

## GREAT MASSINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

### FEBRUARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The Parish Council meeting was held in the Village Hall on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February. Both the County Councillor Stuart Dark and Borough Councillor Alistair Beales were in attendance, and we were also pleased to welcome twelve parishioners too.

**Parish Councillor Vacancy to be filled by Co-option :** The necessary period under the Local Election Rules 2006 required to advertise the Casual Vacancy has concluded and the Parish Council have been advised by Electoral Services (BCKLWN) that they are able to co-opt in order to fill the vacancy left by Jon Cole.

*Are you interested in joining the Parish Council?*

A councillor is a member of the council and is normally elected for a term of four years. People of any political or religious persuasion are eligible to become a councillor for Great Massingham, although both their personal and political views should not extend into their parish council work.

Becoming a parish councillor is a rewarding and valued form of public service. All councillors contribute to the work of the Parish Council by:

- Having a say about the things they care about
- Putting forward ideas for better services
- Responding to the needs and views of parishioners
- Seeking the best outcome to local issues
- Getting involved in decision making
- Helping to make Great Massingham a better place to live!

We normally meet on the second Monday of the month. Meetings commence at 7.30 pm lasting around 2 hours at the Village Hall. Councillors are expected to attend meetings on a regular basis. Co-option for the vacancy will take place at the 11th March meeting and application forms should be returned to the Parish Clerk by Friday 8th March.

For further information or to obtain an application form please visit the Parish Council website (News) or contact Sarah Harvey (Clerk) by email [gmparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:gmparishclerk@gmail.com) or telephone 01328 823391.

**New Parish Councillor:** The Parish Council would like to welcome our new Parish Councillor – Oliver Locke – to the Council. Oliver was successfully co-opted on to the Council at the February meeting and we look forward to him joining us at the March meeting.

Parish Councillors met with the Highways Engineer for the area during February to discuss a range of current highway issues within the village. The main issues that were touched upon was the deteriorating state of the footway along Abbey Road, extension of the yellow hatching outside the School, the condition of footway along Castle Acre Road, flooding and drainage in the village. Any work that is programmed will not be executed immediately but will be dependent on priority and funding. County Councillor S Dark had made available £2,000 within his Local Member Fund so that white lining with the village can be completed during the warmer months.

The Parish Council has recently installed a new 140L litter bin along Weasenham Road, following removal of one of the smaller open topped bins. The new bin will be emptied by the Borough Council. Please can we ask once again that dog owners take responsibility for cleaning up after their dogs. This is unacceptable behaviour. There are many dog waste bins throughout the village where dog waste can be disposed. We would urge anyone who witnesses a dog fouling incident and/or have information on owners who are not picking up after their dogs, to report this to the BCKLWN using their online report form. To report dog fouling you will need the location of the dog mess and the details of the dog owner (if known).

The Parish Council has recently approved work to the Beech tree on the green opposite The Dabbling Duck PH. The work will be undertaken once conservation area consent has been approved by the

BCKLWN. The Council intends to replace the Christmas lighting for 2024 and is currently in the process of investigating costs for the lighting and installation.

At the March meeting the Council intends to discuss the possible installation of protective matting on the village greens to assist with parking and to alleviate some of the damage being caused.

**Next Meeting:** The next Parish Council meeting will be held in the Village Hall on 11<sup>th</sup> March 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.

**Please note that the Parish Council will not respond to posts on social media and would ask that any comments, complaints or compliments be directed to the Clerk via the contact details provided.**

To contact the Clerk, Sarah Harvey you can telephone 01328 823391, email [gmparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:gmparishclerk@gmail.com) or write to Byanoak, Leicester Road, South Creake, NR21 9PW.