# Works at the Recreation Centre

The Parish Council recently funded the construction of the additional patio area at the Recreation Centre, overlooking the sports pitches. This proved popular in the warmer weather of the late Summer. A memorial garden area was planted with raised beds and a memorial tablet with the names of the local men who died in the World Wars was fixed to the wall, together with a Tommy statue silhouette provided by Broadland District Council.

The Parish Council also paid part of the cost of the refurbishment of the public toilets at the entrance to the Recreation Centre and some money towards the resurfacing of the tennis courts.

# St Edmund’s Church

We also paid for a new mechanism for the clock at the Church – this one will self-reset after power cuts!

Land off Norwich Road/Mill Lane – 137 new homes

The Parish Council held a special meeting in August to look at the plans and decide on the response.

The councillors decided to object strongly to the plans because of:

* concerns about the lack of open space on the site
* only 4 unallocated parking spaces
* very little parking for residents, which would result in on-street parking and parking on verges and front gardens
* the high-density housing proposed for the north-east corner of the site
* the lack of a pavement on some of the roads
* bin collection points shown where planting was proposed
* the lack of evidence that refuse lorries could access all the site,
* keeping the emergency access free from parking at the north of the site
* the effect on wells for a couple of neighbouring properties
* the impact on existing trees and hedges
* the effect on the village of vehicle movements from an extra 137 homes, given that there is no way eastbound on to the A47 from the site.

Amended plans have just been produced by the developer. These do address some of the concerns, but not all, so the Council will be sending its comments to Broadland District Council again.

# Phone Box in The Street

Sadly, BT decided that usage of the phone box in The Street had been so slight that the phone should be removed. The Parish Council has paid £1 for the phone box and hopes to install a defibrillator in due course.

# Councillors

David Burnett resigned as parish councillor. We thank him for his time on the Council.

# Christmas

Looking ahead, we send our thanks to Rhino’s who pay for the Christmas tree, transport it and put it up for us, and also to the team of volunteers who make all the arrangements, and turn out to help on the day.

# Parking

Norfolk County Council says that the legal part of the consultation process is taking a very long time. Hopefully the final consultation will take place soon! The Parish Council is keen to remove all-day commuter parking from the village centre so as to support local businesses and residents.

Litter Picking

We’ve paid for an A-frame board with bags and litter picking tools, which Tamara at the Co-Operative Funeral Services will kindly store for us, and put out on The Green from time to time. The idea is that people with two minutes to spare can collect any litter in the area. This is as add-on to the fabulous work which is done by Mick Ward all year round.

# Banking

Lloyds Bank has a mobile branch at the Recreation Centre car park on Tuesdays from 10.00 to 12.15 and 13.00 to 14.45.

At the Post Office you can:

* Withdraw cash from your usual bank account using your card
* Pay cash into your usual bank account using a card or paying-in slip
* Check your bank balance using your card
* Deposit a cheque using a paying-in slip (though Nationwide customers can't do this)
* These banking services are available for free to customers of 28 banks. The Post Office says it's able to serve 99% of UK banking customers.

I read in the papers this week that Barclays have reversed their proposal to prevent their customers being able to withdraw cash from post offices, which is good news for Acle residents.

# Dates for your Diary

The next planned Parish Council meetings are Mondays, 25th November, 16th December, 27th January and 24th February, all at **7.00 pm** in the Methodist meeting room, with refreshments from 6.45pm. Residents are very welcome to attend all meetings.

Meetings are advertised on the board in The Street, on the websites and facebook.

Pauline James – parish clerk