

Brandon Parva, Coston, Runhall and Welborne Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting

Around 20 people came to the Annual Parish Meeting on 19 April 2017. Unfortunately, Dean Sully, the project leader for the 'Fawly Tower' project at Welborne church was not able to come. We were very fortunate that Linda Groom and Richard Took were able to stand in for him.

Linda and Richard talked about the need for the project, the funding bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund and the trials and tribulations involved in their success. The work on the tower is now due to start in July this year. For updates on the project, keep an eye on the Welborne website, welborne.org.uk.

Notes of the meeting and written reports from the Parish Council and village organisations are on the Parish Council website bpcrwparishcouncil.info.

Anglian Water sewage scheme in Welborne

At the end May, Anglian Water have just finished:

- work on Church Lane – slow progress due to very tight working area.
- works to the grass triangle opposite the Church

The road closures of Church Road and Welborne Road will now begin.

Plans showing the proposed closures and the signage have been posted on the Welborne village website (welborne.org.uk) and also on the Parish Council website (bpcrwparishcouncil.info). It is possible that there may be further changes to the closures. If there are, details will be posted on both websites.

Noticeboards

Bev has ordered new noticeboards for Brandon Parva, Coston and Runhall. They will be installed as soon as possible. If you have a notice that you would like displayed, please drop them off at Bev Long's. The new Welborne noticeboard, outside the village hall, allows you to add notices direct.

Footpaths

The Council asks landowners to fulfil their responsibilities by clearing footpaths. The season approaches for youngsters doing their Duke of Edinburgh Award and they will likely get stung and lost in the near-by fields. Locals also miss out on some of our lovely walks in summer due to overgrown footpaths and cropped fields.

Jane Brown, our footpath warden in Runhall, is making good progress. We are still looking for volunteers to take on the role of footpath wardens in Brandon Parva, Coston and Welborne, either as individuals or with a friend, partner or another dog walker. If you would be interested in taking on the role in your village, please contact Bev Long.

Mobile phone reception

Please let us know if you find that your mobile phone reception is getting worse. Please let Bev know where you live and your network. Thank you.

Mobile Library Service

The mobile library service provides residents with the opportunity to borrow books and access other library and council services. The timetable for visits is on the parish council website.

Mobile libraries are free to join and are open to people of all ages. Items can be chosen from the vehicle or reserved via the online library catalogue or the Norfolk libraries app for collection from a mobile library. Items can be returned to any branch library or mobile library in Norfolk.

All vehicles are equipped with a lift for people with mobility problems, wheelchair users and prams/buggies.

Mobile libraries offer:

- Fiction books for adults and children (book request: adults - 60p, children - free)
- Non-fiction books for adults and children (subject requests are free)
- Large print books (book request 60p)
- DVDs for adults and children (a small charge applies)
- Audio books on CD and cassette tape (tapes free; a small charge applies for CDs for adults)
- Jigsaw puzzles (free)
- Long loan periods

15 books can be borrowed free of charge at any one time per person Mobile libraries do not charge for overdue books.

The Library Service offers a free e-mail reminder system to advise customers that the mobile library will be in their area within the next two days Anyone wishing to be added to the mailing lists should ask their mobile library driver for the green e-mail slip to complete, or alternatively contact us direct with their name, e-mail address and route number or village name.

The Library Service is keen to recruit more 'Mobile Library Friends' - volunteers who help promote the service by doing any of the following:

- Telling their friends/neighbours about the mobile library
- Delivering fliers locally
- Putting up posters
- Suggesting improvements/alternative stops.

If you might be interested, please speak to the mobile library driver or contact Karen Mills at the Norfolk Library & Information Service on 01603 222267 or 222303.

Community-based groups

A reminder about two new groups which have recently been set up:

You are invited to join Sally at Welborne Village Hall on the third Thursday of every month between 2.00pm and 3.30pm for a cup of tea/coffee and the chance to meet up with friends for a chat by the fire in the village hall. Optional book/puzzle exchange and, players permitting, a game of chess or two. Free to attend – just give a small donation to cover afternoon tea and coffee.

Jane Brown has set up a new monthly group called 'Meet and Make'. Meetings in Welborne Village Hall will be from 7.00pm to 9.00pm on the first Thursday of each month. You are invited to get creative or just enjoy a drink and a chat. If you need transport, please contact Jane on 01362 858598.

Chairman of the Parish Council

At the Council's meeting on 17 May, Mike Webb agreed to continue as chairman and Simon Guest was elected Vice Chairman.

South Norfolk Council 'Governance Review'

South Norfolk Council has a duty to review ward and parish boundaries every 10 years. As part of the review, the Parish Council has been asked to consider the following issues:

- How to achieve better democracy?
- How to make more effective and convenient?
- How to better reflect their community identities and interests?
- Are there any anomalous boundaries that do not reflect recent developments etc.?
- Views need to be supported by evidence
- Parish Councils need to think about their resources and their capacity to cope with changes

At our meeting on 17 May 2017, we questioned what the benefit would be of any change to parish boundaries. The only options for any possible merger would be with either Mattishall or Barnham Broom Parish Council. For historical reasons Welborne has more contact with Mattishall. Brandon Parva, Coston and Runhall have more links with Barnham Broom. Neither of these options would be acceptable to the whole parish.

In our Parish Plan survey two years ago, we asked 'Are you happy with the four villages remaining as the one present parish.' The majority of people were content with the current arrangements. Margaret Dewsbury, our County Councillor said that many Parish Councils felt the same.

We decided to tell South Norfolk Council that residents had recently said they did not want any change and that we, as the Parish Council, could not see any benefit of changing the existing boundaries.

Parish Council 2017 meeting dates

Remaining Parish Council meetings in 2017 will be on 19 July, 20 September and 29 November.

All meetings are in Welborne Village Hall and start at 7.30 pm. The council may have to hold additional meetings, particularly when we have to consider planning applications at short notice, and these will be advertised on village noticeboards and on our website. All residents are encouraged and welcome to come to meetings of the Council.

Parish responsibilities and contacts

Parish Clerk	Bev Long	01362 850162 but best contact is clerk@bpcrwparishcouncil.info
Chairman	Mike Webb	01362 850327
Vice Chairman	Simon Guest	07543 645351
Councillor	Carolyn Bailey	01603 757644
Councillor	Trevor Curson	01362 858184
Councillor	Andrew Egerton Smith	01362 850979
Councillor	Clare Kay	01603 757860
Councillor	Peter Wood	01362 850405
Fuel scheme co-ordinator	Jill Craig	01362 850113
Brandon Parva Litter Warden	Coralie Meadows	coralie.m@hotmail.co.uk
Coston + Runhall Litter Warden	Mark Gill and family	01603 759555
Welborne Litter Wardens	Brian and Margot Hancock	01362 858104
Runhall Footpath Warden	Jane Brown	01362 858598
County Councillor	Margaret Dewsbury	01603 759693
District Councillor	Michael Edney	01953 851342