

Fincham Parish Council

Newsletter

Winter 2020/21



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!

Covid 19 Pandemic

The Parish Council is still unable to hold face-to-face meetings but will continue to meet virtually. Residents are able to access the meetings by phone or computer. Please see the agenda for details and contact the Clerk, on the details overleaf, if you need assistance to access any meeting.

COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH SCHEME

The team recommenced checks in August and have recorded 67 offenders in the period up to the end of October.

The areas where most offenders have been recorded are Marham Road, with 37 in total on four occasions and High Street, opposite the Memorial Hall, with 25 in total on three occasions.

NEW PARISH COUNCILLORS

At the last Parish Council meeting, which was held on 23rd September, the Parish Council was pleased to co-opt Mr Andy Hudson-Smith and Mrs Sonja Hudson-Smith onto the Council as Parish Councillors.

We all look forward to working with them to help make Fincham a better place to live for residents.

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY FOOTPATHS

We are aware of a footpath from Boughton Road to Barton Bendish and another one on the circular walk through the Nature Reserve. We believe they have been regularly used by residents but are not officially recognised as they do not appear on the definitive map of footpaths which is held by Norfolk County Council.

We are keen to get these footpaths added to the map so they are not lost for good. In order to do this we still need to hear from residents who have used the footpaths.

If you have walked these routes in the past then please print off and complete the testimonial form on our website and return it to us.

STOP HATE IN NORFOLK

Norfolk Constabulary have relaunched the above initiative.

Norfolk is a safe county but sadly incidents do happen and take many forms. It is estimated that 80% of these crimes go unreported.

Further information can be found online at Norfolk.police.uk/stop-hate

SPEED ACTIVATED MESSAGING SIGN (SAM2)

A report was given at the last Parish Council meeting on the data recorded when the sign was installed opposite the Hall in August.

The number of vehicles recorded had reduced, this could be due to Covid 19 restrictions and a road closure. The data showed 7% of vehicles were above 35mph, which was a small improvement on previously data.

The full report is on the Parish Council website under 'Reports.'

RAF MARHAM FRIENDS CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Unfortunately this popular event has been cancelled this year due to the pandemic. RAF Marham are expecting it will return in 2021.

FINCHAM CIRCULAR WALK

The Fincham Circular Walk is a walk of approximately four and a half miles starting from the Memorial Hall and taking a route which is roughly parallel with Boughton Road until it reaches the Fincham Nature Reserve and then follows the track off Black Drove, before cutting across the land to return to the Hall.

Information on this walk, which includes a map, was reviewed last year and can still be found on the Parish Council website.

The walk takes approximately two hours at a steady pace, sturdy shoes are recommended. Unfortunately the walk is not suitable for pushchairs.

FINCHAMS CHARITIES TRUST

We have been asked to inform you that all households, in which there is a resident of over 70 years, or any widow/widower of any age, are entitled to money each Christmas from the Fincham Charities Trust.

If you believe you are entitled to this and have not received it previously, please phone Joe Underhill on 01366 347406 to give him the details.



MEETING DATES

All Ordinary Parish Council meetings below are currently scheduled to take place **virtually** from 7.30pm. The Press and Public are cordially 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 25th November 2020

Wednesday 27th January 2021

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

**88 Smeeth Road
Marshland St James,
Wisbech
PE14 8JF**

REPORTING HIGHWAYS ISSUES

Residents can report issues affecting the roads and footpaths to the Highways Department by telephone on: 0344 800 8020; via Email: highways@norfolk.gov.uk or on the website: www.norfolk.gov.uk

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.

Scheduled services in November have all been cancelled, but if restrictions are lifted for December the new service rota will be:

2nd Sunday 11 am Morning Prayer
2nd Thursday 10 am Holy Communion
4th Sunday 10 am Holy Communion

There will not be a carol service this year because singing is not encouraged at the moment, but the church intends to host Midnight Mass on 24th December at 11.30 pm.

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

Please accept our sincere apologies for the incorrect information in the last newsletter which advised that the service was running.

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 most activities will stop.

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