

Coffee Morning
MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

Wednesday 2 October between 10:30am and 2:30pm at the Community Building

Hopefully, you will have received your Newsletter before the date of this event. There's a Coffee Morning every month in the Community Building, but this one is special. It's our chance to help support this amazing charity. Sadly, most of us will be affected directly or indirectly by cancer at some point in our lives, so let's do what we can to help ourselves and others. It's also a great chance to get out for an hour or so and meet with your friends and neighbours and have a good catch-up. If you can't make it to the event, you can still make a contribution on the dedicated Just Giving page at www.justgiving.com/CM24028572. Thank you. (This is not a Council-run event, but the Council did agree at their meeting on 17 September to donate £50 to the charity.)

Co-option to the Council

We still have only three Councillors. That means that there are four vacancies. Hopefully, you'll appreciate, as you read this Newsletter, the work that those three Councillors are doing to make life a little better in the village, but we really could do with some extra help. Maybe you're not up to the more physical activities, but there are other areas in which you could assist us, like policy review, research for grants and funding for projects, etc. What's really important to be aware of is that three Councillors is the bare minimum that we can legally operate with. If one of them cannot make a meeting, then the meeting must be postponed. If one of them has to, or chooses to, leave the Council, it could effectively fold altogether. So please, give it some thought and get in touch with the Clerk or any Councillor for more information.

Parish Council Contact Details

Gail Robinson (Parish Clerk) can be contacted on: 07594 410101 or emailed at parishcouncil@weasenhampc.org

Martin Romanovsky (Chairman) can be contacted on: 07913 031333 or emailed at mrweasenhampc@gmail.com

Tom McClenaghan (Vice-chairman) can be contacted on: 07809 375942 or emailed at tmweasenhampc@gmail.com

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Visit the Parish Council's website at: www.weasenhamparishcouncil.org



Welcome to the fifth edition of the Weasenhamp Parish Council Newsletter.

There is much to bring you this quarter and we hope that you'll find it interesting and informative.

You will probably have received another non-Council publication in the past few weeks. The Council is more focussed on getting things done in the village, so we will not be wasting time or space in this newsletter, or anywhere else, debating the points presented in that publication. That said, if anything that was presented causes you any concern, please feel free to contact the Clerk or any of the Councillors for an explanation or clarification.

Now, to more important business ...

BRIEF NOTES

Dangerous Tree

We recently had a tree surgeon remove a weak, and potentially dangerous bough, from a tree by the pond. This cost the Green Charity (of which the Council is the sole Trustee) £900. We are delighted to report, that we received a £900 donation from a parishioner to cover the cost.

Parish Council

Quarterly

Newsletter

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Dog Fouling

We are still finding dog mess on the Recreation Field. Please, if you're exercising your dog there, clean up after them. It's particularly important when they're off the lead to keep an eye on them. Our children and grandchildren play on this field, so please take responsibility for your pets.

Defibrillator

Your Councillors check the defibrillator at the Community Building regularly, but if you're passing it and you notice any problem, please contact one of them immediately.



It's particularly important to report to us if you notice the battery symbol (highlighted) flashing or missing.

What's Happening in the Village?

There are four new projects, which should be underway or completed by the time you read this Newsletter, and an update on a previous project



New Bench: A new bench will be sited near to the junction of Rougham End Road and the A1065. This was purchased following a request from a parishioner. They felt that it would make a great place to stop off for a rest on a walking route, and the Council agreed. The really good news is that there is no cost to the Parish for this! Half of the total cost will be paid for by Norfolk County

Council as part of a Parish Partnership Bid that Gail, our Clerk, submitted, and the other half is being covered by an exceptionally generous member of the public. The site around the bench was cleared by the Parish Council and we hope that it will be kept clear by Highways as part of their regular ground work.

New Bin: A Parishioner suggested that a bin by the bus shelter might be a good idea now that children are being picked up and dropped off there for school. This has been ordered and should be in place soon.

Concrete pads: Two new concrete pads will be installed at the Community Building. One by the main door, to make accessing the building easier for those less able, and another outside the fire door, making it safer to exit in an emergency.

New fence and lights: Another project that we've put a lot of work into is the fence around the car park at the Recreation Field. The old fence is being removed in its entirety and replaced with new posts and rails. The five-bar gate will be relocated to the entrance nearer the new footpath, and the gap left will be fenced, thus reducing the number of entry points to the field to one. We hope that this move will help to make the field more secure. Once the fence is completed, we have arranged for lighting to be fitted to some of the new posts. These will be turned on and off using the same switch as the path bollard lights, and will make the car park a much safer place in the darker evenings when attending events at the Community Building.

Old path: We're pleased to report that the old pathway on the Recreation Field is slowly returning to its former glory. A big thank you to the parishioners who donated the seed for this project.



What's Coming Next

We will soon be going out for estimates for improving the actual car parking space at the Recreation Field. As most will know, when it rains the area can become saturated and difficult to drive on. This could be an expensive job, but we'll be attempting to get some aid from Norfolk County Council through a Parish Partnership Bid.

Some of you will be aware of a bench sited by the old bowling green (on the Recreation Field). This bench, we understand, was a commemoration of the Coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. The bench has fallen into disrepair over the years, but we're going to try and have it totally refurbished. We thought that re-siting it halfway along the path to the Community Building might be a good place to allow people to stop, rest and admire the view. What do you think?

Another project that's in the pipeline is to paint the old container that sits at the bottom of the Recreation Field. It's watertight and provides us good storage space, so it's worth keeping, but it's a bit of an eyesore in its current state. We also plan to give the play equipment on the field a coat of preservative to help prolong its life. A few volunteers would make this all happen sooner.

We'll soon be investing in a new basketball hoop and backboard for the combination goal on the Recreation Field, as the current one is looking a bit tired.

We are also considering an offer of some tree saplings for the village and maybe creating a wild flower area along one or more sides of the Recreation Field. We'd really like to hear your thoughts on the tree offer and where they might go. It would also be great to hear from anybody who has experience of creating wild flower areas.

Another area where we'd appreciate your feedback concerns the noticeboard at the end of the lane into the Recreation Field. Do you use it? Do you want to keep it? If so, do you want the Council to refurbish it or maybe replace it? Please, let us know. We don't want to waste money on projects that nobody wants or needs.

One other big bit of work that needs to be undertaken soon, is the grass cutting contract for next year. We have a lot of grass in the village, which is great, but it's expensive to maintain. Very shortly, we'll be putting out a survey on this subject. We want to gather your views before we embark on any contract setting. It's important that you respond to the survey to help us get it right. Please watch out for the survey which we hope will be online and in paper format.

Community Building Hire: Please note that from 1 October 2024, all bookings for the Building will be cashless payment only. (Bank transfer or cheque.) This is considered 'best practice' for Councils.