

GREAT MASSINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

JANUARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The Parish Council convened at 7:30 pm on Monday, 27th January, with seven Councillors, seven members of the public and County Councillor Stuart Dark present. Apologies for absence were received from Borough Councillor A Beales.

Booking a visit to a Recycling centre

County Councillor Stuart Dark explained that the booking system introduced in November 2024 was a system that was widely used across the country and would help with service demand, reduce congestion and improve waiting times. Anyone wishing to visit a recycling centre must now book in advance. Bookings can be made up to one week ahead either online via the council's website or by phoning the customer service centre.

Slots are available every fifteen minutes and people can make a booking or cancel one right up until the time of the booking. People will be asked to give the registration number of the vehicle they will be using on the day. Business and trade waste customers will also be asked to provide their waste carriers licence number.

People do not have to book if they only want to visit the Re-use Shop but if they also want to leave waste in the same visit, then they need to book ahead.

Customers can find out more by picking up a leaflet at a recycling centre or at www.norfolk.gov.uk/recyclingbooking . Or call 0344 800 8020

Finance

As, is always the case in January, the Parish Council is required to agree the Precept for the next financial year, 2025/26 by 31st January. Therefore, the annual Budget and Precept were considered by the Council and it was agreed to increase the Band D contribution by £1.98 per month (over a 10 month period) which will result in a new annual payment of £91.25. Donations were also agreed for organisations inside and outside of the village, including the Community Car Scheme (£500), St Mary's Parochial Church Council (£350) and the Biodiversity Group (£250).

Parish Council Votes to Support Pub and Village Hall Parking Solutions

At the recent Parish Council meeting, members reviewed the results of the Parking Consultation, which saw 113 parishioners respond—representing 14.3% of eligible residents. A proposal was put forward to assume that the remaining 85% (680 parishioners) were either uninterested or indifferent to the issue. On this basis, a vote was held on whether to pursue the most supported solutions from the consultation: **to support and promote the existing parking allocations behind both the pub and the village hall**. The proposal received **seven votes in favor**. The Parish Council will now move forward with this initiative in line with the consultation findings.

The consultation was made available to every household in the village via The Mallard and was also available to access online to complete. The consultation concluded on 31st October, 2024. Here is a summary of Consultation Results.

1. Should the Parish Council Take Action to Address/Manage Parking in the Centre of the Village?

- Yes – something should be done: 61.9%
- Maybe/not sure – I would like to know more about the options available.: 21.2%
- No – keep the current arrangements: 16.8%

2. Should There Be Restrictions on Parking on the Greens or Other Spaces in the Village?

- Yes: 58.4%
- No: 26.5%
- Maybe/not sure – I would like some further information: 15.0%

3. Support for Specific Parking Solutions

- Allow parking on the Greens in specific areas: 36.3%
- Allow parking on the green during specific times of the day/week: 4.4%
- Allow parking on the Greens and install matting and signage to support this – up to 20 spaces (at a cost): 7.1%
- Allow parking on the main Greens only for specific events: 23.9%

- Restrict or ban parking on the green in front of the Pub and install a low-level fence: 15.9%
- Restrict or ban parking on ALL Greens and install a low-level fence: 18.6%
- Restrict or ban parking on the MAIN Greens and install a low-level fence: 28.3%
- Create better parking solutions on the highway/local roads: 29.2%
- Support/promote the current parking allocation in the Village Hall: 77.0%
- Support/promote the current parking allocation behind the pub: 79.7%

Potholes

More potholes seem to have appeared on the roads primarily because of the winter weather. A combination of heavy rain and freezing temperatures has caused the road surfaces to crumble. If you are being troubled by potholes that maybe aren't being attended to, please make Highways aware of the issue so it can be repaired. Anyone can report a highways problem including potholes to Norfolk County Council via their website <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads/report-a-problem>

Faulty Streetlights

We kindly urge residents who notice non-functioning or flickering streetlights to report them to the Parish Council as soon as possible. When reporting, please include the specific location and, if visible, the identification number on the pole.

Next Meeting and Contact Information

Our next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, 17th February, 2025 at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall. Residents are welcome to attend and have the opportunity to comment or ask questions during the public portion of the meeting.

****Please Note****: The Parish Council does not respond to posts on social media. We kindly ask that any comments, questions, or feedback be directed to the Clerk using the contact information below.

To contact the Clerk, Sarah Harvey you can telephone 01328 823391,

email gmparishclerk@gmail.com or write to Byanoak, Leicester Road, South Creake, NR21 9PW.