

From the Chairman, Mr. Nigel Grix

How times have changed during the three decades I have served on the Council. At my first meeting I was horrified by how many notes the Clerk had scribbled on the backs of used envelopes!!! What would she have made of today's computer produced notes and minutes! Having said that, when she first took the post, she would have been the "quality" clerk of her era.

Changes in planning mean we are not likely to see again the expansion of housing that took place in the 1970's. The increase in population did, though, help to save the then to be closed Colby School.

The Parish Council has always been pro-active—one of the first in the country to save the red telephone box by the Old Post Office, one of the first to have its own website, becoming custodian trustees of the Jubilee Hall and one of the first small councils to achieve "Quality Status." Two issues have been on the agenda for more than 40 years—after several false starts and design disasters we now have mains sewerage; after a 60+ year effort, the Parish Council has resolved the issue of the ownership of Banningham Village Green.

One item will continue into the next decade—the quality of our road infrastructure continues to decline, but as I travel around the country, I see that we are not alone in this matter! It will be interesting to see whether the increased funding from government for pothole repairs actually brings about an improvement, or if the cutbacks result in an ever-increasing decline in standards.

Although we still live in an area of low crime, rural crime is on the increase. Fuel, scrap metal and garden equipment are popular targets in our villages. Many of you already look out for your neighbours, but why not come along to the Annual Parish Meeting and hear about the revamped Homewatch scheme. In the meantime, remain vigilant—one eagle eyed resident was instrumental in the recovery of two stolen ride-on mowers!!!

Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will be on Tuesday 8 March , in the Jubilee Hall, Banningham, starting at 7.30p.m. This is YOUR opportunity to hear about the work of the Council over the past year, and to flag up issues for the Parish Council to address in the future. Why not come along and have a chat with your Parish Councillors, District and County Councillors and Police Representative beforehand - refreshments will be served from 7p.m. The agenda is set out below:

1. Welcome by the Chairman, Mr. Nigel Grix
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of 9 March 2010
4. Matters Arising
5. To receive the Neech Loan Fund Report
6. To receive the Village Hall Report
7. To receive the Playing Field Report
8. To receive Report on the Past Year at Colby School
9. To receive Report from "Wild About Colby"
10. To receive Report from Police Representative & Update on Homewatch Scheme
11. To receive the Clerk's Report
12. To receive the Chairman's Report
13. To receive Presentation & Information from Stephen Hulme of Active Norfolk on the Norfolk Village Games 2011
14. To discuss Fête—Saturday 16 July 2011
15. Any Questions and/or Items for the Parish Council to discuss at future meetings

Summer Event 2011- Help Wanted !!

The original idea for a festival has developed into a weekend this year to try and raise some funds firstly towards celebrating HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012; any surplus remaining after that would be divided between Colby & Banningham Churches, the Jubilee Hall and the Playing Field.

The weekend of 15-17 July is proposed, and we have had the offer of a Walking Treasure Hunt (Friday 15 July evening), we would like to have a traditional fête on the Village Green on the afternoon of Saturday 16 July (Jubilee Hall booked in case of bad weather!); plans yet to be made for Sunday 17 July. However, we need more people from the villages to actually come and plan the fête - ideas for stalls include cakes and produce, CB Radio, possibly bowls taster sessions, teas, and one or two sideshows/games may be there is someone with a barbecue who would be prepared to cook sausages and burgers but without more people, we cannot make it happen! If you would like to be involved, please contact Mrs. Sylvia Keeler (01263 733146) or Mo Anderson-Dungar (01263 732530), alternatively email to clerk@colby-banningham-pc.gov.uk, come to the Annual Parish Meeting

Homewatch

The scheme has been revamped and re-launched. You may have seen in the King's Beck Chronicles the aim to cover all parts of the parish, - Richard Anderson-Dungar remains the Co-ordinator for Colby Road (as far as the Jubilee Hall), and Church Close, we have a resident interested in taking on Mill Road, and need volunteers for Colby Corner/Bridge Road, and Long Lane. Residents will be invited to register—more information will available at the Annual Parish Meeting, so please come along!

Norfolk Village Games

Thousands of villagers in rural Norfolk can look forward to new opportunities to play sport on their doorstep after an innovative project from Active Norfolk was awarded National Lottery funding by Sport England. The project offers villages road shows on their village greens and in their village halls to give the villagers a chance to try out new sports with the potential for ongoing coached sessions for those sports that are popular. In order to make groups a little more sustainable there is a coach bursary scheme to help coaches through qualifications and a sports equipment leasing scheme. The project culminates each year when each district in the county host a competition in which villages battle it out across a variety of sports to be crowned the best in their district. A County Games is then held to crown the best village in Norfolk. Active Norfolk are inviting villages to get involved and enjoy the benefits the Norfolk Village Games has to offer. **There is also a small financial incentive offered to one villager to coordinate some sports in their village.** If you are interested in getting involved with the project then contact Stephen Hulme on 07901 588270 or stephen.hulme@activenorfolk.org.—Stephen will be at the Annual Parish Meeting—speak to him there!

Elections take place this year for all District and Parish/Town Councillors. Would you like to be part of decision making in your community? Why not find out more about what is involved in being a Parish Councillor— speak to the Clerk or one of the current Councillors. There has never been a more exciting—and challenging—time for parish and town councils -be a part of it!!! Application forms are available from the Clerk or on the parish council and district council websites. Election period runs from 25 March 2011, and forms have to be back with the District Council by **12 noon** (and it means exactly that!) on 4 April 2011. Polling day is Thursday 5 May, our polling station the Jubilee Hall.

Councillors Contact Details:

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Mr. Richard Anderson-Dungar, Vice-Chairman—01263 732530

Mr. Stuart Clarke—01263 734574

Mr. Mark Howarth— 01263 735844

Mr. Bob Hewitt— 01263 733429

Mrs. Sylvia Keeler—01263 733146

Mr. David Snow— 01263 761609

Clerk—Mrs. Mo Anderson-Dungar, 01263 732530, email: clerk@colby-banningham-pc.gov.uk
website: www.colby-banningham-pc.gov.uk