

Rocklands Parish Council (RPC)
Minutes of Parish Council Meeting (Virtual meeting - held using Google Duo)
7.00pm on Monday 11 January 2021

Present:	David Howie	Chair
	Nickie Southgate	Vice Chair
	Tim Ford	
	Richard Harrison	
	Sarah Martin	
	Kim Austin	Clerk
	Ed Connolly	Norfolk County Councillor
	Sarah Suggitt	Breckland District Councillor

Also present: 8 members of the public joined the group meeting.
The meeting opened at 19:25

1. **To consider accepting apologies for absence**
Apologies were received from Al Bainbridge (AB). Despite checking the technology earlier in the day Al was not able to connect to the meeting. Apologies accepted from AB.
2. **To record declarations of interest from members in any items on the agenda**
There were no declarations of interest.
3. **To approve the minutes of the last council meeting on Monday 9 November 2020**
The minutes had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. All councillors approved the minutes and agreed they would be signed by the Chair, Cllr. David Howie after the meeting.
4. **To discuss any matters arising from the minutes (9 November 2020) not on the agenda.**
Footpath sign. Missing footpath sign has been reported by Cllr. Harrison. Has a job number and is on their to do list.
Building work. Concerns were raised about building work going on in the garden of April Cottage, Chapel Street. Not sure if complies with permitted development. Cllr. Suggitt mentioned report function on Breckland website for them to clarify. Post meeting note: The Parish Council wrote a polite letter asking for confirmation from the resident that the work was compliant with planning.
5. **To Co-opt two new Parish Councillors**
The vacancies have been advertised on the Parish noticeboard and in the Rocklander. So far, no body has come forward. The Clerk will ask for the advert to also be displayed on the website.
6. **To adjourn the meeting for public participation**
The meeting was adjourned at 19:31. There were no comments from the members of the public present.
7. **Update from our Norfolk County Councillor, Ed Connolly**
Cllr. Connolly continues to send reports from County by email on a weekly basis which is much appreciated. He is aware that flooding is a county wide issue with reports from Yaxham, Saham Toney and Shipdham to name but a few. A new leadership group, Mid Norfolk Flood Partnership (MNFP) has been set up to allow communities to work together, to improve communications and to identify actions, with an initial meeting being held on Friday 29 January 2021. Attendees will be Norfolk County Water Management team, Anglian Water and Norfolk resident associations.
Cllr. Harrison said that development in the villages was having enormous impact on flooding. Need assurance that inappropriate planning applications will not be approved in the future. In December 2020, an area of land in Rocklands where approval has been given for 7 dwellings was under water and certainly contributes to the flow of water down The Street. Rocklands opposed this application and it

Signed

Date

was refused by Breckland Council, however, all concerns were completely ignored and Breckland's decision was overturned by the Planning Inspectorate and approval granted.

Cllr. Connolly agreed flooding in the villages was unprecedented but NCC were on the case. Cllr. Harrison thanked Cllr. Connolly for this brilliant initiative. Post meeting note: Cllr. Harrison has been invited to join the MNFP as representative for Rocklands.

(Cllr. Connolly's report is attached at the end of this document.)

8. Update from our Breckland District Councillor, Sarah Suggitt

Just presented a balanced budget. Aim to protect and enhance some frontline services. Business support grants are available for self-employed and working from home. Hardship funds are available and can check for eligibility. This week launched support for the lonely and vulnerable. Contact Breckland and/or Sarah. Appreciate there have been some frustrations with planning. Agreed exports should be involved and need to object if appropriate. Cllr. Harrison said it was standard at the moment for NCC Flood Team to be asked to comment on planning applications, only if for more than 10 dwellings. Rocklands Parish Council will now contact the NCC Flood Team if they have concerns even for one dwelling.

9. To receive village reports

9.1 Village Shop and Post Office (Dave Seaton DS). No report. The Parish Council thanked the shop for staying open and keeping stocked and for doing so safely for all their customers.

9.2 Village Hall (Sarah Good SG) No report from Sarah but Dave Jones (DJ) reported that the hall had been largely closed since March 2020. Line dancers stopped just before Christmas. Some redecoration and refurbishment was done. New fence was erected to prevent toddlers from Toddlers Group wandering into the car park. They know it is erected the wrong way round with the flat side on the inside but hoping that when painted up it will blend in more. Looking to install CCTV at the hall. Thank you to Cllr. Harrison for looking into the issue of the open ditch eroding into the highway.

9.3 Little Rocky's Parent and Toddler Group (Sharon Brown). No report. Closed.

9.4 Rocklands Primary School (David Jones DJ)

DJ said it was a very challenging time for the School Federation. As with the first national lock down, Rocklands School is once again closed, with all vulnerable and key worker children attending Great Ellingham School. High quality online learning, including daily online teaching, is taking place. Children who cannot easily access online learning are having work packs delivered by staff. Children and families are being supported by teachers and teaching assistants working from home as well as support from the pastoral team. Places at Great Ellingham School are now full.

9.5 Rocklands Playing Fields (Sarah Good SG) No report.

Cllr. Howie said all is closed. Work to car park is nearly finished. There is a meeting on Thursday 14 January 2021.

9.6 Rockland St. Peter Church (RSP) (John Brown JB). No report

9.7 Rockland All Saints' Church (RAS) (Cath Jones CJ)

Cllr. Southgate read out the report from CJ. Due to COVID-19, all the usual Christmas services at All Saints were cancelled as it was considered that the premises are too cramped to be able to ensure larger congregations could attend safely, even with strict protocols in place. With Lockdown 3 now in place, the Government has said that, unlike Lockdown 1, churches etc. may open for worship so there has been discussion about how to proceed. Following this, there will be just one service in the Benefice (consisting of the 5 parishes of Rockland All Saints, Rockland St. Peter, Gt. Ellingham St. James, Lt. Ellingham St Peter and SS Peter and Paul in Shropham) each week, which would take place in St. James, being the largest building. This will be a short service with no music and a priest will be present for 30 minutes afterwards if any parishioner needs to speak privately. Masks are worn, hands sanitised on arrival, seating is distanced, contact details are taken and attendees are encouraged not to mingle before or after the service - not the church we are used to! (Many of the regulars at each church have

Signed

Date

chosen NOT to attend in the current situation, however, as they consider it too risky, as most are in the vulnerable category.) This arrangement will certainly continue during January after which there will be more discussion and further decisions made. (I personally think it is highly likely that it will go on until the current infection levels are down and the vaccination process has had time to take effect -but that is just my opinion, not a fact!). Although the buildings are not open, the two priests, Rev Christina Mason and Rev Sue Strutt are both available by phone or email and their contact details are in the Rocklander each month. Their pastoral work is still being done, with virtual visits or phone calls. I hope to be able to report a more positive outlook by next PC meeting but am not holding my breath !!

Stay safe, everyone that pinprick of light at the end of the tunnel will get bigger eventually!

9.8 White Hart Public House (Dave Thomas DT)

Cllr. Southgate read out an update from DT. Dave and Jayne wished everybody a Happy New Year. The month of January is normally a difficult month in our profession; of course this is compounded by all that has gone on in 2020 to not only our trade/business but also everyone within our supply chain. After careful consideration and for the sake of ourselves, customers and friends we have decided that we won't be providing any takeaway food service during the month of January. We will re-evaluate this on the 1st of February 2021, considering the demand from the village & any further government guidelines etc. We will of course keep everyone updated via notices outside our premises and our respective social media feeds. Obviously the most recent flooding issue is of great concern to us and we would support anything that would/could avoid a repeat performance. I not sure if you were aware or not but a customer of our Olley Wyeld and his father-in-law, Richard Baker, (who actually live in Little Ellingham/Anchor Corner) turned out during the small hours of the most recent event and using a tractor trailer bowser and lift pump made sterling efforts to prevent further damage to dwellings situated upon the pub side of The Street. I would therefore wholeheartedly suggest at the very least a letter of thanks perhaps be sent from the Parish Council to them both for their support on the night. During this lockdown we will of course be more than willing to support those in need within our Parish, if we can.

The PC agreed to send a letter of thanks to Olley Wyeld and Richard Baker.

9.9 To update on Chapel Green Meadow (Carolyn Emblen CE) No report.

9.10 To update on VE Day Grant money (Shena Scholes)

Shena reported that she was still waiting for quotes for companies to pave around the memorial flower bed. The remaining grant money is £379.22 Cllr. Howie would prefer a flag and flagpole rather than paving.

10.0 To report on financial matters

10.1 Precept setting 2021/2022

The Clerk had circulated accounts, actual and projected to March 2021 and a projected budget for 2021-2022 prior to the meeting in order to help the councillors agree the precept for the coming year. It was a unanimous decision for the precept to remain the same as last year at £6,200. The Clerk would complete the form. Cllr. Howie would sign tomorrow and the Clerk would return the form to Breckland by the deadline of 31 January 2021.

10.2 Damaged bench/Insurance claim. Still trying to find out who damaged the Parish Council bench near the memorial flowerbed. Contractors had been there cutting hedges and clearing ditches. NCC Highways, Breckland and Flagship had been asked about the damage but nobody had owned up to causing the damage or even having a job number for the work. PC not impressed. Whoever has driven their vehicle into the bench must know what they have done. The Clerk will send photographs to the bench supplier for advice. Clerk has received relevant claims forms from Insurance Company should we need to make a claim.

Signed

Date

10.3 Financial position

Bank account balances as at Monday 11 January 2021

Barclays Community Account	£	5550.34
Barclays Saver (Reserve) Account	£	336.78
TOTAL as per bank	£	5887.12

Summary

RPC Rocklands Parish Council	£	5257.30
RNP Rocklands Neighbourhood Plan (RG)	£	200.60
Rocklands Play Park (KR)	£	50.00
Norfolk Community Fund grant for VE DAY events	£	379.22
TOTAL as per bank	£	5887.12

10.4 Money in since last meeting (9 November 2020)

7/12/2020	Barclays Saver account interest	£	0.01
	TOTAL IN	£	0.01

10.5 Money out since last meeting (9 November 2020)

10.5.1 Standing Orders/Direct Debits

16/11/2020	Eon-Electricity (DD)	£	35.62
1/12/2020	Clerk's wages (SO)	£	273.87
16/12/2020	Eon-Electricity (DD)	£	34.46
4/1/2021	Clerk's wages (SO)	£	273.87
	TOTAL OUT	£	617.82

10.5.2 Cheques out (to sign)

CHQ 713	K&M Lighting - streetlight maint. (Dec/Jan21), shield	£	108.60
CHQ 714	Kim Austin (Clerk) Reimb. Cllr. Colenutt resig. Flowers	£	25.00
	TOTAL OUT	£	133.60

11. To consider planning applications

11.1 Planning outcomes since last meeting

3PL/2020/0944/HOU Router/Rose Cottage 59 The Street/2 Storey side extn. (203) **PERMISSION**

3PL/2020/1178/HOU Mayes/Windy Acre Bell Road/Single storey extensions (204) **PERMISSION**

3PL/2020/1140/HOU Garrod/Willow Cottage Sandy Lane/Oak Cart Lodge (205) **PERMISSION**

3PL/2020/1370/VAR Cotes/Land at Green Lane/Condition 15 variation (206) **WITHDRAWN**

3PL/2020/1120/F Warnes/Maggie Lane/New detached 1.5 storey dwelling (202) **REFUSED**

Site not adjacent to settlement boundary and allowed for personal use not business.

11.2 Applications **pending** outcome

11.3 **New** applications since last meeting (9 November 2020)

AND any other **NEW** applications since agenda was issued.

3PL/2020/1488/LU Coe/Fairfield 65 The Street/Demolish sheds and rebuild (207)

Cllr. Southgate summarised. Looking to knock down shed like structures and rebuild. Will look nicer, replacing woefully inadequate structures. Note that roofs are higher (2 feet) than would normally be allowed so are asking for dispensation. A small plot, but the footprint remains the same, so no increase in size. Can comment even though not asked to comment on an LU application. Cllr. Harrison confirmed this is for a Certificate of Lawfulness for permitted development. He was happy with this application assuming the neighbours were OK with it. Cllr. Southgate would check with neighbours.

A member of the public present was uncomfortable with this. A case of a developer maximising profit. A garage used as a dwelling now being converted to an annexe without change of use.

Post meeting note: This application 3PL/2020/1488/LU has been **WITHDRAWN**.

Cllr. Suggitt confirmed, she sends a list of all planning applications in the ward to PC every week. Residents can subscribe to Breckland and will receive all planning lists. Can opt out.

3PL/2020/0780/F 2Agri Ltd/Chalk Ln. Snetterton/Feed Mill (210)

Looking to build a Feed Mill/Bio Factory next to the existing power station. Based at Snetterton, this application will not affect Rocklands drastically. Traffic may increase along

Signed

Date

the Attleborough Road and may be able to see the light generated by the plant. Comments on the planning website from other surrounding villages show they are not happy for many reasons. Breckland are asking for comments from a wider audience with local knowledge. Cllr. Southgate will put together a few paragraphs and circulate to all Parish Councillors for comment. Another bioplant near Mount Pleasant/Shropham was mentioned. Cllr. Suggitt said the applicant had been asked to put together a 'travel plan' of goods in and out and staff movements. She was trying to make sure that items on the boundary are still notified. County has a reporting function as too does the Environment Agency (But usually smells and noise). Biogas plant on the Attleborough Road. Permit has just changed hands and Great Ellingham were not consulted on the plans for expansion. Cllr. Suggitt explained that 'waste' is dealt with by NCC and dealt with differently.

12. To update on Broadband (Sarah Martin SM)

Fully built. Waiting for admin planners, ~2 weeks' time. St. Peters into February and Mount Pleasant may be 3 weeks. Not sure how far it extends down Attleborough Road and Thieves Lane. Sarah wasn't sure how residents would be contacted but would certainly be posted on noticeboard when it goes live.

13. To update on First Time Sewerage System for Rocklands St. Peter

Cllr. Harrison had distributed this detailed report to all councillors prior to the meeting: Since asking for comments (08 October 2020) on my draft of our 'First Time Sewerage' information leaflet for residents, and having heard nothing further, I chased-up our contact at @One Alliance on 25 November. I was told: "We are planning some surveys to take place in the village over the coming months, once these have been planned, we will communicate and introduce the scheme to all residents." I was then asked not to publish the leaflet. When I prompted our contact on the previously stated 2022 start date for the project, I was told: "We are in the extremely early design stages of this project, the surveys will enable us to get the design started. As said previously, this scheme is due to start in 2022, it is unlikely that this will be brought forward as it takes roughly a year to fully design the scheme and to carry out our communication with residents. Once we have a preliminary design, we will invite The Parish Council to meet with us to discuss the scheme, where we can then think about publishing a leaflet. I had also repeated that the high groundwater levels North of Attleborough Road were continuing to give residents problems with their septic tanks - in order to highlight the importance of the new sewer. On 06 January 2021, PC Chair (Cllr. Dave Howie) wrote to the Pre-Development Senior Engineer at Anglian Water (our previous contact) - to see if she could pressure the @one Alliance for a more definitive date for the start of the sewerage project. He emphasised the now very serious problems that residents were having with their septic tank systems in the St. Peter area - following the heavy rains over the Christmas holiday. Unfortunately, she has little influence on the project going forward, and we received a reply from the @one Alliance, basically telling us what we had been told already. I replied to Cllr. Howie and County Cllr. Ed Connolly - emphasising again how serious the septic tank problems in the St. Peter area now were. Residents should note that, should they wish to highlight the problems they are having due to a lack of a sewer, they should email: Lucy Foster, Customer Service Coordinator, @one Alliance. lfoster3@anglianwater.co.uk. This will hopefully give more weight to our case.

14. To update on the Rocklands Neighbourhood Plan (RNP) and Local Plan (LP)

Work on the Neighbourhood Plan has been curtailed by the Covid situation. RG will contact Susan Heinrich in case any time constraints need to be extended.

15. To update on SID (Flashing Speed sign) (Cllr. Harrison RH)

Cllr. Harrison had distributed this detailed report to all councillors prior to the meeting. Since our last meeting, a further two deployments of the SID have been completed as follows: Attleborough Road, vehicles from Caston

Deployed: 12:00 hrs 02 November 2020
Finished: 12:00 hrs 03 December 2020

Signed

Date

The analysis results show:

31,201 vehicles detected

Average 1,007 vehicles/day

Morning peak time - 07:45 to 08:45

Afternoon peak time - 15:30 to 16:30

28,173 vehicles (90.3%) within 40 mph speed limit

3,028 vehicles (9.7%) exceeding speed limit

- of which 528 vehicles (1.7%) over 45 mph - and likely open to a fine*

Top speed: 60 mph - 11/11/2020 @ 14:35 hrs#

The Street, vehicles from B1077 Crossroads

Deployed: 12:00 hrs 03 December 2020

Finished: 15:00 hrs 03 January 2021

The analysis results show:

9,337 vehicles detected

Average 300 vehicles/day

Morning peak time - 11:15 to 12:15

Afternoon peak time - 14:45 to 15:45

7,134 vehicles (76.4%) within 30 mph speed limit

2,203 vehicles (23.6%) exceeding speed limit

- of which 495 vehicles (5.3%) over 35 mph - and likely open to a fine*

Top speed: 50 mph - 04/12/2020 @ 13:10 hrs#

For the deployment at the Caston-facing position:

- vehicle movements averaged 1,007 per day - an increase of 21% since last monitoring here.
- vehicles speeding numbered 3,028 (9.7%) - an encouraging 33% relative decrease.
- vehicles open to enforcement action numbered 528 (1.7%) - an encouraging 48% relative decrease.

Whilst observing an encouraging relative decrease in speeding, weather conditions may have had an influence here.

Since the last deployment at the Crossroads-facing position:

- vehicle movements averaged 300 per day - a 10% reduction in daily traffic volumes.
- vehicles speeding numbered 2,203 (23.6%) - a 7% smaller proportion of vehicles speeding.
- vehicles open to enforcement action numbered 495 (5.3%) - a 2% smaller proportion of vehicles open to enforcement.

Overall, a smaller number of speeding vehicles - but still almost a quarter exceeding the speed limit.

Once again, sincere thanks to Cllr. Tim Ford for his help in relocating the speed sign.

* The SID is limited to grouping vehicle speeds into 5mph blocks. However, for a 40mph speed limit, enforcement action is normally applied at 46mph and above - so a very small proportion of vehicles above 45mph could arguably be travelling at less than 46mph (e.g. 45.5mph). The SID also has a specified accuracy of ± 0.5 mph. Enforcement action is not always a fine - depending on circumstances, drivers may be offered a speed awareness course.

40mph Speed Limit Signs

I again wrote to NCC Highways, in another attempt to get the 40mph speed limit signs (for traffic approaching from Great Ellingham) on Attleborough Road moved - around the bend near Plantation Farm - so that traffic would have much earlier warning of the speed limit along Attleborough Road. I provided the full table of speed sign data for 12 months - together with the 85th percentile average speeds for each monitoring period, all of which were easily in excess of 40mph. The response from NCC Highways concluded: "In our view the 40mph is already extended from the more built-up area of Rocklands. Extending the 40mph further northwest will dilute the speed limit and reduce the impact of the 40mph terminal signs. This could actually be detrimental to speed limit compliance further into the village. I would therefore not recommend extending the speed limit as you suggest." - and, on asking what more should we do then to curb excessive speeds: "The figures you quote suggest reasonable compliance with the 40 limit and we do not think that the issues you describe are of such magnitude that we could

Signed

Date

offer any realistic advice about how to reduce speeds further. We would support your use of the SAM2 unit to help raising driver awareness."

Unfortunately, we are nowhere further forward with speeding traffic on Attleborough Road.

(Analysis tables are attached to these minutes.)

16. To update on Highways

Highways have recently cut the drainage ditches and runoffs that they do every year. The PC received an email from a resident concerned that the work hadn't been properly. They reported the work had created dams, making flooding worse and creating more necessary remedial work. Another resident commented that drainage grips have been dug out, but large amounts of earth have been pushed into

the ditches, which is not helpful. The Clerk would raise the issue with Highways by contacting Matt Worden.

Post Meeting Note: Response from Highways: The Council maintains grips to drain the rural road network and this is common practice nationally where road edges do not allow easy soakage. Ideally, where landowners' ditches are well maintained, they provide a channel where water can flow off the highway. However, even where they do not link to a ditch, they increase the volume of holding capacity and therefore the permeable area allowing more rapid soakage into the adjacent ground.

It is often the case that the grips do not always go through to the ditch and the contractor was re-cutting what was originally there. However, if necessary, more substantial works can be arranged. These works could see the grips connected right through to the ditch, which will require much more extensive cutting works requiring different equipment to the routine grip cutting and also the approval of the local landowner, who is responsible for the ditch to which the grips will be connected into. If this can be obtained additional work can be arranged, which will be completed as soon as resources allow.

17. To update on Flooding (RH) (Including sandbags and pump)

Cllr. Harrison had distributed this report to all councillors before the meeting:

On 16th December, I met at the Village Hall with Dave Jones, James Alger (Village Hall caretaker), Cyril Ruffles and Frank Gumb. The purpose was to discuss the best solution to the deteriorating bank adjacent to the road, and maintenance of the ditch in general. I invited Frank as, prior to retirement, he ran a drainage engineering company.

It was agreed that stone-filled gabions (wire baskets) would be a robust solution and, to this effect, I wrote to NCC Flood Risk Team and NCC Highways on 17 December - supplying a description of the proposed works, with photographs and satellite images - asking for guidance on permissions and procedures. I received a helpful response from NCC Flood Risk team later that day but have yet to receive a response from NCC Highways. A source of funding is yet to be established, as such works would be beyond the Parish Council funds and would need to identify grants to fund the work. Cllr. Connolly mentioned his highways allowance but couldn't comment until after the elections. The Parish Council hoped Cllr. Connolly would be re-elected as he has always been very helpful to the village.

On 23 December, the village (as did numerous parts of the UK) suffered extremely heavy rainfall which resulted in serious surface water flooding - principally in The Street, Mill Lane and Low Lane. I was alerted to a serious flooding situation in The Street at approx. 10pm by Dave Jones. I picked-up Cllr. Howie and traversed the area, speaking with residents and taking photographs and video clips to supply a record for the NCC Flood Risk Team, and the PC Flooding file. Some residents had also alerted the Fire & Rescue service, and I did so on behalf of the PC just before midnight. Given the widespread flooding - Norfolk and beyond - the Fire & Rescue service were exceptionally busy, but I was told that two units arrived on The Street to help at approx. 1:30 and 2:00am. Those properties subjected to significant flooding previously were prepared and had deployed sandbags and/or pumps. Unfortunately, two properties at the South end of the Street had suffered flooding into their ground floor rooms.

The following day, Christmas Eve, I reported the flooding event to the NCC Water Management and Flood Risk teams at County Hall - also to our County Councillor, Ed Connolly.

Signed

Date

Cllr. Ford and I walked the area - talking to residents to ascertain what help was needed, to get a better picture of events, and offering advice on such things as individual reporting of flooding, and what the PC is doing. It was noticeable that a large amount of water was being held on the land on the corner of Mill Lane and Green Lane - and flooding out across the road, down towards the road drain on the corner and because this was already overloaded, down the East side of The Street towards pub. Subsequently, there were problems at the sewage pumping station - also reported by residents and the PC, but they took some time to resolve it.

It was stressed that residents must contact NCC Flooding team to record water entering their property or garage.

Investigations and lobbying of District and County Councils will continue, and the Parish Council remain determined to do all they are able, to help alleviate the flooding problems in Rocklands.

Cllr. Harrison agreed to send a copy of the 2007 Rocklands flood report to Jean and Barrie Webb.

Comments from members of the public present. Lots of water coming down The Street towards Magpie Lane. Not sure where it goes after. Doubt that ditches at Rookery and Mary's have been cleared and excavated. Need PC to accompany an investigation. Cllr. Harrison agreed and happy to accompany Dave Jones and Al Bainbridge. Landowners are responsible for the ditches. Flood Risk Team would write to landowners. Cllr. Southgate said she thought Daniel Landing would be happy with that and Dean Houchen would know how to get in touch with Mary. A survey of the culvert system in Mill Lane, The Street and Low Lane (not Magpie Lane) was carried out by NCC Flood team at their expense.

A private Facebook page has been set up by Andrew Roebuck. DJ confirmed it is called Rocklands Flooding Forum and contains flooding photographs.

The worst thing was that the pumping system failed. Cllr. Harrison clarified that the new system North of the Attleborough Road would not connect to existing but would have its own pumping station. Not so with the 7 dwellings approved on the corner of Mill Lane. This was pointed out at the Planning Committee meeting but was ignored. Was appealed and approved by Planning Inspectorate. The flooding situation has worsened. Good if no more development were allowed until flooding issues sorted. Cllr. Howie asked if Cllrs. Suggitt and Connolly could bring up that the Pumping Station could not cope.

Sandbags. Thank you to Cllr. Ford for researching costs and suppliers of Sandbags. It was agreed that two pallets of 15kg sandbags (Easier to move than the normal 20kg bags) would be ordered and delivered to the Village Hall where they would be stored (behind the bottle bank) for residents to borrow. Agreed with Village Hall Committee and DJ and Cyril would be present when delivered. Cllrs. Martin and Ford will keep track of who has borrowed them. Sandbags would be advertised on the Parish Notice board/website and Rocklands Facebook page.

Residents should return them to the Village Hall as soon as they can for others to use.

Post meeting note: The Mann Trust has agreed to match the spend and purchase another two pallets if required. Sandbags do have a shelf life. They should be stored out of sunlight and in a dry place to prolong life. Will contact Mann Trust if the need arises.

Breeze blocks. A resident said blocks were also good for keeping out water. They do not degrade and are easy to move.

Water Pumps. The PC used to have a pump for residents to borrow but it disappeared a few years ago. A useful pump would need to be a heavy duty 'dirty' water pump that could deal with semi-solids. It would need to be petrol as would not be able to rely on electricity in flood circumstances and capable of pumping 700 litres/min. A suitable pump would be expensive (£400-£500) and one pump would not be enough. It was thought that properties, more prone to flooding in the pas already had their own pumps. Some had more than one as one wasn't enough.

Thanks. The Parish Council proposed a sincere vote of thanks to Al Bainbridge who has been very busy helping during the recent flooding, digging out ditches at his end of the street. Al Bainbridge has strong feelings about flooding in the village.

Signed

Date

18. To discuss any correspondence.

Dog Poo. The clerk had received an email report of a ridiculous amount of dog poo in Flymoor Lane and in a front garden on Scoulton Road. Also reports in Wayland Road. Also, dog poo had been seen scattered around on the footpath behind Ridgeons. Cllr. Martin agreed to display notices in all the problem areas noted.

Parking in Wayland Road. The Clerk had received an email regards problem parking in Wayland Road. With damage to the grass verges. Cllr. Howie said this had been discussed at length before. He agreed the road is narrow and parking on the road can block the road for others. There is some parking at the rear but understandably, residents want to park outside their own property. Cllr. Howie had visited with Highways who said there was nothing they could do. No money to widen the road and with Flagship who said there was no money to facilitate parking in the front gardens.

Donation of trees ? Cllr. Howie thought there had been an email of an offer of trees ? Did anyone else receive this email ?

Flagship tree planting. Wayland Road. At the bottom of the close Flagship maintains a small area of grass behind a gate where they are hoping to plant 20-30 trees, as part of their green project. Flagship asked if the Parish Council would be happy with this. The PC's only concern would be if in the future, these trees blocked access to the land that potentially a new school could be built on. Should the access be kept clear just in case ? After some discussion, it was agreed there was no point in objecting as could be removed, if necessary, in the future, if the school project came to fruition. The Clerk would confirm to Flagship, Parish Council OK with tree planting in specified area.

19. AOB

The Rocklander. It had been rumoured that the February issue would be the last, due to the printer running at a loss. Hopefully, someone in the village may take this on.

20. Date of next Meeting - Monday 8 March 2021, 7pm (A virtual meeting)

The meeting closed at 22.20

Report from Edward Connolly, Norfolk County Councillor

Extract from a letter from Andrew Proctor leader of NCC.

2020 has been a year that most of us will not forget in a hurry. The pandemic has affected every part of how we live our lives. More importantly, it has brought out the best in people. Norfolk's response, to keep people safe and support the vulnerable, has been truly inspiring. Although Norfolk has not been hit as hard as other parts of the country, hundreds of families have experienced tragedy and thousands have lost their jobs. The County Council and all its partners, particularly the voluntary sector, are there to help everyone in need. Despite these challenging times, there has been so much to be proud of. The response of staff from the county council, district councils, care workers and the NHS has been inspirational - supporting the vulnerable, keeping key services going, helping businesses, and extending digital services for all. The community's response has been truly humbling. Volunteers, charities, and the kindness of neighbours have been a vital lifeline for the lonely, the elderly and people who were shielding. The start of the vaccination programme offers some hope going into 2021, that we are turning a corner and better times await. There is so much to look forward to and the council has an ambitious "to do" list for the New Year. With others we have a key role in revitalising Norfolk's economy. "

Surge of Beryl Bike rides in 2020

With over 11,000 riders, close to 70,000 trips and 266,303 kilometres ridden on Beryl Bikes this year, Norwich can boast to being a greener place for residents and visitors throughout 2020. Also, in 2020, in partnership with Norfolk County Council, Beryl became the world's first provider of a city-wide multimodal smart fleet including pedal bikes, e-bikes and e-scooters. This choice of vehicles provided residents of Norwich with a chance to take a variety of journeys in a safe, sustainable, and convenient way.

Signed

Date

Fire safety videos highlight electrical dangers at home

Residents of Norfolk are being warned of the electrical dangers lurking at home, through a series of short videos produced by Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service. Supported by Electrical Trade Association NAPIT, fire staff have produced short videos to raise awareness of the number of electrical fires in homes, the dangers of these fires and how homeowners can spot the early signs and prevent them from happening in the first place. The video campaign, called L.I.V.E gives advice about what to do if there is an electrical problem, as well as tips on how to reduce the risk at home. With more people working at home this year, the use of electrical technology in the home has increased.

Plans move ahead for multi million-pound scheme to support vulnerable young people

An innovative multi-million-pound project which will improve support to vulnerable young people was considered by Norfolk County Council's cabinet in December. Norfolk's version of the 'No Wrong Door' scheme, which will see an investment of £5 million over three years by the Department for Education and additional council investment of £4 million, will help reduce the number of young people coming into care as well as reducing the number of arrests and hospital admissions. Two children's residential homes in Breckland and Norwich will be refurbished and improved to convert them into hubs which will sit at the heart of the new service providing wrap around residential and outreach support.

One Million Trees for Norfolk - County's ambitious planting project gets underway

This National Tree Week (28 November - 6 December) planting starts in Norfolk County Council's 1 Million Trees for Norfolk project. Thousands of trees and hedge plants will be going into the ground as the first planting season in the five-year project gets underway.

Norfolk hits top spot for second year running in road and transport survey

For the second year running Norfolk has come first among its peers in a national highways and transport survey. Out of the 29 county councils and larger unitary authorities in the peer group, Norfolk secured the top spot for overall satisfaction and saw the highest above average scores in both satisfaction with 'traffic levels and congestion' and 'condition of highways'.

Grant scheme launched to provide free expert advice and cash to help businesses 'Go Digital'

A new grant scheme launched in December will enable micro, small and medium-sized businesses to make better use of digital technology through funding and one to one support. Go Digital is being launched by Norfolk County Council to help businesses based in the county identify digital opportunities. It will provide expert one-to-one consultancy and the ability to apply for grants of up to £500.

More vulnerable children in Norfolk supported to remain with their families

A £12-£15 million five-year programme to transform support for children and young people is enabling more youngsters to remain with their families, statistics published recently reveal. National statistics reveal the number of children looked after by Norfolk County Council's Children's Social Care, compared with rising rates in England. The new figures show that up until 31 March 2020 there were 1,106 children under the age of 18 being looked after in Norfolk, which means 64 in every 10,000 children. This compares with a national figure of 67 per 10,000.

Works due to begin on Great Yarmouth's Third River Crossing

Great Yarmouth's Third River Crossing is one of Norfolk County Council's most significant infrastructure development projects in recent years and will integrate with several other local development projects set to transform the town of Great Yarmouth. The Great Yarmouth Third River Crossing will link the A47 at Harfrey's roundabout to the port and the enterprise zone on the other side of the river. The bridge will ease traffic congestion on the town's roads, shortening journey times and improving journey reliability, as well as supporting wider plans and work to maximise investment, regeneration and economic growth opportunities in the town and wider borough. Construction work is set to begin on the Third River Crossing early in January 2021, with more than 50 local employment and training opportunities being created by the main contractor BAM Farrans and the wider supply chain during the delivery of the project, leaving a lasting legacy for the local area and its people.

Signed

Date

Rocklands SID - Vehicles from Caston Direction				
Start	02/11/2020	04/05/2020	05/03/2020	12/12/2019
Finish	03/12/2020	03/06/2020	03/04/2020	06/01/2020
Total Vehicles	31,201	24,850	29,009	24,913
Average Vehicles/day	1,007	832	1,000	993
Morning Peak	07:45-08:45	10:30-11:30	07:30-08:30	07:45-08:45
Afternoon Peak	15:30-16:30	16:15-17:15	16:00-17:00	15:15-16:15
Max Speed (date)	60 (11/11/20 - 14:35)	60 (05/05/20 - 05:50)	65 (12/03/20 - 05:35)	60 (13/12/19 - 18:50)
0-40 mph	28,173	21,279	25,125	22,051
%	90.30	85.63	86.61	88.51
40+ mph	3,028	3,571	3,884	2,862
%	9.70	14.37	13.39	11.49
45+ mph	528	815	915	588
%	1.69	3.28	3.15	2.36
45-50	470	692	751	501
%	1.51	2.78	2.59	2.01
50-55	50	112	148	80
%	0.16	0.45	0.51	0.32
55-60	8	11	15	7
%	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.03
60-65	0	0	1	0
%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
65-70	0	0	0	0
%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
70-75	0	0	0	0
%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
75-80	0	0	0	0
%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Rocklands SID - The Street Vehicles from Crossroads		
Start	03/12/2020	04/08/2020
Finish	03/01/2021	04/09/2020
Total Vehicles	9,337	10,341
Average Vehicles/day	300	332
Morning Peak	11:15-12:15	09:30-10:30
Afternoon Peak	14:45-15:45	17:00-18:00
Max Speed (date)	50 (04/12/20, 13:10)	60 (31/08/20, 02:55)
0-30 mph	7,134	7,180
%	76.41	69.43
30+ mph	2,203	3,161
%	23.59	30.57
35+ mph	495	760
%	5.30	7.35
35-40	419	623
%	4.49	6.02
40-45	68	110
%	0.73	1.06
45-50	8	24
%	0.09	0.23
50-55	0	24
%	0.00	0.23
55-60	0	1
%	0.00	0.01
60-65	0	0
%	0.00	0.00
65-70	0	0
%	0.00	0.00

Signed

Date