



Fincham Parish Council Newsletter

Winter 2016

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!

Allotments

To Let

The Parish Council has vacant allotment plots at its site on Marham Road

Plots are currently £19 per year.

If you are interested in taking on a plot, please contact Sarah Thorpe on 01945 430930.

Reporting issues

The Parish Council regularly reports any problems with the roads or pavements to Highways. Any issue that is noticed and passed on to us is referred. Recently reported issues involve potholes on Downham Road, loose ironworks near The Green, damaged bridge on Boughton Road.

In recent months we have noticed that these issues have taken a while to resolve but we do continue to chase them up until the action is completed.

Anyone can report these type of issues directly to Norfolk County Council by calling 0344 800 8020 or via email on:

highways@norfolk.gov.uk or by visiting the website on www.norfolk.gov.uk

Some issues are the responsibility of the Borough Council, these include litter, graffiti, fly-tipping or dog-fouling, for these issues contact the Borough Council clean-up team on 0500 253 2687 (free to call), or email:

cleanup@west-norfolk.gov.uk

You can also report these issues on the Borough Council website by visiting www.west-norfolk.gov.uk and following the link on the left hand side for "Leisure & Public Space" then click on "Public Space" and follow the link to "Streetscenes Services."

For information on other services offered by the Borough Council, call 01553 616200, or visit www.west-norfolk.gov.uk

Precept for 2016/17

The Precept is the amount of money paid to us by the Borough Council who collect it from your Council Tax.

At the last meeting of the Parish Council a decision was made to increase this amount to £7527 for the financial year 2016/17, this will represent an increase of about 5%; for a Band D household this will mean a rise from £39.26 per annum to £41.20. We understand that

an increase of 5% seems a lot but it does only represent an extra £1.94 per annum for a Band D household. The Borough Council has cut the Council Tax Support Grant that it pays to us and therefore the 5% increase will add an extra £433 to the Parish Council income for the year.

The Parish Council reluctantly agreed that an increase was necessary in order to maintain the services that it provides and

ensure that its reserves do not continue to fall as they have done in the last two years. There is a recommended minimum of reserves that each Parish Council should hold and if our reserves continue to decrease each year we could be in danger of falling below this minimum.

We are aware that the level of Precept for Fincham is still significantly lower than it is for many other villages in the area.

CHANGES TO THE MOBILE POST OFFICE

The Mobile Post Office service was amended from 25th January 2016. The new times are:
Monday & Thursday from 13:10 to 13.35
Tuesday & Wednesday from 12:00 to 12:30.
A full range of Post Office services is on offer and it is situated in the lay-by opposite the Fincham Memorial Hall.

CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MOVES AWAY FROM THE AREA

All of the Parish Council were very sad to see the resignation of the Chairman Stewart Waterston from the Council due to him moving out of the area. He has lived in the village for over 20 years and always been a very active member of the community being involved in many local groups. He will be much missed on the Council. We wish him well for the future.



MEETING DATES

All meetings below take place at Fincham Memorial Hall from 7.30pm unless otherwise stated. The Press and Public are cordially invited to attend any meeting. Residents can address the Council at the start of the meeting but may only speak thereafter with the permission of the Chairman.

Wednesday 24th February

**Wednesday 27th April
(from 7pm for the Annual
Parish Assembly followed by a
Parish Council meeting)**

Wednesday 25th May (AGM)

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

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Councillors:

Shaun Blackmur 01366 347345

Tony Chivers 01366 347577

Roger Farmer 01366 347417

John Lynskey 01366 347694

Cathy O'Brien 01366 347279

Chris Perry 01366 347692

Joe Underhill 01366 347406

Your Borough Councillor Is :

Sandra Squire 01945 773283

Your County Councillor Is:

Brian Long 01945 430169

Clerk:

Sarah Thorpe 01945 430930

finchamp@gmail.com

88 Smeeth Road

Marshland St James, Wisbech

PE14 8JF

BUS TIMETABLE

Fincham Church Mondays to Thursdays, & Saturdays:

Leaves at 10:45am returns from Downham Market Morrisons Car Park 1:15pm bus station area, back to Fincham. Eagles Coaches provide **Tuesdays ONLY to King's Lynn** bus station, service number 18 from Fincham The Swan 10.00am. Returns from KL Bus Station at approx. 1:20pm stage number 2 bus stop.

Fridays ONLY from Marham:

Surgery bus stop 10:35am, calls at Shouldham, Fincham, Downham Market Bus Station, Morrisons car park. RETURNS from Downham Market Bus Station 12:35pm to Fincham followed on route to Marham then back to other villages as above.

Wednesdays ONLY Norwich Coach:

On 1st and 3rd of the month leaves Fincham 8:50am, through to Marham etc. and leaves Norwich at 13:25pm back to Marham, Fincham etc.

MOBILE LIBRARY

Route number DER 243 calls in the village on Tuesdays, normally every four weeks. The next visit is scheduled for **16th February** and will be in the following places for the times indicated:

- Outside the Methodist Church - between 14:45 and 14:55
- Lay-by opposite the Memorial Hall - between 15:00 and 15:15
- Churchill Crescent - between 15:20 and 15:35.

MEMORIAL HALL DATES

WI meets second Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm. For further details please contact Sue Westwood 01366 347305

Flower Club meets Thursday afternoons (24 sessions a year.) For further details call Wendy Bell 01366 347644

Histrionics, drama group, no meetings at present but if you are interested in joining please contact either Roy Claydon 01366 347407 or Jan Trattle 01366 347304

Keep Fit meets every Tuesday evening 6.30pm - 7.30pm. For further details contact Debbie Brooks 01366 500944

Fincham Chorus meets every Thursday at 7pm. New members always welcome, especially tenors. For further details contact John Delderfield 01366 348136

Quiz night is the first Friday of each month at 7.30pm. £2 per person entry fee.

For further details about hiring the Memorial Hall, please contact Janet Lynskey 01366 347694

The Parish Council has a website, which can be found at:
finchamparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk