

Community Connection. 7 February, 2019.

Present at our meeting of 4 February were six council members, the Chair of the Allotment Association and our Parish Clerk. Dr. Amanda Mc Murray was welcomed to her first full meeting as a member of the Parish Council.

Referring to the minutes of our meeting of 7 January, it was reported that we had sent another letter to the parent company of the Ash Tree Farm chicken unit (Kenninghall). Again, we are requesting a meeting concerning the use of Fersfield as an 'unplanned' route for their articulated lorries – often at very unsociable hours. (Fersfield Common, which lies between Kenninghall & Fersfield, is a restricted rural lane.)

A significant item from 7 January was a review of the public meeting concerning the Greater Norwich Local Plan ('GNLP'). At that meeting a significant number of community members were present and their comments and suggestions had been welcomed. As a result of one of these, the Clerk has written to our MP, Richard Bacon, as suggested, and outlined some of the GNLP's effects on the Bressingham & Fersfield Community: we have asked for a meeting with him. It was suggested at this February meeting that we first discuss the issue with representatives of the District and County Councils and then meet with the MP, to discuss, among other things, communication and public consultation issues. We agreed the next PC meeting of 4 March could be used to discuss the GNLP with our county and district councillors – when they are expected to be present. (Barry Stone, District Councillor, whom we have not been able to see for some time owing to ill-health issues, has been asked, already, to attend this meeting.) There are certain fundamental questions we would all like to be answered, for example: what exactly is GNLP and what is its purpose; how were 'parcels' of land for possible development first identified and selected for initial consultation, who, exactly, will make the important decisions, what are the implications for a rural community and what communication procedures may we expect? We are aware that some of these questions are elementary and may already be covered, but we feel the need to establish a level playing field of understanding for our community is important.

Our meeting went on to discuss a planning application for a 'dwelling and garage' in School Road. As this road has had recent attention concerning traffic density, poor condition of roadway/verges, drainage for storm and foul water and junction implications with the A1066, we felt we could make no recommendation for or against approval at this stage.

On a happy note, we had received very positive comments about the new Pillar Box Corner sign (custom made in bleached oak for the PC!) This is an important location dear to our community. We were also pleased that the A1066 layby litter bins and associated signage are well under way (actually now completed and drawing more satisfied comment....)

We had also discussed the need to recruit new Parish Council members for May: we have had positive response to our notices about this, which included a 'mail shot' to every house via the 'Cockcrow' delivery system - we are very grateful to St. John's and St. Andrew's churches for accommodating this. PLEASE do go to the Bressingham & Fersfield Website and follow the links to get the information and YOUR forms to apply for election to join the Parish Council: we need you!

Please come to the Parish Council meeting of Monday 4 March if you can.