



# HARDINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER NO.9 APRIL 2017

Dear Resident,

Report of the Parish Council  
April 2016 – March 2017

The Council met 6 times during the 12 months April 2016 – 2017. In addition the Council hosted the Annual Village Meeting in May 2016. The meeting continues to be conducted in an informal style with refreshments.

## **The Council agreed the following appointments:**

Chairman – John Sharples

Vice Chairman – Henry Edwards

Responsible Financial Officer – Heidi Frary

Parish Council Trustee to the Memorial Hall for a period of 3 years – Glen Gower

Emergency Liaison Officer – Henry Edwards

Deputy Liaison Officer – Richard Burke

Internal Auditor – Tony Baker

Internal Auditor Scrutineer – Jane Strudwick

Footpath Warden – Jane Strudwick

Homewatch Contact – Heather Johnson

## **Planning Applications**

The Council has considered 3 planning applications during the year. You can view the documents, including the Councils' response on Breckland Council Website ([www.breckland.gov.uk/content/planning-application](http://www.breckland.gov.uk/content/planning-application))

## **Finance**

The accounts for the year ended March 2016, presented in draft form to the last Annual Village Meeting, have been audited successfully.

A Receipts and Payments statement for the year ended March 2017 is shown as a separate supplement. The accounts have already been audited and are available for inspection under the exercise of electors' rights (information will be available on the website from 1<sup>st</sup> June)

The precept for 2017/2018 was set at £3,562. This is a slight increase to last year, however represents no increase in payments for Band D properties as the number of properties paying Council Tax has increased.

No donations have been made during the year to organisations outside the village.

The project fund has a balance of £1356 .

## **Parish Administration**

The Clerk continues to spend time updating policies and procedures to ensure that we comply with legislation. You will find all our policies on the parish website along with information relating to the last financial year.

## **Website**

**[www.hardinghampc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk](http://www.hardinghampc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk)**

The website has been redesigned by the Clerk. We are endeavouring to include more details of forthcoming events within the village in addition to details of Village Clubs and Societies. However we can only include information which we receive so please do send anything you think relevant to the Clerk to upload. Also posted are all parish council documents including agendas and minutes of meetings. There is also now a Parish Council Facebook page where information is also shared.

## **Faster Broadband**

Karen O'Kane, Programme Director for Better Broadband for Norfolk, and John Cullum from BT Openreach attended a Parish Council Meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> November to brief the Council and villagers on the situation regarding improved broadband in Hardingham. Karen informed us that the plan now was to drop the idea of siting fibre optic interface boxes with the copper wire boxes in the village, and to now fit fibre optic cable direct to each household which was considered a much better option. Work would start between June and August 2017. Karen O'Kane is attending the next Annual Village Meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> May to brief us further on progress. To date we have been informed that plans to start work are on schedule.

## **Village Defibrillator**

Following the appeal to purchase a defibrillator for the village, one has recently been installed outside the Memorial Hall and a good contingent of people in the village have been trained how to use it, as well as receiving training on life-saving CPR procedure. Thanks go to 'Binny' Lenihan and Richard Burke who oversaw this project and successfully brought it to fruition. Thanks must also go to all those who so generously contributed to the purchase of the defibrillator.

## **Highways**

During the year the Clerk has made many contacts with the Highways Officers. The economic squeeze continues to put pressure on the Highways Department at Norfolk County Council and limiting what can be achieved. Nevertheless potholes do get fixed so it is important to continue reporting them to the Clerk when they occur.

### **Village Litter Picks**

A litter pick was organised by Jane Strudwick and Nigel Ford with a team of 10 volunteers to tour the village highways and byways collecting litter generally thrown from cars. Thanks go to those volunteers who regularly turn up for this task. What a shame it continues to be necessary!

### **Battles Over – A Nations Tribute**

The Parish Council are pleased to announce that in conjunction with the Village Hall we will be taking part in a tribute to the many millions of people who died or came home wounded during the end of World War I. Plans are not yet finalised, but an event will be happening on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2018 so please hold the date in your diary.

### **Thank you**

Heidi Frary took over the post of Clerk to the Council in April last year from Lynn Whitwell. Heidi has got to grips with the job very quickly due in part to her zeal and energy, but also to her experience in working for other parish councils. Our thanks go to her for the contribution she makes to the village.

Thanks also are due to our Parish Councillors who voluntarily give of their time in the service of the village.

John Sharples  
Chairman

# HARDINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

## Receipts & Payments Account

Year Ended  
31st March 2016

Year Ended  
31st March 2017

<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
<b>3,100.00</b>	Precept	3,500.00
62.56	BDC Grant	46.00
8.00	Interest	6.71
103.80	Insurance Claim	0
84.00	Grant	902.49
0	Sale of filing cabinet	40.00
<b>3,358.36</b>	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>4,495.20</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>		
74.56	VAT	129.83
95.49	Subscriptions	100.59
252.24	Insurance	201.48
2030.31	Wages	*2,894.98
136.00	Hall Hire	102.00
148.77	Reimbursements & Training (Clerk and Councillors)	*307.00
30.00	Audit	30.00
50.00	Grounds Maintenance	50.00
75.00	Election Fee	0
250.85	Maintenance of Assets	
57.86	Website	30.32
25.29	Annual Village Meeting	41.10
0	Hardingham PCC (Grass cutting)	150.00
0	Computer equipment (against grant)	599.13
0	Retirement gift	70.00
<b>3,226.37</b>	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>4,706.43</b>
2,986.06	Opening Balance	3,118.05
3,358.36	Total Receipts	4,495.20
<u>-3,226.37</u>	Total Payments	<u>-4,706.43</u>
3,118.05	Closing Balance	2,906.82

\* Wages for current year include £768.73 relating to previous year

\* Reimbursements for current year include £72 relating to previous year