

# ACLE PARISH COUNCIL

Community News - April 2021

## Annual Parish Meeting - 26th April at 6.30pm

The Annual Parish Meeting is the meeting of the parish and is for you to raise local concerns and issues. Obviously this year it will have to be held online, via Zoom. The link for the meeting is available on the Parish Council's website - details overleaf, or you can email the parish clerk for the link. Everyone is very welcome to attend.

Do join us for this event!

## The Chocolate Box

The Parish Council bought this building back in December. The councillors felt that it is really important to preserve this premises for retail and office space in the village street. Louisa will continue her newsagent's business in the downstairs shop. The building will be refurbished and updated. The Parish Council plans to use the offices for community purposes - more later.

## Former Barclays Building

Barclays gave up the lease on the building late last year. The Parish Council is currently getting plans drawn up to refurbish the building. The Pre-School will rent the right-hand side of the building, with one or two retail units being created for the left-hand part. There are two residential flats on the first-floor.

The Parish Councillors are very excited about these opportunities to increase services and facilities for the village.

Our usual newsletter could not be delivered by our volunteers during the pandemic so this is our first newsletter for over 12 months!

Parish clerk:

Pauline James

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## Support

Acle Foodbank has been running for a year now. Many, many thanks to residents who have donated food and money to support many local families. If you need short-term support with food you can leave a message on 07507 397227 or message via Acle Foodbank on facebook.

The staff at Broadland District Council offer more long-term support including:

- Provide food parcels, help to collect food from the shops, access to food banks
- Pick up medication from pharmacies
- Provide information about alleviating loneliness/isolation
- Provide information about support to reduce tension in the home, domestic abuse, children
- Provide debt and welfare advice for individuals and families who have are in financial difficulty due to the coronavirus.
- Provide practical advice for older people who find themselves more vulnerable as a result of coronavirus, and we will work closely with adult social care to do this.

Help is available from the Help Hub section on their website. For support please email: [helphub@broadland.gov.uk](mailto:helphub@broadland.gov.uk) or call 01603 430431.

The Norfolk Assistance Scheme helps people who are unable to meet their immediate needs or need practical support to set up home.

[Norfolk.gov.uk](http://Norfolk.gov.uk) for more details.

## Local Support

The Parish Council has been supporting local businesses with its Shop Local - Shop Acle campaign. Details of many local businesses are published on the VisitAcle website. We have also given grants to Acle Social Club, Acle Recreation Centre, Cricket Club and other local clubs and groups to support them to re-open in between lockdowns, while membership is lower than usual and with the increased costs of social distancing and making premises Covid-secure.

More generally we have given a donation to help with the re-thatching of St Edmund's Church, paid towards the new lights in the indoor bowls centre, and given grants to charities that we think could be of benefit to local residents.

We all have our fingers crossed that businesses and groups will be able to re-open soon!

## Land for a new cemetery

We are hopeful that we will purchase some land for a new cemetery soon, at the top of Pyebush Lane, on the way towards Fishley. The current cemetery is nearly full now. We plan to fence the new piece of land, plant a native hedge, sow some grass seed and keep some of the land for native wildflowers until the land is needed.

## Parking Restrictions

The process to get new parking restrictions in the village centre has been frustratingly slow. Following a second consultation, Norfolk County Council has made some adjustments to the original scheme, to reflect local residents' concerns about parking. The general idea is that all-day commuter parking in the village centre will not be permitted, thereby freeing up the parking for people to access village shops and offices.

## Acle Beeline

We're setting up a working party to leave a few verges uncut, to add wild flowers and to create more spaces for wildlife. To get involved, please contact the parish clerk.

## Elections

Elections will take place on Thursday, 6th May at the Recreation Centre, for Norfolk County Council and for the Police and Crime Commissioner.

## Websites

VisitAcle.com

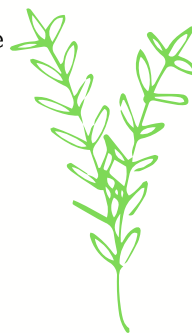
<https://aclepc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/>

## What does the Parish Council do?

- manages most of the village streetlights (those with a code and a number on, eg STE4)
- cuts the grass around the village
- manages the play areas in Damgate Lane, Springfield and Beighton Road
- comments on planning applications
- supports local clubs and groups
- manages assets including: Barclays building, Chocolate Box building, Fletcher Room (Pre-school), streetlights, benches, bins, allotments and the cemetery
- employs the parish clerk and the cleaner, both part-time
- pays the YMCA to run the Tuesday youth club and sports sessions
- nominates trustees to the Recreation Centre and to Acle Lands Trust
- meets monthly, usually on the last Monday of each month, at 7.00pm, currently on Zoom but, in normal times, in the Methodist Hall.

The current parish councillors are:

Angela Bishop - Chair  
Jamie Pizey - Vice-chair  
Sally Aldridge  
Sarah Carter  
Jackie Clover  
Barry Coveley  
Jayne Greenacre  
Tony Hemmingway  
Hannah Jackson  
Wendy Kenny  
Richard Powell



## Plastic-free Acle

The Council supports the reduction of single-use plastics and is working with local groups and businesses to cut out things which are designed to be used once only. Get in touch if you would like to be involved!