

GREAT MASSINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MAY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting was held prior to the Annual Parish Council meeting on the 15th May. A report on the annual activities of the Parish Council was received from the Chair, Peter James. Dr Mike Jackson, as Chair of the Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group, provided a report on the annual progress of the NDP process. The meeting agenda culminated with a period in which parishioners had an opportunity to question the Councillors present.

The May Annual Parish Council meeting followed, beginning at 7.30pm, with eight newly elected Parish Councillors in attendance – Robin Arbenz, Jon Cole, Mark Eldridge, Kim Frazer, Kevin Hobart, Peter James, Sue Nash, and Maria West. Alexis Brun was also re-elected but was not present. Six members of the public along with the newly elected Borough Councillor for the Massingham with Castle Acre Ward, Alistair Beales, were also present. Councillor Alistair Beales said that ‘he was delighted to have been elected and looked forward to representing Great Massingham’.

The first item on the meeting agenda was the election of Chair and Vice-Chair. Councillor Peter James was voted to the post of Chair and Councillor Maria West was voted to the position of Vice-Chair. These positions are elected annually, so both Councillors will remain in place until May 2024.

Finance

The annual accounts for the year ending 31st March, 2023, were approved by the Parish Council. The Internal Audit will be carried during May by Mr Roger Canwell and his auditor’s report will be presented to Council at the June meeting. Also, at this point the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) will be reviewed by the Parish Council and subsequently submitted to PKF Littlejohn LLP for external audit.

The end of year accounts will be available on the Parish Council website.

King’s Coronation

Thank you to everyone who came and supported the ‘King’s Coronation Celebratory Event’ on Saturday 6th May. Despite the weather we hope that you all enjoyed the entertainment and activities that were available and had a great time to mark, what will be for some of us, a once in a lifetime celebration.

The Parish Council expressed their thanks and appreciation to Cllr Mark Eldridge for all his efforts in orchestrating the event for the village as well as to those who also volunteered their time in to help make it a resounding success.

Free ‘Food for Thought’ Advice Sessions

Food for thought, the free advice sessions to help residents cook healthy and nutritional food on a budget, are returning to King’s Lynn.

The new location for the weekly sessions is St Faith’s Community Hub, Gayton Road in King’s Lynn. Lily, a service owned and managed by the Borough Council of King’s Lynn & West Norfolk, is organising another 10 weeks of interactive sessions held every Thursday from 9:30am until 11:30am.

The free-to-attend sessions allows people to drop-in and pick up some saving tips about how to cook healthy and tasty food without breaking the bank. The sessions are also family-friendly, sociable and you get to taste food cooked by a professional chef.

Sessions will be held every Thursday morning from 4 May until 6 July 2023 inside St Faith’s Community Hub, Gayton Road, King’s Lynn, PE30 4DZ. People can drop in any time between 9:30am and 11:30am and do not need to attend the whole session.

For more information on these sessions or free transport available please either email asklily@west-norfolk.gov.uk or telephone Lily on 01553 616200.

Mr Giles Orpen-Smellie, the **Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC)** will be hosting online **“Time to Talk” sessions**, which are open to the public and offer an opportunity for a 15 minute slot with the PCC either via Microsoft Teams or telephone to discuss any issues.

The dates these sessions are to be held are below and to book a slot please contact the PCC’s office directly at opccn@norfolk.police.uk or call 01953 424455.

Friday 21st July 9.30-12.30

Friday 18th August 9.30-12.30

Friday 3rd November 9.30-12.30

Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held in the Village Hall on 12th June at 7.30pm.

Members of the public are very welcome to join the meeting and there is an opportunity to make comments or ask questions of the Council during the first part of the meeting.

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.