

CORPUSTY & SAXTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Norfolk

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Chairs report

Annual report of the Parish Council of Corpusty and Saxthorpe. May 10th 2023

The Parish Council will hold its annual Parish meeting on May 10th 2023 at 7.0pm

The elected Councillors are Imogen Waterson, Tony Barnett, Stephen Fenny, Lesley Last, Caroline Randell and John Birchall. Three more Councillors will be co-opted to the Council at a meeting immediately following this one.

Parish Council meetings were held on the third Tuesday of alternate months until September 2022 when they were moved to the second Wednesday. Meetings are held in the village hall.

We welcomed two families of Ukrainians to our village in June 2022. Two children were placed in Corpusty Primary School. The adults all found local work in the neighbourhood. They have now all returned to Ukraine. The second family very recently on Sunday 23rd April 2023. We thank the members of the village who volunteered in a number of ways to help support the Ukrainians.

The following activities and projects were completed during the year.

- **The Coronation of King Charles 111 celebration lunch at the village hall** was held on May 7th 2023. There was a hog roast provided by 'Graves' and donated by the Parish Council, and we also held competitions and races. The weather was kind and we were able to picnic outside. Many thanks to the organisers Lesley Last and Caroline Randell and all the others who helped on the day.

- **The Queen's Jubilee**

This was celebrated on June 4th 2022 by the lighting of a brazier on the village green. The evening was well attended. Beer and hot dogs from the Dukes Head were provided, funded by the Parish Council

- **September Hog roast and races**

A very successful hog roast was held on the village green in September 2022 with races organized by the Reverend David Longe

- **Annual bonfire and fireworks**

The first bonfire since Covid 19 on November 5th was attended by a record crowd. Although there was some flooding afterwards, the reseeded site has been very successful.

Amanda Yacoubian 5th May 2023

- **The river Bure has been restored**

The weir at the western end of the green was being seriously undermined . The bank on the southern side of the Bure below the weir has been reinforced, and the excess silt from run off from agricultural fields has been removed. This has restored the gravel bottom of the river. This work should reduce the flooding on the village green by allowing freer drainage from the existing pipes under the green.

- **Wind Farm developments**

Equinor and Vattenfall have both been given development permission. There is still a major concern that the government has not taken sufficient advice about health concerns during the construction phase. There is also a high level of concern about the number of large heavy vehicles which will be using the roads through the village over several years.

- **Development of land on either side of Adam's Lane.**

Planning consent for the Broadland Housing Association scheme off Norwich Road has remained postponed because of a Government directive about nutrient neutrality discharge into our rivers.

- **Corpusty Village School.**

The school has returned to 'GOOD' following a recent inspection by OFSTED

- **Our Parish Clerk:**

We have just appointed a new Parish Clerk, Amanda Yacoubian, following the resignation of our previous clerk.

- **Traffic Problems.**

The feasibility study into speeding around the village concluded that a mini roundabout at the junction of the B1149 with the B1345 was not possible. The highways department are looking into alternative approaches for speed reduction but have not reported back to us yet.

We await the placing of gates at the entrances to the village which have all been paid for.

- **The bottle bank**

This has continued to generate revenue for the Council and a decision was taken to donate the money in memory of Graham Sinclair to a charity of his widow's choice. She chose the Holt youth project. The next year's worth of bottle bank money has yet to be donated to a local charity.

- **The PC owns both telephone boxes in Little London and Saxthorpe.**

Many thanks to Concillors and members of the public for their efforts to keep them painted.

- **St. Peter's church**

The permanent exhibition of The Lettering Arts Trust, inside and outside the church has been much visited. The gates to the church yard have been restored by the Parish Council and look very good.

The possibility of installing electricity to the church will be explored again once the Broadland housing development gets underway.

At the moment there are no plans for a composting toilet at the churchyard.

- **Footpaths:**

Norfolk County Council has approved the correction to the designation of the public right of way route from Adam's Lane to the Norwich Road. The public right of way has been upgraded to a restricted byway as it was previously. Unfortunately, the correction of the route has not yet been achieved. Norfolk County Council enforcement officers are currently involved.

The further development of circular footpaths around the village still needs to be developed.

Amanda Yacoubian 5th May 2023

- **The defibrillator**

A new battery for the defibrillator was purchased. The defibrillator is kept outside the village shop in a prominent position.

- **Daffodil planting.**

The daffodils planted around the plough and on the entrance to the church car park bloomed well this year. The snow drops planted along the verge by the church also flowered well this year.

- **Tree planting**

Thanks to Councillor Randell more trees were obtained and planted in the 'Centre' grounds with permission from the village hall committee.

- **Internal Auditor,**

Unfortunately owing to the disappearance of the previous clerk and the PC computer, the internal audit has not been possible yet. The Police have been alerted and are actively seeking the return of the Parish Council property. As soon as the PC records are available the Internal Audit will take place.

- **Litter Clearance**

Further litter picks have taken place this year. Many thanks to all the volunteers. who took part.

- **Empty House in the centre of the Village.**

It is still extremely disappointing that very little progress has been made on the empty house in the centre of the village. The Parish Council still hopes that the NNDC will take further enforcement action.

Imogen Waterson (Chairman)