

East Rudham Village News



SUMMER 2021

MEMBERS OF EAST RUDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Tony Elburn (Chairman)	01485 528 273
Malcolm Pearson (Vice Chairman)	01485 529 086
John Dawson	01485 528 356
Rosemary Weeks	01485 576 138
Hedley Mines	01485 529 297
Susan Jones	01485 528 243
Rachel Wade	01485 528 921
Pauline Daisley-Brown	07584 192 846
Jodie Bond(clerk)	07703 464 409

Meetings of East Rudham Parish Council start at 7.15pm.
We welcome members of the public at our Parish meetings
The June meeting will be held on Tuesday 15th.
The July meeting will be held on Tuesday 20th.
The August meeting will be held on Tuesday 17th.

At the Rudhams Village Hall

**These dates may be subject to change
please refer to our website for updates.**

**The news letter is funded and produced by
East Rudham Parish Council**
eastrudhampc@gmail.com
www.eastrudhamparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk

News from the Parish Council.....

We have now reached step 3 of the Government Covid-19 Roadmap. Since 17th May 2021 restrictions were further eased so our Annual Parish Meeting was held in the Village Hall and future meetings are also expected to be held there.

Congratulations to Tony Elburn for being re-elected as Chairman, his twentieth year. He spends an incredible amount of time on Parish matters and is very grateful to Malcolm Pearson MBE who has been re-elected as Vice Chairman, for taking much of the paper based work over from him.

Thanks goes to you both for your continued support and efforts, which go above and beyond!

The outside picnic tables on The Green continue to be a success and will remain in situ throughout the summer holidays for people to enjoy, subject to regulations.

We are pleased to announce that we have been successful in our bid to receive funding from NCC Highways and from our County Councillor Michael Chenery's Members Fund. This is towards the dropped kerb that was requested to the west end of the school boundary, we are awaiting a start date for the work.

The remaining section of fencing on The Green has now been installed and the project completed. We hope you agree that not only does it look great, but it provides essential safety from the road which means that people who wish to use it for picnics, especially those with children, will feel safer.

We are continuing to monitor the speed of vehicles through the village with the information provides by Cllr Mines and hope to add a SAM 2 Unit in School Road set at 20mph for the safety of our school children.

Parish Councillors are continuing to work hard behind the scenes in an effort to prevent future flooding in our village and surrounding villages. Lord Dannatt's initial report on the Flooding Task Force for Norfolk is encouraging.

Please see following page for an update.

Jodie, Parish Clerk

FLOOD STRATEGY FOR NORFOLK

I am writing to update you on the progress of the Norfolk Strategic Flooding Alliance (NSFA) which was set up in February this year after significant surface water flooding issues in Norfolk in December 2020.

In these latest floods over 260 properties were flooded and 120 settlements affected.

Norfolk has considerable flood-related challenges when we have extreme weather events, and these are occurring more frequently as our climate changes. There are a large number of organisations who hold responsibilities to do with flood and water management within the county.

Creating a coherent and joined up approach is without doubt the key contribution the Alliance can make, and is an objective that is supported across all partners. To date we have held three board meetings attended by over twenty organisations and set up a number of working groups looking at specific issues.

Drafting a new flooding strategy for Norfolk

A draft strategy is currently being developed to reduce flood risk and improve water management. It articulates the purpose of the Alliance as partners working together so that Norfolk communities and infrastructure are safer and more resilient to the risks of inland and coastal flooding, and better placed to ensure adequate water supplies during droughts.

Inland and Coastal tactical groups are being established to support the work of the Alliance and are building on existing partnerships, such as Coastal Partnership East and Water Resources East, where possible. The strategy will be supported by a detailed action plan setting out dates and lead organisations against each action.

Improving emergency response to flooding

As well as coalescing around strategic matters, the group has also spent some time examining how we can improve our collective response when flooding occurs.

Norfolk County Council (NCC) has agreed to launch a flooding hotline that will be staffed 24/7 to ensure residents know where to go to get help in an emergency. We aim to have this new service up and running by the end of May2021.

NCC will sending out a leaflet to every household in Norfolk advertising the new number with advice on how to prepare for extreme weather, as well as using social media and an improved online offer giving information and advice.

The group has also been working with Norfolk Resilience Forum (NRF) to establish better ways of working in an emergency.

The NRF has committed to work with Parish Councils providing training to help improve local resilience and assistance in updating local emergency plans.

Lastly, at the request of the Norfolk Strategic Flooding Alliance, the Norfolk Resilience Forum will carry out a flooding exercise in the autumn to ensure the improvements to flood response are working.

Funding

Once the strategy is finalised and agreed by all partners, it will be used to build a clear and unified case for increased funding for flood mitigation and water management projects in Norfolk. As part of this the Alliance is drawing up a prioritised list of places that suffer from persistent flooding problems that have historically been unresolved. Alliance members have agreed to work together to identify technical solutions and the cost of these schemes will be built into the funding case. I hope you will agree that the Alliance has made considerable advances in a short time.

If you would like further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely, Richard Dannatt
General The Lord Dannatt GCB CBE MC DL Chair,
Norfolk Strategic Flooding Alliance

FOUR YEARS AND COUNTING

So who would have thought this is where we would be nearly 4 years on from when Jane & I took on what was then 'Foyers' and is now the thriving Jane's Coffee Corner. 'One' brand change, 'One' Pandemic, 'One' new kitchen and now a new business added (Pizza Corner) and here we are!

We are proud to be a family business owned by mother and daughter Jane & Rachel, with granddaughter / daughter Katie waiting in the wings to join the team as soon as she can!

We employ 11 local staff members who are just wonderful including brothers and sisters, aunties and nieces as well as friends all based in and around Rudham.

We feel it's so important to be as local as we can using Kews, before it closed at Christmas, and now the family business of Papworths in Fakenham. The Egg shop in Rudham, Fruit and Veg 2u, Smiths, Krusty Loaf and Tropic Coffee (who blend our own brand of coffee which you can buy in our gift shop).

Our business looks a little different since the pandemic with us making some changes and improvements- All the better for the business. We invested in our new kitchen installed by Simon Wade, purchased new double stack Italian Pizza ovens (which are in full swing on Friday & Saturday evenings) new prep stations and of course the new temporary outside seating area on the Green. A project we have worked on closely with our friends and neighbours from The Crown Inn with the carpentry skills of my husband making the benches for us.

As we head towards the summer we are looking forward to busy times. Our new internal layout seats 38 with an additional 10 in our new meeting room, 2 bright outside benches seating 8 people plus a share of the 48 seats on the Green means we have been able to add an additional 3 members to our team to keep you all fed and watered!

Our extended kitchen means an extended menu, More daily specials and of course extra cakes!

Our events return this year with our family Scavenger Hunt taking place on the

27th June with 3 additional dates of Craft Markets, Christmas Markets and Summer Fairs to be added in the near future.

One thing we have not mentioned is our large gift shop which boasts 12 local crafts people displaying and selling their wares with us.

Their handmade gifts give an extra dimension to our gift shop and are refreshed weekly so it's always worth a look around to see what has arrived!

Jane and I are both local to a Rudham and are proud to have called it home for many years. Jane, noticeably through her years of teaching, commitments to local organisations such as the WI and the legendary Play Week that she used to hold for the children of Village. You will see me in the coffee shop daily which I fit around my village commitments as local Parish Councillor and a governor of our beautiful Village Primary School.

From the 17th May we shall be open Tuesday - Saturday from 10-3pm (2pm closing on a Wednesday) and the Pizza Corner will be open on Friday 3.30-5.30pm and Saturday 3.30-6.30pm.

If you are a local village organisation or group we are always happy to support local fund raisers so please get in touch to see how we can help.

Rachel Wade
Jane's Coffee Corner



THE KINGS LYNN FESTIVAL 2021

The King's Lynn Festival team has been busy planning and programming the **2021 Festival** to ensure we can go ahead this year, despite the Covid-19 pandemic. This will mean that the Festival, which will take place from **July 18-31**, will not feature as many performances as usual, but one thing is certain, the quality of the events will be the usual very high standard.

Most concerts will be staged in three Lynn churches – **the Minster, St Nicholas' Chapel** and **All Saints** – which are spacious and airy and lend themselves well to social-distancing and have provided the setting for festival concerts throughout the event's 70-year history. The Corn Exchange currently has a key role as a vaccination centre this summer but **St George's Guildhall**, the building at the heart of the festival, will be available for performances.

One key feature of what would have been the **70th Festival last year – the 70th Festival exhibition** – will be shown at the **Fermoy Gallery and the Red Barn** in the Courtyard of St George's Guildhall. It is expected to be open to visitors for at least **three weeks in July and August**. The retrospective will reflect on the many outstanding exhibitions staged over the Festival's seven decades. One fascinating highlight of the exhibition will be a display of photographs of many of the **famous personalities** who featured in early festivals. The photos hung on the staircase in the Guildhall for many years but have recently been restored and reframed.

As planning for the festival has been delayed by the pandemic, the brochure with details of the programme of events will appear later than usual. The festival board is very appreciative of its many sponsors, patrons and friends whose support enables the festival to maintain its tradition of excellence.

ALISON CROOSE

SIMON WADE

Electrical Engineering Services

01485 528364 - 07876 508860

simon@sw-ees.co.uk

We are a local NICEIC Approved Contractor who provide electrical installations and maintenance services to Commercial and Agricultural premises
Based in West Rudham, we are ideally located to service our local area

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45 GRANGE COTTAGES - THE GRANGE - WEST RUDHAM - NORFOLK - PE318SY



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✉ reception@anchoragebarnvets.co.uk

🌐 www.anchoragebarnvets.co.uk



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ONE MILLION TREES

Opening in May, Norfolk County Council will be welcoming applications and offers of support to help achieve our ambitious plan to plant 1 million trees across the County, as part of our wider aims to deliver lasting environmental benefits throughout Norfolk. By giving each County Councillor a budget to spend, we believe this will provide a strong local approach to best establish, nurture and maintain trees and hedges, working alongside our partners to ensure this is best delivered for each individual areas across Norfolk, not just adopting a one size fits all model, but a locally tailored approach. With options including (but not limited to) planting more trees within hedgerows to setting up community tree nurseries, we look forward to welcoming applications and have provided a new map to help applications best plan where planting can yield the most benefit.

To find out more about NCC's planting ambitions and strategy please visit [1 Million Trees for Norfolk - Norfolk County Council](#). If you would like to get in touch please email Tom Russell Grant at tree.planting@norfolk.gov.uk.

PUBLICISE YOUR SOCIETY OR EVENT

We welcome contributions from villagers, local groups and societies for printing in the

East Rudham Parish Newsletter.

Please send to ernews@outlook.com

by August 10th 2021

For inclusion in the Autumn edition, delivered to every household and also published on our website

Advertisements are also very welcome,

½ page at £6/issue, full page at £12/issue.

Jane and Rachel Welcome You To JANE'S COFFEE CORNER



***Jane's Coffee Corner open Tues, Thurs, Fri, Sat. 9.30 - 3pm
Wed 9.30 - 2pm
(Last orders taken 30 minutes prior to closing)***

“PIZZA CORNER”

Pizza Corner open Fri 3.30-5.30pm & Sat 3.30-6.30pm

***For both bookings and enquiries
please call 01485 528 921
email janescoffeecorner@gmail.com
follow our face book pages for up to date
menu's and events***

***We have extensive seating inside and out plus the
additional benches on the village Green which will be
available to enjoy until the end of the Summer holidays.***

***For groups and organisations we have a meeting room.
We also have a Pop up shop space available to hire on
an Hourly/ Daily/ Weekly basis***

Pizzas Available For Take Away. Home Delivery Available

MUGA REPORT MAY 2021

We are very pleased to announce that we are planning to fully open the MUGA for members from Monday 17th May.

This will mean that the court will be open for use and no key will be needed to access it. Instead, we will go back to our notice board booking system.

If you want to book a session in advance all you need to do is check the weekly form and write your name down for the session you want.

You can also turn up to play at anytime without a booking but an advanced booking will always take precedence.

We would also ask you to remain vigilant and keep to the two metre distancing rule, use hand sanitiser before and after playing and to generally be careful.

As well as our individual members, quite a few community groups continue to use the MUGA for tennis, football and hockey.

Subscriptions for the year are now due and are as normal for the year: £20 for a family and £7 for single membership.

Clubs or coaches should contact :-

Dawn Collins, membership secretary for further information regarding fees on 07879 844501 or collinsdawn75@gmail.com.

To make it easier for members, payment can be made by bank transfer to - MUGA, sort code 20-30-81, account number 300005096. Reference your name. With enough money from membership fees we can still afford the necessary insurances and will be able to maintain the court in good condition.

We have planned the AGM, to be held on May 27th at 3pm at Wensum House, outdoors if necessary, when gathering together in larger groups should be permitted.

All are welcome to attend.

We have also planned a maintenance afternoon for Tuesday 1st June at 2pm if anyone would like to lend a hand.

Thank you for your support and understanding in these difficult times and most of all keep yourselves safe

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you give

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THE CHANCES PROJECT

Voluntary Norfolk's Employment Services Team are part of a new £4.9 million partnership project, led by Norfolk County Council, to help people get back into work and to support people that may find it difficult to work due to their health.

The Chances Project delivers personalised employment support to people both near to and far from work, including those seeking help with health conditions, employability skills, or a lack of self-confidence.

WHO WE CAN HELP

Aged 18 or over. Unemployed for one day or more. Living in the Norfolk area. Has the legal right to live and work in the UK. Motivated to move forwards and looking to make positive life changes.

WE CAN OFFER

Specially designed help for people who are not able to access current national support schemes One to one coaching to improve job prospects, skills, confidence and well being Support to overcome barriers to employment, such as transport, childcare or physical or learning disabilities. support and advice on job searching, CVs and application forms, access to a variety of voluntary positions and training opportunities, funding to purchase essential equipment or ID to increase employment prospects.

All of our support is locally based, bespoke, flexible, one-to-one, completely free and voluntary. As such, within reason there are no time limits on the support we give individuals. We will take the time to forge community links, trust and rapport with individuals and 'go the extra mile' for them where needed.

For more information contact your local Chances advisor:-

Kings Lynn - Amy.Griffiths@voluntarynorfolk.org.uk

Tel 07867 225 375

For general enquiries contact the Chances team chances@norfolk.gov.uk

Tel 01603228 929

2020/21 MY PERSPECTIVE AS YOUR BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

COVID

Obviously, the pandemic has dictated all activities and decisions throughout the year. Initially, this district was the hardest hit in Norfolk and the ONS reported more deaths in West Norfolk than elsewhere across the county. Of particular concern was the testing regime and the transference of untested people to and from the QEH and to care homes. The deprivation and poor health of some people living in Kings Lynn was an obvious contributor to the underlying cause, but people throughout the district were affected. I highlighted concerns over this to the CCG, but it took an open letter to our MPs to sensitise all concerned to this disproportionate effect. Events improved after the first wave and through the first lockdown which gave time to bring in more testing of vulnerable people in hospitals and care homes to stem the tide until the next wave struck in November. By then, the Council were obviously better prepared, as were other bodies, but there was still an issue over testing, self isolation and sick pay.

No full council meetings were held in April and May 2020, but then they started again using the Zoom video conference system and this continued until this month. Since highlighting the early issues with QEH, care homes and testing generally, Council members received specific update briefings from the hospital top team and throughout the year, the Council, via a cabinet member specifically appointed to manage the issue, Cllr Stuart Dark MBE, has issued progress reports and information to all Parish and Town Councils; also via the web site.

The position in this area is now in line with other parts of East Anglia.

The Council also supplemented its LILY system with council officers and volunteers to support vulnerable, lonely and digitally isolated people.

FINANCE

At the time of writing, I am still waiting for the February/March budget figures which are late. Late submission of financial information for members has been a feature all year and those interested in our fiscal position (and I can say that very few members are) have been continuously frustrated by the lack of information. What has been published demonstrates that we have not had sufficient support from the Government to compensate for our lack of revenue. This is of course common across all sectors be they business, leisure etc, but a Council has statutory obligations to meet and the Government are not supporting them.

We have had to use a significant portion of our General Reserve Fund to ensure a balanced budget (a Council obligation) and remain a going concern. This situation

will continue next year, but then there will be a black hole in the accounts, with no likelihood, on present trends, of this being filled in 2023/4 and beyond.

Notwithstanding this position, the Council kept the tax rise within designated limits and only raised a Band D property by £4.50. However, there are a variety of funds available to the Council provided we can submit an attractive bid.

Unfortunately, to date, the Borough has been unsuccessful. At present we have a Town Board consisting of some cabinet members, local business leaders and officers, (full details on the Borough web site) to create a vision for Kings Lynn and submit bids for “Levelling Up” monies.

A bid is in against the ‘Future High Street Fund’ and we may expect to hear the result shortly. The bid teams for ‘Levelling Up’ have been supplemented by representation from the Shakespeare Guildhall Trust and the CITB. I assume the latter for the Community Restoration Fund. There are too many funds to keep a track of!

Although small in comparison, we have been given grants for improving the look of the High Street through signage and benches etc. Monies for extra cleaning and COVID support in tourist areas, but, £600k, the majority of money received to date, has gone to ensuring the nurses training centre for the COWA and QEH comes to fruition.

There have also been a multitude of grants through the year to support smaller businesses and the Borough has processed over £60m to help keep these as going concerns and to support recovery.

‘EVERYONE IN’ INITIATIVE

This is also worthy of special note. Using a range of emergency accommodation options, including some new welfare cabins, we have ensured, as far as possible, that there are no rough sleepers in West Norfolk.

Districts across Norfolk have also joined a broader initiative for “no homeless in Norfolk”. Again, more Government money is needed and this initiative and our own ‘homeless strategy’, will be under threat when the moratorium on rent arrears is over.

CLIMATE EMERGENCY

This is one area where the Council has not come up to scratch. We started the year with Extinction Rebellion protesting in the Town Hall and daubing paint on the council offices. A cabinet member resigned and there was a vacuum for a few months. Following a reshuffle, Cllr Kunes was appointed as Cabinet Member for Carbon Reduction. A policy was agreed by Council, but with no strategy for aspects such as air quality, biodiversity, tree planting, refits for residents to make houses more energy efficient etc. etc. Furthermore, unlike many other councils, a climate emergency has yet to be declared and most of West Norfolk is vulnerable

to flooding. A cross party team of councillors and officers is currently looking to propose some goals, but I know of no timescale for this. However, we have received £2.84m from the Government to decarbonize council buildings. Received with thanks and the scheme should be finished by the end of September. Whether this is the best way to spend nearly £3m at the moment is open to individual judgement. Perhaps if there were no food banks and more child care.....?

WASTE REMOVAL

North, Breckland and West Norfolk Councils have combined to secure a more efficient arrangement with Serco who, thankfully, *TUPEd the existing crews. As a result, we should retain at least the level of service we have enjoyed so far and from the teams who have been working through COVID. Also, we will have newer trucks with lower emissions, better fuel consumption, together with some hybrid vehicles.

NHS RECOGNITION

There was a little controversy about why other party members were not invited to participate in the well publicised clapping event, but that was the prerogative of those in power. The Independent's recognition event took the form of boxes of confectionary. Either way, both forms of recognition were well deserved.

HOUSING AND PLANNING

As you would expect, house completions are down this year and are running about half the previous year; 300 compared to 600. Planning Applications have been suppressed, but are now being submitted at a pace.

The Local Plan review has been completed and a series of briefings and presentations is starting. Representatives from Parish and Town Councils will be offered the opportunity to review the process to date and advised on the future programme.

However, the process of planning approvals for Council's own development applications on council land has been brought into question following disputes on 2 cases. Kings Lynn Parkway and Hunstanton South End Car Park. For a start, these and similar applications have been considered in camera when they should have been open to public scrutiny. This has now been corrected, but damage has been done. There is also the suspicion of predetermination by the administration once significant sums have been spent through the planning process. Very often this expenditure is part of a Government Grant which has to be repaid if the plans are not approved, therefore, there is pressure to ensure the "right" decision is made. Members of the Planning Committee on scrutiny panels also have a difficult decision to make which damages effective scrutiny.

More will be heard of this. There is a Standards case under consideration.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

Whether it's been the effect of the pandemic or a deliberate ploy by the administration, it has been a difficult year for exercising the necessary checks and balances of proposals as they go through their various committee stages. I have always tried to put the interests of the residents and businesses first in any overview and assessment.

However, there is a change of leadership at the Council with Stuart Dark being appointed the new leader. I hope there will be a more open dialogue in the future for the net benefit of the Borough and its people.

Finally, there is a raft of issues which I have not mentioned specifically, but I am sure we will pick up through the year, such as flooding in the Creakes and helping to ensure actions from the Flood Alliance are not lost in bureaucracy; CITB and its future; Pop-Up camp sites and their impact; Processes to harvest and cope with tourism; Housing for local people; New planning proposals and their effect; And many more.

This is my perspective; others, of course, may see things differently. I haven't mentioned the County election. My congratulations to Michael; the important thing is to vote and exercise democracy. The regular turnout of 30 odd % in local elections needs addressing, probably through school years. The efforts of all men, and, in particular, women to achieve, voluntarily, universal suffrage should not be lost.

Lastly, the QEH Building is in dire straits. Although there is high level lobbying, all of us should get behind the various initiatives for a replacement hospital building.

Chris Morley

Independent Councillor, Bircham with Rudhams May 15, 2021

*TUPE stands for the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations and its purpose is to protect employees if the business in which they are employed changes hands. Its effect is to move employees and any liabilities associated with them from the old employer to the new employer by operation of law.

Latest update:-

The Hunstanton Application has now been approved. The development will be for local people.

The Parkway case may be the subject of a judicial review.

GOVERNMENT URGED TO FUND NEW HOSPITAL FOR KINGS LYNN

A letter signed by members of the *West Norfolk Partnership Strategy Group has been sent to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care Matt Hancock, urging him to fund a new hospital for King's Lynn & West Norfolk.

The letter cites the unacceptable safety risks inherent in the current building, which is being held up by around 200 props in over 40 areas of the hospital. It also cites the impact that emergency repair work has had on the effective running of the hospital, with the recent closure of the intensive care unit resulting in cancelled operations and delays for elective and day procedures.

The letter goes on to detail some of the benefits of having a new hospital, not least of which are cost savings, efficiencies through transformed and integrated services and of course a future-proofed, fit-for-purpose hospital to meet the needs of a growing population.

Lorraine Gore, Chief Executive of the Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk and one of the signatories on the letter, said: "We want to understand why the people of west Norfolk are being left behind. They deserve the improved clinical outcomes that can be delivered in 21st-century facilities. King's Lynn was not on the original list of 40 hospitals included in the 2020 spending review. We implore the Government to make sure that King's Lynn is on the list for funding that is likely to be announced this autumn.

"A modern, efficient hospital for west Norfolk is vital and should, or rather, must be prioritised for this funding."

David Pomfret, College of West Anglia Principal, said: "We urge the government to invest in our local healthcare provision to provide a safe and modern hospital facility for West Norfolk and the surrounding areas. The pre-existing problems the hospital faces have been compounded by the impact of the pandemic, which has further stressed the severity of the situation and the need to invest appropriately in our local healthcare provision." "We have a strong partnership with the QEH and other stakeholders in West Norfolk, with a new School of Nursing Studies set to take on the first cohort of QEH staff in early 2022. The School of Nursing Studies will create a wealth of local career and skills development opportunities for QEH staff members and West Norfolk, and provide modern, state-of-the-art training facilities for our apprentices.

"This project, combined with a successful bid for a new local hospital, would mean the very best of talent can stay local, improve the stability and quality of the QEH workforce and support the West Norfolk economy, as well as the wellbeing of communities in the local area."

*The West Norfolk Partnership is a strategic alliance of public sector and other providers in west Norfolk working together to improve the lives of our residents, support business and increase tourism.

An example is the Love West Norfolk campaign and current plans include working with Active Norfolk to improve the fitness and wellbeing of our residents.

The West Norfolk Partnership ensures strategic and operational decisions take into account the wider needs of the borough.

Information from KLWN Borough Planning Department

We are currently requesting a 4 week extension of time on the statutory determination period (8 weeks for Minor proposals, 13 weeks for Major proposals) at the validation stage. This is due to the impact Covid has had on the service and the fact we have, and continue to receive, a very high volume of planning applications. We hope that this is a short-term measure and we will be back to normal soon.

Consultation process

The timescale for consultees to respond to planning applications remains the same. If you are unable to respond within the statutory 21 day consultation period then please make the relevant case officer aware and in most cases an extension is likely to be accommodated. Comments will be considered and taken into account up until a decision is made on an application, although please note that comments made after the 21 day period may not be referred to sifting panel.

Planning Administration

Linked to the above comments on extensions of time, resources have been extremely stretched in Planning Admin. In recent weeks this has resulted in a backlog of applications waiting to be validated. As stated above despite the Covid pandemic we have seen a significant increase in the number of applications received. This, along with experiencing staff shortages on a number of occasions in the last six months or so, means there is currently a backlog of applications waiting to be validated. We are hoping to have more resources available in the validation team in the next month and this will help to reduce the backlog.

Scam Alert – Fake Online Adverts Selling Imported Products

We have received a report from a Norfolk resident who has fallen victim to an online scam after purchasing a fake product online. The resident believed they were purchasing a product that would be shipped from abroad, however after they had purchased the item, they received a further email stating that the product required an importation certificate at an additional cost. The resident paid this cost however they did not receive any further contact from the business and did not receive their product.

Scam Alert Calls claiming Your National Insurance Number Has Been Terminated

We are continuing to receive reports of automated telephone calls making claims about National Insurance numbers.

The caller states that your National Insurance number has been terminated and requests you to press 1 (do not press any number) in order to speak to an advisor. Some calls are claiming to be from the 'National Crime Agency', others are saying they are 'Inland Revenue'.

These calls are a **scam** and the claims made are **not genuine**. If you receive this type of call you can report it to HM Revenue & Customs by emailing **phishing@hmrc.gov.uk** including where possible the following details:

date and time of the call

phone number used

content of the call

'NEW' MOBILE POST OFFICE OPENING TIMES

MONDAY 9.20am - 10.20am

TUESDAY 9.20am - 10.20am

WEDNESDAY 15.10pm - 16.10pm

THURSDAY 9.20am - 10.20am

FRIDAY 10.20am - 11.20am

The Mobile Post Office is parked in the car park next to the village green

CURRENT SCAMS

East Rudham Parish Council receive regular information from Norfolk Police about Scams and Criminals active in our area. To enable this to be passed on to those living in our village, the information has been put on the parish council website. This is updated regularly as new information is received. For more urgent situations, there is a Stop Press section

www.eastrudhamparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk

Please have a look

SOME OF THE RECENT SCAM ALERTS

We are reminding residents to continue to be Scam Aware.

Action Fraud have put together a list of scams of which we should all be aware.

These include:-

Fake Government/DVLA emails informing you that your vehicle is not taxed because your payment did not go through to them,

Emails offering to assist with benefit applications

Fake phone calls from Royal Mail asking for shipping costs prior to delivery

Fake e mails from Hermes asking for personal information.

For more information on these scams, and advice should you receive one, can be found on the Action Fraud website or by calling 0300 123 2040

The Friends Against Scams partnership have also created a fact sheet to help raise awareness on coronavirus scams. Friends Against Scams help to protect and prevent people from becoming victims of scams. The fact sheet as well as information about becoming a Friend Against Scams and the free online awareness training available can be found on the Friends Against Scams website .

Do not ever give out

Passwords

Pin numbers

Bank details

Personal details

Do not let anyone unknown into the house

Do not leave a stranger unattended in the house

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

<i>Title</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Number</i>
Badminton	Tony Dessant	01485 528 514
Community Car Scheme		01485 520 823
Fakenham Surgery		01328 863 241
James Wild MP		james.wild.mp@parliament.uk
Horticultural Soc.	Trevor Williamson	01485 528 302
Litter/fly tipping hotline		0800 2532687
Massingham Surgery		01485 520 521
Docking Surgery		01485 521 135
MUGA	Maggie Pattison	01485 528 842
POLICE		101
Oil Buying Scheme	Susan Jones	01485 528 243
Rudham Primary School		01485 528 230
Village hall bookings	Julie Rouse	01485 528 376
WI	Jane Whewell	01485 528 159