

Drayton Parish Council - Chairman's Report May 2018

The last year has again been a busy one for the Parish Council especially around planning matters.

The Manor Park development has been back to BDC planning Committee twice, firstly to consider a reduction in the percentage of affordable housing units if the viability assessment showed that 33% was not viable. Most recently BDC has now surpassed the 5 year housing supply in the Norwich Policy Area therefore the Manor Park development was presented again to committee as the decision notice and s106 agreement has still not been agreed or signed despite the approval being granted in September 2016. The application was again approved. It must be remembered that the origins of this proposed development started in 2012 with the involvement of The Princes Foundation, although outline planning permission has been granted there hasn't been any further progress.

The former David Rice hospital site has received outline planning approval for 29 dwellings which includes 10 affordable housing units but as yet the decision notice and s106 agreement have not been issued.

More recently a full planning application for 71 dwellings, including 24 affordable dwellings, on land off Drayton High Road (site known as Low Farm) has received approval and the decision notice issued therefore it is anticipated that commencement on site may start within one year.

The Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP) has been under consideration where approximately 7,200 new dwellings are being proposed to be built by year 2036 in the Broadland, South Norfolk and Norwich City Area. There have been numerous roadshows and the public and local councils have had the opportunity to submit their views and comments. Some of the site proposals would severely impact on Drayton and the Parish Council was unable to support any of the proposed sites.

The sites going forward for further consideration will not be known until late 2019/ early 2020.

Drayton Parish Council has welcomed Karen Wilson as a new councillor and Karen brings a wealth of experience and knowledge in areas that will be of great benefit to the council.

The NDR (now known as Broadland Northway) has recently fully opened and will be of great benefit by shortening journey times to areas to the north of Norwich and avoid the need to use the ring road or Fifers Lane for many trips.

Drayton Parish Council has always supported a full NDR through to the A47 and I am privileged to represent the Parish Council on the working group looking to find a suitable 'Western Link' through to the A47.

Another successful "*Best Christmas Lights in Drayton*" competition was held over the festive period and thanks must go to Taverham Nursery Centre for again generously sponsoring the

competition and Abbey Howell, Drayton Junior School teacher, and the children from the School Council for selecting first, second and third place winners.

The Parish Council has a very good relationship with the 'Just Drayton & Taverham' publication and I wish to thank editor Alex Hurrell for her excellent articles, support and help.

The finances of the Parish Council are now in a far healthier position than they were 3 years ago, and the Parish Council is now looking to enhance the play facilities especially at the Florence Carter Memorial Park in the village centre.

Finally the Parish Council has recently grant funded a defibrillator (AED) at Thorpe Marriott Village Hall and Cllr Carl Brown and myself have received training on how to use it if the need arose.

I wish to thank councillors and staff for their support throughout the year.

Graham Everett- Chairman, Drayton Parish Council. May 2018

Drayton Flower Club

We have had a slightly difficult year with ever rising costs but with judicious housekeeping we found at our AGM last week that we had a very small but welcome surplus. Flower arranging appears not to appeal to the younger generation despite being on Facebook etc. and as with other organisations people shrink into their seats when the word 'committee' is mentioned.

On the bright side however, each month we are very well entertained and informed by excellent demonstrators and the occasional speaker. The last speaker was a former life model for budding students so we are not limited to everything floral. We continue to arrange flowers in St. Margaret's Church, the Cathedral and last month one of our members was invited to arrange flowers at the High Altar in Westminster Abbey.

Our fund raising events are very broad, ranging from a Quiz and Chips evening, a jumble sale, a Posh tea party and stalls at others' events. We warmly welcome visitors to any of our meetings or events on the 3rd Tuesday of every month in Drayton Village Hall.

Drayton Community Infant School

School update for Drayton Parish Council

- I took over as Head teacher of Drayton Infants in September 2017. What a beautiful school it is in a lovely part of the country. I have been made to feel extremely welcome by both the parents and the staff.
- In December the school converted to an academy with Inclusive Schools Trust which has been such a positive move for all of us. The Trust are excellent at supporting and sharing best practice which is enabling the school to move on rapidly.
- The Firework display attended by hundreds of families from the local community was an excellent, well organised, fun event for all. Our thanks go to the organisers for their professional approach and care during the event.
- In the Autumn term we installed a defibrillator in the main school hall. This was donated to us by Mr Pottle who sadly lost his son. We held a special assembly to thank Mr Pottle and to raise awareness of the need to have defibrillators in key locations.
- In the Spring term the school was faced with the challenge of snow closure. The decision was taken alongside discussion with Mr Oldham at the Junior school so that we were shut together. In total the school was shut for 3 days.
- Parking remains an issue and I receive emails and verbal complaints regularly about parents parking unsafely. We continue to remind parents about parking, particularly in terms of obstructing driveways and paths, in our regular newsletters.
- The Friends committee are working hard to raise funds for the school playground. The plan is to replace several of the items of fixed play equipment on the playground with more exciting and interesting things e.g. Pirate ship. We are extremely grateful for all of the hard work and dedication that the Friends committee show to the school. We are very lucky.
- In April we have had a fund raising day to support the Rainforest campaign. The children all came to school dressed in Rainforest colours and donations were collected which will be sent to charities involved in this worthwhile cause. Our Year 2 children are particularly passionate about it as they have spent the whole of the Spring term learning about the animals and people from this area of the world.
Karen Winter- Head teacher.

Drayton Junior School

Life at Drayton Junior School has been as busy as ever and below are some of the key events which have taken place during the last 12 months:

- Thanks to a phenomenal fundraising effort, from the local community, the swimming pool had its official reopening in November. This was two years to the day when it was featured on local news as having to close due to the lack of funds available, to complete the necessary repairs required.
- Since then a new roof has also been added to the pool in order to reduce running costs and improve its environmental impact
- As a Church of England School we are subject to a denominational inspection -Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) -every five years. This was completed in November and the school was rated Good for how well it provides a “distinctive Christian character.” In this report it was highlighted that *“The school has a strong tradition of caring which is at the core of its vision statement and school ethos”* and how *“Pupils have an understanding of Christianity as a multicultural world faith and they have respect for those of different faiths and those with none.”*
- The spring term proved a particularly challenging time as the school was forced to close for a total of four days. One due to lack of electricity and three as a result of exceptional weather conditions. To close a school for such a length of time is unprecedented in my career and hopefully won't be repeated
- In addition to this, during that term, the school was inspected by Ofsted as part of its inspection framework for all schools. The school received a positive report, was rated as Good overall and the overall care and support the school gives was singled out for praise in the report, which describes the school as a *“kind place to be... where staff feel valued and pupils thrive.”* As I'm sure you will appreciate we have had our fill of inspections this academic year!
- On-going issues around parking, particularly on Belmonte Crescent, remain and rarely a week goes by where I don't receive a complaint, either about the way a parent has parked or how they have spoken to a resident when being asked to move their car. Despite regular reminders in Newsletters my requests, for consideration of our neighbours, are falling on deaf ears, for a small minority of parents, and my only advise to residents is to take a note of the registration plate and inform the police.

David Oldham
Headteacher – Drayton Junior School

SNAP Report

Crimes reported to police from 1st April 2017 to 1st April 2018 – 164

These include the following:

86 Assaults, 4 Burglary offences, 20 Harassment, 27 Thefts, 21 criminal Damage and 6 Miscellaneous crimes.

At the end of March 2018 the team unfortunately said goodbye to all PCSO's and therefore this leaves only one member of staff (PC Andy Hudson) in the team for the foreseeable future.

Priorities for Safer Neighbourhood Team over the last 12 months have included the following:

1. Summer Month Patrols around security of Properties and ASB Issues – The team have carried out high visibility patrols in the parishes and produced a Summer Crime prevention leaflet that was distributed in the area. There continued to be a low amount of ASB issues reported to Police.
2. Work around Halloween and Bonfire Night and crime prevention in the lead up to Christmas. The team worked closely with the local schools giving an input around safety and responsibilities at Halloween and Bonfire. Patrols by the team on both Halloween and Bonfire night resulted in no incidents being reported to Police.
3. The team have carried out very successful crime prevention days at local stores and this was well received by both staff and members of the public. A winter crime prevention leaflet was produced and handed out to the public and high visibility patrols were carried out in the area.
4. Current priority is the area of Longdale, Hinks Meadow and Sandy Lane recreation area around Anti-Social behaviour. The team have carried out patrols in these areas including plain clothes patrols when able to.

Over the last 12 months the team have:

- Given internet safety inputs to Year 6 pupils and have also given training to parents around the same subject. The team have also given presentations to Taverham Hall School around life skills and internet safety.
- Attended four local fete's during the summer months and have engaged with local people and have provided a positive image of the Constabulary. The team have attended many local events including a presentation around the misuse of drugs at Taverham High School.
- Dealt with many crimes and incidents during the year. The team has supported our local Safer Schools Officer throughout the year and assisted with many incidents reported by them.
- During the year the team have supported our response colleagues and continue to be the point of contact for many local people, businesses, groups and schools.

PC Hudson

Thorpe Marriott Village Hall: Chairman's Report

2017 was the Silver Jubilee year for Thorpe Marriott Village Hall, and we celebrated the hall being open for 25 years by increasing our fundraising activities. We had two quiz and chips nights, as well as our usual Spring Fayre and Christmas Fayre. These events did two things – raised much needed funds for the upkeep of the hall, and also brought people into the hall who perhaps wouldn't normally come in.

Our ongoing maintenance programme has seen further enhancement to the CCTV system with a fish eye lens camera now in the main hall. We had to have a full test of all the electrical system, and certification that we are still compliant with current regulations – this was a requirement of the buildings insurers, and will need to be undertaken every five years. We also replaced the vacuum cleaner.

In December we had an incident with the hot water boiler in the kitchen overheating and causing the plug in the socket to smoke. The fire brigade attended and the hot water boiler which caused the problem has been disabled. In addition, an electrician replaced the socket where the issue occurred in the kitchen and undertook a test of the electrical system to confirm the system was safe to use again.

As a result of the above incident, we had some adverse comments about the hall put onto a local social media page, commenting about the fact that we do not have smoke detectors fitted. Various defamatory comments were made about the hall being unsafe and that the hall should be avoided. On speaking to the Fire Brigade after the incident, they confirm that they checked the building as a matter of course as they had attended the incident, and could find no fire risks. They were satisfied that the building is a safe place to be. We are not legally bound to have smoke detectors, and were advised that most schools do not have them fitted either.

However, we have had a full review of the fire prevention system and for belt and braces cover for our hirers, we have now installed smoke detectors in the rooms and hallways, and the main hall will be completed in late March, as it requires a scaffold to reach the roof.

Drayton Parish Council kindly purchased a defibrillator to be placed outside the village hall. There has been a delay in getting this fitted, as the electrician had to order parts to complete the fitting. Again this will be completed by end of March.

We have free training sessions with the defibrillator and will be arranging this for April 2018.

In addition, the window panes in rooms 1 and 2 have been replaced as the glazing had gone opaque. The glass is also stronger to withstand impacting. The outside of the building looks much better for their replacement.

As we look forward to the coming year, we will continue with the ongoing maintenance programme. In addition, new rules around GDPR come into force in May, which means we have to ensure all data we hold is held in a secure way, and we are working together to ensure we remain compliant in this respect.

Our accounts this year have again been audited by Dennis Pennells. Our thanks go to Dennis who has very kindly given his time to complete this for us without charge.

My thanks must also go to Stacey, our Administrator, who takes care of all our bookings, undertakes the treasurer role, and deals with all areas of admin.....and also to James, our Caretaker, who keeps the building clean and tidy. Thank you both for all that you do.

We are a committee, and no one person is responsible for keeping things going, so thank you to all my fellow committee members, all of whom give their time freely to ensure the smooth running of the hall.

Also, to all those people who do not sit on the committee, but also give their time to help the smooth running of the hall – Tony, Mark and Heather to name a few – thank you.

Mandy Marshall

Drayton Village Hall

Chairman's Annual Report 2017

The headline of our 2017 year is finance, with the hall making a loss overall from January – December 2017.

Reversing this position will be a key task for your committee in the coming months.

We are also seeking to move forward with refurbishment of the kitchen which will require grant aid. I am grateful to Carl Brown for continuing to drive this forward.

Hiring of the hall continues to be positive including more Daytime use however the Green room is not much used at present. Fundraising via the 101 club continues, the Book and Jigsaw sales make a regular contribution and Jumble sales have continued to bring in a good income.

The Afternoon Tea also proved popular.

Our user groups are varied, from weekly hirers, monthly groups to occasional events, mostly of community or activity based events, with occasional commercial use. The hall's aim is to provide a base for such events *for use by the inhabitants of the area of benefit without distinction of political religious or other opinions* I trust we will be able to continue to achieve this going forward.

As usual your committee met regularly through the year to manage the hall, the number of core committee members remains a matter of concern. Whilst we are able to attract helpers and supporters to events we need to consider how to resolve this going forward.

I would like to thank all the helpers and supporters, but in particular Margaret Wright who manages our bookings, Marjorie Bunn and Joy Edwards-Smith, our secretary and treasurer for their support over the past years.

We look forward to another challenging year for the hall, approaching 2020 which will mark 100 years of a hall on this site (The first hall being constructed in 1920, later replaced by the current building and committee structure.)

Peter Sergeant
Chairman Drayton Village Hall

Drayton Horticultural Association Report

Established in 1975 Drayton Horticultural Association is a club for all garden lovers – regardless of age or experience – and we meet at the village hall 7.30-9.30pm on the 1st Tuesday of each month. Last year - apart from March when we held our annual general meeting and a gardening quiz - we had talks on horticultural subjects including garden design, bees, pests and insects, fuschias, alpines, and the history of the Plantation Garden in Norwich.

We have over 60 members and the membership subscription is £12.00 a year. We also welcome visitors who can attend and pay £2.00 on the evening. There is also time after the talk for discussion, coffee and a raffle. We have a web page with our information on it and we are also on Facebook.

In addition to our monthly meetings last year we visited Dale Farm Garden at Dereham and one of our members also had an open garden and tea party in July. We also held 3 shows, spring, summer and autumn where members displayed their flowers, shrubs and vegetables. Last autumn we had 153 exhibits at our show and adjudicated by an external judge. It was held on a Saturday in September and was open to the public in the afternoon.

We also held a plant sale to raise funds to pay for our speakers in May, on the Florence Carter Playing Field by kind permission of the Parish Council, and this year's plant sale will be on Saturday 5th May from 9.30am to 12.30pm. Do come along if you want good bedding plants and shrubs at reasonable prices.

St Margaret's Church Drayton

The last year has seen changes at St Margaret's with our Rector, Revd David Wells, leaving us at the end of 2017 to take up a position at Caister-on-Sea. Since then, we have relied on available clergy to lead our weekly services with some of our regular services needing to be suspended for the duration of the interregnum.

Our vacancy was advertised in February and as a result, we interviewed for a replacement over the 8th and 9th of April. I am extremely pleased to report that a new incumbent was appointed and is due to take up his position on 1 August. Our new incumbent is Revd Marc Palmer who comes to us from St Mary Magdalene, Silver Road, Norwich where he has been in post for 8 years. Marc is married with 2 young children.

As always, our Churchyard has caused some problems over the year.

Churchyard regulations are such that newer graves must be flat to allow for mowing by a contractor. Unfortunately, this is not always appreciated and people attending to graves are disappointed when they find tributes, or other items, displaced or mown over and I know that the Parish Council have had complaints relating to this, as have we. This is always a sensitive issue.

During the year, after a period of heavy rain, we experienced substantial subsidence in the North West area of the Churchyard. This is felt to be due to the nature of the ground in that area, chalk /marl. We estimate that on current usage, we have 8 to 10 years of available space.

We are very grateful to the support of the Parish Council over their substantial contribution to mowing costs in the Churchyard and for their support regarding our annual fete held on the Florence Carter playing field each year. This is our major fundraising event of the year and this would not be possible without their support.

The War Memorial has now been listed as Gradell.

Over the last few months, we have been collaborating with the Parish Council to prepare a welcome booklet that will go to every new house built in Drayton. It will include brief details of all services/places in Drayton, include a map and village photographs. The main body of work is done but photographs and map need inserting. The Parish Council will then arrange for pagination and printing.

I am somewhat concerned to see that the Taverham online website is still live with wrong information on. I had been assured this would be amended/taken down.

St Margaret's remains yours Church, the Parish Church for the whole parish. It is open daily with visitors always welcome.

1st Drayton Scout Group

The group has held its premises on the Frost Industrial Estate for 50 years. The group has both boys and girls attending in the following sections:-

- Beavers – 6 to 8 years meeting on Friday evenings at 6pm
- Cubs – 8 to 10 ½ years meeting on Fridays at 7pm
- Scouts 10 to 14 years meeting on a Friday at 7.30pm

The different sections have a wide range of activities both indoor and outdoor as well as having several hiking and camping activities several times a year. All sections are currently full with a waiting list running. There is an executive committee to help support the section leaders. The group has a number of buildings on the site which are available to other groups and organisations to hire.

Drayton WI (evening)

The Institute meets every second Monday of the month at Drayton Village Hall. The group enjoys a variety of speakers on many different subjects throughout the year. Additional demonstrations are also held. There is an open meeting each year when new members are invited to attend. The Institute also has a number of groups within for such things as trips to the theatre, rambling and walking, as well as enjoying a lunch together! Special birthday's of members is celebrated by the giving of flowers.

BCLC

Annual Report for year to 31 December 2017

A good year for the Centre

In line with recent years, income is in line with expectations and costs have been kept under control. The benefits derived from the installation of a new boiler and enhanced sports hall heating, completed in 2016, has resulted in reduced costs and greater comfort. The revamped reception area was completed in the year which has not only modernised the Centre but has been well received by users. The colour scheme is to be used in the refurbished Room 1 which was extensively planned during the second half of last year. During the year, a bench marking exercise was undertaken and this indicated users were highly satisfied both in terms of facilities and services provided. The rebranding of the Centre was completed during the year. These improvements come at a cost and the Centre lost a sum of £8958 in the year. Whilst, as mentioned earlier, income and normal expenditure were roughly in line with budget, which would normally have generated a comfortable surplus for the year, repairs and redecorations amounted to £15,939 and unavoidable depreciation totalled £9376.

As mentioned earlier, a significant refurbishment of Room 1 was recently commenced and should be completed in early June. This is a significant investment, largest amount expended on a single project since inception, which the Trustees consider is essential for the Centre to compete successfully against existing and newer competitors.

Thanks are offered to Mr Ron Halliday (Centre Manager) and his staff for their efforts during the course of the year.

Jeff Anderson

Chairman

25th April 2018

Friends of Longdale

Annual Report for year to 25th April 2018

To context this report, I shall begin with a brief history of this group. Up until roughly 15 years ago, the Longdale Playing Fields proved a major liability for Drayton Parish Council. The cost of providing sports facilities is not cheap but at that time the major expenditure for the council was to make good the cost of vandalism. The position became so bad that Drayton Parish Council asked Broadland District Council to take responsibility for the facility. Not surprisingly, this was refused but eventually, as a means of supporting Drayton, Broadland DC provided a large grant which was used to purchase closed circuit television cameras. The Parish Council then had the confidence to spend some money to improve facilities, which in turn generated greater usage and it was agreed to create Friends of Longdale, a partnership between the local community and the recreational site. Basically, this gives local people an opportunity to influence the development of the site and bring attention to the Parish Council areas of concern. Overall, this has worked successfully. Vandalism and anti-social behaviour has not been completely eradicated but it is at a level which can be controlled relatively easily and at a minimal cost.

The Friends, as a means of showcasing the facility and raising money for good causes arrange an annual Drayton Fete, which now also includes a popular fair staged over 4 days. Over the years we have raised well over £10,000 to nominated charities as well as giving local groups and organisations an opportunity to raise funds for themselves. This year's fete takes place on Sunday 22nd July when the nominated charities are Star Throwers, a local cancer charity and the Norwich Accident Rescue Service.

The group is now relatively small and new volunteers are very welcome.

Jeff Anderson

Chairman

25th April 2018