

Trowse with Newton



Parish Council News

January/February 2026

Welcome to the Parish Council's Newsletter. We aim to give up to date information to parishioners about what is going on in the village and beyond, how to get involved and where to go for advice.

The Night Father Christmas Came to Trowse



Father Christmas and his helper, Elf Becky were busy all evening seeing children from the village during our Christmas Light switch on event. He had a cosy grotto in the Manor Rooms whilst in the main hall crafters were selling their Christmas wares and the smell of mulled wine and mince pies filled the air.

It was lovely to see so many people enjoying the evening with our special visitor. We thank Father Christmas for taking time out of his busy schedule to pop in to see us. We would also like to thank all those who helped out that night, from Elf Becky to all the Manor Rooms volunteers in the kitchen who were working very hard.

The Paint Your Own Event

The week following the light switch on, Kate Leggett (Parish Clerk) and members of the Manor Rooms team held a Paint Your Own Tree Decoration event. This was an overwhelming success and we were thrilled to see so many families take up this free event which enabled children of all ages to come and design their own tree decoration whilst being helped by their mums, dads and grandparents.

Once again the kitchen was open selling hot chocolate, mince pies, gingerbread Christmas trees and sausage rolls. The positive response we got from parents was also great. It is very much the wish of the Parish Council and Manor Rooms Team that more events like this are held in the future. We think an Easter session may be calling, so watch this space!!



Budget Special

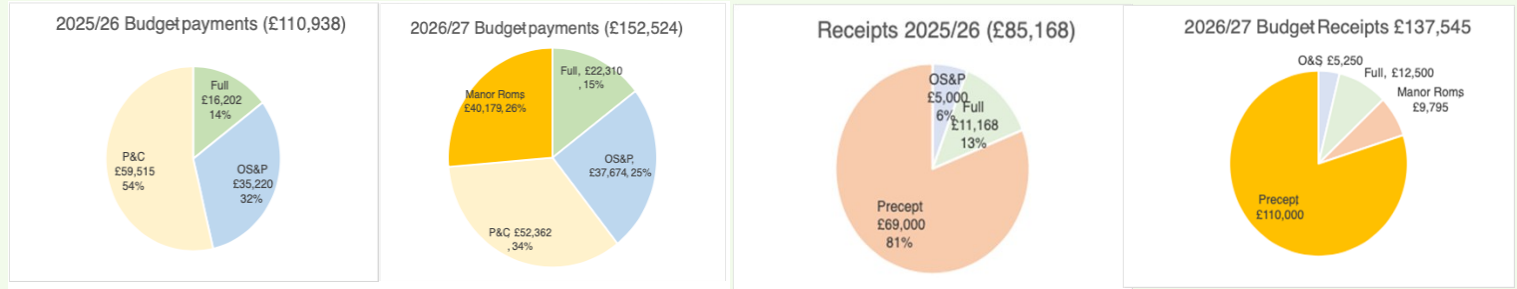
The Parish Council sets an annual budget to meet its financial responsibilities for providing services to the village. This includes street lights, collection of rubbish bins (including dog bins), maintenance and development of our green spaces (Common, churchyard, cemetery), recreational facilities (play equipment on the Common) allotments and management of our trees. This year it also includes the income and expenditure for our village hall (The Manor Rooms). We have 2 employees.

Each Committee considers the receipts and payments, for which it has responsibility (based on historical and anticipated data). The Finance Committee then produces an overall budget. A precept (the money we receive from the District Council) request, is quantified as part of this process (and forms the bulk of our income).

The budget, and precept request, was agreed in December. Our estimated expenditure is £152.5k. We anticipate self-generated income of £27.5k, which includes fees (cemetery and allotments) hire of the village hall, and bank interest. The balance, £125k, will be met (if approved) by a precept of £110k plus a draw-down on our general reserves/grants.

Our anticipated financial reserves, at 31/3/26, are £209.5k (a planned draw-down and reduction of £30k on the previous year). Of our reserves £103k are earmarked for future years (and arise from previous years 'Community Infrastructure Levies' which cannot be spent of day to day running costs).

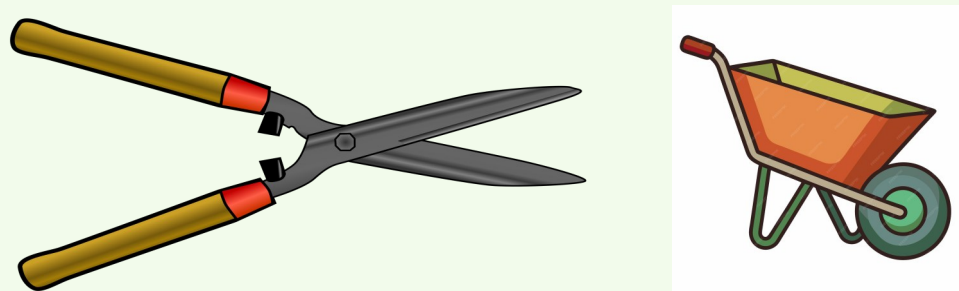
The increase in this year's precept request is due to the anticipated return of responsibility for the Manor Rooms to the Parish Council, and the associated expenditure to address required building works and maintenance.



MUGA Clearing event

You may recall from the last newsletter that we are planning on trying to utilise the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) at the sports hall. Crown Point Estate has asked us if this is something that we could use in the village and from the turn out at our forum event on the 9th December there is a definite interest in getting the site up and running again.

With that in mind, nothing can go ahead until the site has been cleared, so we have set up a weekend event on the 17/18th January from 10am to make a start on this project. It will be all hands to the pump as there is a lot of work that needs to be done to make this a usable space. So, if you are free and willing to help on that weekend, please do pop along to the site. If you have secateurs/loppers and gloves please bring them along.



Traffic Forum

Following the success of the informal public forum for the MUGA we will be holding another to address residents concerns over traffic volumes and speeding. This will be held on Tuesday 27th January in the Manor Rooms at 7.30pm. This will **not** be a formal Parish Council meeting, but will be an open opportunity for residents to air their concerns. An invite to the Police Safer Neighbourhood Team has been extended in the hope they can attend this event.



Biodiversity Corner

A small Biodiversity Corner this month, but we wanted to let you know that we have planted a community orchard on the Dell allotments. We have native apple trees such as the Norwich Pippin and Charles Ross which are all very local. These have been planted by members of the Biodiversity Green Team and allotment holders. Our thanks go to them.

If you would like to get in touch with the Parish Council you can do so by emailing: trowsepc@outlook.com or calling 07899 798853.

Details of meeting dates etc are on our website: trowseparishcouncil@norfolkparishes.gov.uk

We look forward to hearing from you and appreciate feedback.