

ACLE PARISH COUNCIL

Community News - November 2023

Folly Tree House

Folly Tree House, which is named after the beautiful Folly Tree outside of the Dentists, is now officially open for business!!

We have 4 wonderful businesses occupying the premises. They are, Acle Stores, The Vault, Ideal Flooring and Guild Healthcare Limited.

The Parish Council brought the former Barclays Bank building back in 2016 when it was still occupied by the Bank up until they formally vacated in 2020. It was the aim of the Council to keep this prime village location as retail space and to bring something to the community that would really benefit the residents and keep the high street alive.

The journey of the renovation has not been straightforward and there were a number of bumps in the road to get to where we are today; the building company unfortunately ceased trading before the work was finished, there were major issues finding the mains water, and once we did find it we found a huge leak. This is only a few of the stories from the build!

We are proud to say we did indeed get there and we are hopeful this area will bring so much more to this already vibrant and exciting village.



COMMUNITY

Parish Clerk:
Pauline James
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Deputy Clerk:
Fiona Richardson
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07536 456161

Assistant Clerk:
Kristina Smyth
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07833 916928

The current parish councillors are:

Angela Bishop - Chair
Jamie Pizey - Vice-chair
Sally Aldridge
Sarah Carter
Jackie Clover
Barry Coveley
Indra Goodson
Tony Hemmingway
Wendy Kenny
Richard Powell
Jessica Royal
David Stephenson

Parish Meeting Dates

The Next Parish Council meetings are on:

Monday, 11th December (early because of Christmas)

Monday, 29th January

All at 7.00pm in the Methodist Church.

Residents are always welcome to attend, to raise local issues and concerns. Agendas are published online and on the noticeboard in The Street.

Websites

VisitAcle.com

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

New Assistant Clerk

Acle is a large village and the project list is ever growing, it became apparent this year that the workload exceeded the Clerk's and Deputy Clerk's hours. It was decided that an Assistant Clerk was needed in order to get work completed. We are pleased to welcome to the team Kristina Smyth. Kristina has been with us since March. She was initially on a temporary contract but has now been taken on as a permanent member of staff. It is important to note that although there are now 3 Clerks, they all work part time which roughly works out to a full time equivalent of 1 and a half staff.

The roles have been split for ease:

Clerk:

Meetings, minutes and finance (incl, budgets & payroll).

Deputy Clerk:

Folly Tree House, Chocolate Box/Brian Grint Centre, Damgate Play Area, Springfield Play Area, Public Toilets, Streetlights, Cemetery (old), policies, public correspondence & Neighbourhood Plan.

Assistant Clerk:

Fletcher Room (Pre-school building), Springfield Play Area, Street Furniture, Noticeboards, Youth Club, Men's Shed, Cemetery (new), Facebook and website pages, Allotments, grasscutting, Beeline & bus shelters.

Public Toilets

We are currently talking to Broadland District Council about the condition of the public toilets in The Street which are owned by them. The Parish Council have requested either a full refurbishment or some significant general repairs. These are ongoing discussions and we are hopeful we can update you further soon.

The public toilets are a huge asset to the community and surrounding area, it is clear that they are well used. If any residents would like to highlight their importance and the need for improvement to Broadland District Council this can be done on the link below.

<https://forms.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/pub/Compliments.ofml>.

Report a Problem

Did you know that you can report a Highways problem to Norfolk County Council?

The Highways in the village are owned and managed by Norfolk County Council. If you find any issues such as potholes, problems with public footpaths, flooded roads or pathways, overhanging hedges or bushes, NCC owned streetlights (these are the ones with the yellow labels on) you can report these to Norfolk County Council on

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads/report-a-problem>.

The Parish does report these issues as they come across them but of course if more people are reporting them the more quickly they are likely to be dealt with.

Note that the A47 is managed by National Highways.

Brian Grint Centre

Did you know you can now hire the Brian Grint Centre??

The Brian Centre, which is located above the Chocolate Box, is now available for short term hires. There are a two small rooms available. If you are interested in using the space for a short term hire you can find details on our website under the Brian Grint Centre or alternatively email acleclerks@googlegroups.com.



Foodbank

If you need a bit of help you can ring the Acle & District Foodbank on 0800 774 7286.