



Fincham Parish Council Newsletter

Winter
2022/23

What we do & how we can help

These are just some of the things the Parish Council deal with:-

- Allotments
- Planning
- Reporting pot holes, damage to roads, foot-paths or verges
- Rights of way
- Streetlights
- Dog waste bins
- Village events
- Practical solutions to village problems
- Local government or democracy matters

If you have something affecting village life, please get in touch (contact information overleaf) we might be able to help!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We've had to halt use of our SAM2 machine as it's heavy, requires regularly moving & has become too much for our current volunteer. If you can help please contact Cllr John Delderfield for details.

Speedwatch volunteers are also needed. Please contact Cllr Barbara Ponder for further information.

PRECEPT 2023/24

The Precept is the amount of money paid to us by the Borough Council, collected from your Council Tax. It's our main source of income. Due to higher costs an additional amount will be required to cover the budget shortfall. This amount will be finalised at the next meeting but an increase in line with inflation is anticipated.

SAD NEWS

It is with great sadness we share the news that our long standing Clerk Sarah Thorpe passed away in early December. Sarah worked for Fincham Parish Council since 2014 & was highly regarded by all. She will be greatly missed.

Our heartfelt condolences are with the family.

We hope to do something within the village to honour Sarah's memory in some way in the near future.

The funeral is due to take place on Thursday 5th January 2023.

LOCAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2023



Every 4 years local elections take place. The next election due being on 4th May 2023.

The 8 seats on the Parish Council will become vacant. Existing councillors must re-apply & anyone else interested (providing they meet the criteria) can also apply. If the number of applicants equals the number of vacancies, candidates will be declared elected unopposed (subject to the return of mandatory paperwork). If there are less applicants than vacancies, remaining vacancies may then be filled by co-option. If the number of candidates exceeds the number of vacancies then an election is held. Those with the most votes are declared elected (subject to the return of mandatory paperwork). This is known as the democratic process.

For more information visit www.west-norfolk.gov.uk (search 'upcoming elections'), www.electoralcommission.org.uk (search 'Parish Council elections') or contact the Clerk.

COST OF LIVING CRISIS

Some guidance & support may be found at:-

Norfolk Assistance Scheme (NAS) 0344 800 8020

Community Hot Spots <https://www.norfolkfoundation.com/hot-spots/>

Food banks & larders <https://www.norfolcalc.gov.uk/uploads/foodbanks-and-community-fridges-larders.pdf>.

Citizens Advice <https://www.cadat.org.uk/> or 0800 144 8848

Turn2us <https://www.turn2us.org.uk/>

FOOD DONATION POINTS

If you wish to donate to the Downham Market Food Bank items can be put in designated boxes which have been left at The Memorial Hall & Church

Ask Lilly 01553 616200

Libraries offer free sanitary products and toiletries

REMINDER FOR DOG OWNERS TO CLEAN UP AFTER THEIR DOGS

A reminder to all dog owners to please pick up after your dogs when using the foot-paths and Public Rights of Way. It's an offence to not clean up after your dog. Report issues online at <https://www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/> (search 'dog fouling' & follow the 'Report Dog Fouling' link) & it will be investigated. Please don't put up your own signs.



PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES

The Parish Council meet bi-monthly at Fincham Memorial Hall.

The next two scheduled meetings are:-

Wednesday 25th January 2023

(To be held in back room, enter via rear door on western wall of building)

Wednesday 22nd March 2023

at 7.00pm

Public & press are invited to attend.

Please come along & see how your Parish Council help make Fincham a better place to live.

The agenda for each meeting is placed on the notice board & website about 5 days before the meeting.

Residents are able to address the Council near the start of the meeting but may only speak thereafter with the permission of the Chairman.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Clerk (Locum)

E-mail: finchampc@gmail.com
Mobile: 07710 996682

Parish Council Chairman

John Delderfield 01366 348136

Parish 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

Borough Councillors

Mike Howland 01366 387461
Geoffrey Hipperson 01366 348277

County Councillor

Brian Long 01945 430169

REPORTING HIGHWAYS ISSUES

Please report issues affecting the roads & footpaths directly to the Highways Department:-

Website: www.norfolk.gov.uk

E-mail: highways@norfolk.gov.uk

Telephone: 0344 800 8020

Providing photo/s will assist in locating it & help give an idea of the scale of the problem.

BUS TIMETABLE

Mondays to Thursdays & Saturdays

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

****For continued service please keep using the buses****

CHURCH NEWS

The service rota is:-

2nd Sunday - 11am Morning Prayer

4th Sunday - 9.30am Holy Communion

2nd Thursday (February-November) - 10am Holy Communion

Everyone is welcome to attend.

The church is open 9.30am-4pm daily & has a selection of books & puzzles available.

The bell ringers practice on Tuesdays when numbers permit. They are looking for new members, particularly in preparation for the Coronation. Contact Pam Wakeling on 01366 500429 for details.

MOBILE POST OFFICE

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

Monday & Thursday - 11:30 to 11:55

Tuesday & Wednesday - 9:15 to 9:45

MOBILE LIBRARY

Route number EDE208 calls at Fincham on Tuesdays, normally every 28 days.

Visits are scheduled for **27th December, 24th January 2023, 21st February 2023 & 21st March 2023** at the following locations & times:-

Stop 36 - Lay-by opposite the Memorial Hall - 16:45 to 17:00

Stop 38 - Churchill Crescent - 17:05 to 17:15.

****This information is subject to change or amendment****

For all enquiries please call 01603 222303.

MEMORIAL HALL

The Memorial Hall is available for hire.

For information or to make a booking please contact

Barbara Ponder on 01366 348021

Website: finchamparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk