



# Fincham Parish Council Newsletter

Spring 2021

## We can help!

- Report pot holes or damage to roads, footpaths or verges
- Streetlight problems or outages
- Planning issues
- Local government or democracy issues
- Put your name down for an allotment
- Suggest practical solutions to village problems
- Rights of Way issues
- Village events

These are just some of the things the Parish Council deal with every day but if you have any issues affecting life in the village, get in touch, we might be able to help!

## ALLOTMENT PLOT TO LET

We currently have a few vacant plots at our allotment site on Marham Road.

Each plot costs £21 per annum and is approximately 150 square yards but a half plot is also possible.

Water is on site.

Please contact the Clerk on the details overleaf if you would like the plot.

## CHERRY TREES ON THE GREEN

We have recently had some work done on the trees opposite the church to remove the deadwood.

We have been advised that the lifespan of these trees is likely to be up to another 15 years.

We will be looking at options to replace them in future and residents will be consulted and kept informed.

## HEDGEHOG PROTECTION MEASURES

We have been looking into ways to protect our hedgehog population following concerns raised from a resident about incidents of them being run over on the A1122.

Unfortunately permanent warning signs are not possible for our village and therefore we are looking at getting A4 warning stickers produced which

residents could put on their wheelie bins. These stickers will hopefully encourage a motorist to slow down.

If you would like to obtain some of these contact the Clerk. The cost will be £2 each and if we make any profit from the sale of these stickers it will be used to improve hedgehog protection at our Nature Reserve off Black Drove.

## READY, STEADY, CENSUS!

The next decennial census will be taking place this year. This is a nationwide survey of housing and the population. It has been carried out every decade since 1801, with the exception of 1941.

Information from the digital-first census will help decide how services are planned and funded in

our local area. This could mean things like doctors' surgeries, housing or new bus routes. Households will receive a letter with a unique access code in the post, allowing them to complete their questionnaire online. Paper questionnaires will be available on request. Census day is March 21.

## PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

Further to articles in the last two issues we are still looking for testimonials from residents who have used the footpath from Boughton Road to Barton Bendish or the circular walk through the Nature Reserve.

To prevent their loss we need more evidence of use to submit an application to get these footpaths added to the definitive map held by Norfolk County Council.

Please complete the form on our website and return it to the Clerk.

## WORK ON TREES IN THE CONSERVATION AREA

We would like to remind residents that if you live within the conservation area you will probably need to obtain planning permission from the Borough Council for any work on trees within your garden. Please see our website for further information on the conservation area.

## WALKING IN NORFOLK

If you like walking but are getting fed up with the same routes why not take a look at the Walking in Norfolk website ([www.walkinginengland.co.uk](http://www.walkinginengland.co.uk)) – one for each county in England) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday

You will find hundreds of walks to download and print, free, it also has books to find a walk suitable for you.

Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there. With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

There is so much walking information online but it can be difficult to find. Walking in Norfolk (part of the John Harris Walking in England suite of websites) So check out the website and get walking! For further information contact [john@walkinginengland.co.uk](mailto:john@walkinginengland.co.uk)



## MEETING DATES

All Parish Council meetings below are currently scheduled to take place **virtually** from 7.30pm. The Press and Public are invited to attend any meeting. For details on how to join the meeting see the agenda, which is published on the website about 7 days before the meeting, or contact the Clerk. Residents can address the Council at the start of the meeting but may only speak thereafter with the permission of the Chairman.

The next two meetings are on:

**Wednesday 24th March (Ordinary meeting)**

**Wednesday 26th May (Annual meeting)**

Please join and see how your Council helps to make Fincham a better place to live.

## YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

### Chairman:

**John Delderfield 01366 348136**

### Councillors:

**Shaun Blackmur 01366 347345**

**Abigail Desborough 07957 965623**

**Andy Hudson-Smith 01366 348302**

**Sonja Hudson-Smith 01366 348302**

**Cathy O'Brien 01366 347279**

**Barbara Ponder 01366 348021**

**Dave Stringer 07500 046120**

### Your Borough Councillors are:

**Geoffrey Hipperson 01366 348277**

**Mike Howland 01366 387461**

### Your County Councillor Is:

**Brian Long 01945 430169**

### Clerk:

**Sarah Thorpe 01945 430930**

**Email: [finchampc@gmail.com](mailto:finchampc@gmail.com)**

**88 Smeeth Road  
Marshland St James,**

**Wisbech**

**PE14 8JF**

## REPORTING HIGHWAYS ISSUES

We would like to encourage residents to report issues affecting the roads and footpaths to the Highways Department by telephone on: 0344 800 8020; via Email: [highways@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:highways@norfolk.gov.uk) or on the website: [www.norfolk.gov.uk](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk)

If possible please provide a photo of the issue as this will help the Highways Department to locate it and also give them an idea of the scale of the problem.

## BUS TIMETABLE

### **Fincham Church Mondays to Thursdays, & Saturdays:**

Leaves at 10:31am returns from Downham Market Morrisons Car Park 1:15pm bus station area, back to Fincham.

## CHURCH NEWS

Bell ringing/practise is currently not taking place because of the restrictions that have been imposed since the first lockdown. Once services resume, three bells may be rung for a short time before a service.

The first communion service since December will be held on Sunday 28th March at 9.30am, everyone will be welcome to attend.

The service rota will be: 2nd Sunday 11am Morning Prayer  
4th Sunday 9.30am Holy Communion

The church is open every Saturday 10am-4pm for private prayer

## MOBILE POST OFFICE

Situated in the lay-by opposite Fincham Memorial Hall on:

Monday and Thursday 11:30 to 11:55

Tuesday and Wednesday 9:15 to 9:45

## MOBILE LIBRARY

We have been advised by Norfolk County Council that unfortunately they are not able to resume this service at the moment, due to the Covid 19 pandemic.

## MEMORIAL HALL

**Due to the Covid 19 Pandemic, most of the regular user groups of the Hall have been unable to meet. The Hall did reopen, with strict hygiene rules, although the latest government restrictions has meant that activities have stopped.**

**For details about hiring the Memorial Hall please contact Barbara Ponder on 01366 348021.**

The Parish Council has a website, which can be found at:  
[finchamparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk](http://finchamparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk)