Revd Scott advised that they needed more advertising to cover the costs and also offered a quality printing service at a competitive price.

District Cllr Lewis, South Norfolk Council

PLANNING AND BUILDING - MAJOR SITES

In Construction: Ingram Homes (Stoke Holy Cross)

Soon to Start: Norfolk Homes (Trowse), Hoplins Home extension (Stoke Holy Cross), Hope Farm (Caistor Lane)

Final Plans (Reserved Matters) Awaiting Approval - Bennet Homes (Bixley), Chandler Road (Stoke Holy Cross)

Final Plans (Reserved Matters) Expected Soon - Arminghall Settlement (Trowse)

Gone Quiet: Keir Site (Trowse), Deal Ground (Trowse, City)

INFRASTRUCTURE

In progress: Undergrounding of overhead power lines (Trowse)

At early scoping stage: Dong Energy Substation at or near Mangreen/Dunston (Stoke Holy Cross or Caistor St Edmund)

Markshall Lane Bridge - demolished pillar rebuilt (a County matter, but I was involved in the nature of the rebuild)

LOCAL PLAN

New Local Plan process started for period beginning 2026 - sites called for, housing requirements being studied

REVIEW OF SOUTH NORFOLK COUNCIL WARDS

As required by the government's Boundary Commission for Local Government, South Norfolk Council was obliged to review its 'warding' arrangements to ensure that the future number of electors per councillor would be broadly similar. The building blocks of wards are parishes. The general outcome has been to increase the number of larger wards with more than one district councillor. That's the case in this area - of the four parishes in my current ward, Trowse, Bixley and Caistor St Edmund will be added to currently two-member Poringland to create a three-member ward. Stoke Holy Cross (and others) will be added to currently two-member Mulbarton, also to create a three-member ward.

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

Review of Parish Councils - also required by the government's Boundary Commission for Local Government (possible grouping, numbers of councillors, boundaries) - in

progress - public participation encouraged, see South Norfolk Council website, deadline 12th June).

County Cllr Smith, Norfolk County Council

1. Residents should by now have received a copy of the Norfolk County Council's "Your Norfolk" magazine Spring 2017 giving service updates.
2. Norfolk County Council has taken "decisive action" to speed up improvements in Children's Social Care Services, according to inspectors. In their most recent monitoring letter, Ofsted highlighted improvements in leadership and performance management and said the council had "wasted no time" in acting on the key messages from the previous monitoring visit. The letter followed a two-day visit at the beginning of March – part of ongoing monitoring of social care services for children and young people in the county. Inspectors highlighted several significant areas of improvement, including in support for foster carers and for those leaving care. Inspectors also noted the good morale of staff.
3. New signs have recently been installed for a new 50mph limit along the A146 Trowse bypass. In the last 5 years 30 personal injury accidents (2 serious and 28 slight) have been recorded on the 70mph section of the A146 Trowse bypass so the speed limit has been cut. The new speed limit will bring this junction in line with other dual carriageway approaches to Norwich such as the one at Cringleford. New traffic signals that "talk" to each other to help smooth traffic flow were installed last year. The capacity of the B1332 "stacking lane" for traffic destined for Poringland might be increased through road widening at that point of the bypass if funding permits. Finally vegetation obscuring view on the slip road coming off the east bound A47 Southern Bypass destined for Norwich via the Trowse Bypass has recently been cut back to improve visibility.
4. Funding of £370,362 for 136 small scale highway projects across Norfolk has been approved through Norfolk County Council's popular Parish Partnership scheme. The money will be matched by parish and town councils across Norfolk. The Norfolk Safety Camera Partnership (SafeCam) has again agreed to contribute £80,000 towards SAM2 bids in 2017/18. In our area Trowse Parish Council secured £3,300 for a SAM2 machine.
5. Three years ago, Norfolk County Council launched a programme to help schools drive up their Ofsted ratings. Since then, the percentage of good or outstanding schools in Norfolk has risen from 63% to hit the national average of 89%. Norfolk Better to Best (NB2B), 'an approach to self-improvement', has been heralded a huge success and on April 1 control of it was handed over to the member schools themselves when it became a new not-for-profit company, believed to be the first move of its kind in the country.
6. With funds of £20,000 available, the Norfolk Youth Parliament has opened the Norfolk Youth Fund for applications. Charitable organisations and community groups in Norfolk who involve young people have the opportunity to apply for a grant of up to £2000. In 2015, members of Norfolk Youth Parliament (MYPs) asked the young people of Norfolk to take part in the annual Make Your Mark consultation. 17,000 people participated and young people overwhelmingly told us that the top issues were mental health education and developing skills to help prepare young people for life. Projects for tackling these issues are invited.
7. The 7.6km pumped connecting waste water sewer from Poringland to Whittingham Water Recycling Centre is currently being constructed, mostly across open country.



Hedgerows removed for this scheme will be replaced. Given the growth in housing numbers in the Poringland/Framingham Earl area, extra sewer capacity away from the current treatment works off Dove Lane, Poringland is essential. Meanwhile the scheme to replace fresh water mains in the area continues with Arminghall Lane and a footpath in Kirby Bedon currently closed.

8. An application [Y/7/2017/7006] for a 2 classbase extension, including new cycle shelter and associated works and change of use of a former caretaker's bungalow to educational use has recently been made in respect of Poringland Primary School & Nursey. It is fully funded by a developer contribution.

9. Following the County Council elections on 4th May, I will cease to be your local County Councillor. It has been a joy and a privilege to have represented the community in regard to both local and county-wide issues for the last eight years. My reward has been to meet hosts of amazing people who work for the benefit of the community either as residents, volunteers, paid employees, and fellow councillors whether at the County Council, the District Council and at the various Parish Councils in my Division. As my County Council e-mail will be "turned off" after 8th May, if you need to reach me over any handover matter, it would be best to use Royal Mail or the telephone!

County Cllr Smith reminisced over his 20 years attending Trowse meetings and was sad that this was his final meeting but was looking forward to his retirement. Members expressed their thanks to him for all his years of service and presented him with a gift.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm