

SNETTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Annual Review

2016/2017

Office opening hours 10-12 Monday and Thursday

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www.facebook.com/snettishampc

Chairman – Ros Pugh; Clerk – Simon Bower

SNETTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL – ACCOUNTS

	2015/16	2016/17
Balance at year start	£111,790	£105,241
Income - precept	£81,060	£76,460
Income - other	£19,617	£15,181
Expenditure - loan	£2,651	£1,280
Expenditure - staff	£29,224	£31,476
Expenditure - other	£75,351	£41,975
Balance at year end	£105,241	£122,151

Notes:

- *expenditure does not include £44,900 committed in 16/17 but not yet paid - exc VAT*
- *income and expenditure both include c.£4,500 of reclaimable VAT*

Major areas of expense:

Play Area - deposit - remainder 2017/18	£14,500
Ground works/Grass Cutting	£4,815
Printing/Copier	£3,526*
Street Lights	£1,680
Loan - final repayment	£1,280
Insurance	£988
Bins	£962

NB: These figures have been agreed by Council and our Internal Auditor, and are currently with the External Auditor (a phone call has been received which confirms that, with a small adjustment to the asset list, these will be accepted)

**c.£1,800 of this was reclaimed from local groups etc. for their use*

COUNCILLOR NEWS

The Memorial Bench for Councillor **Ann Lamplugh** was dedicated in a moving ceremony at the Common on 7th April, 2017. The Mayor of King's Lynn and West Norfolk, Cllr David Whitby, and our MP, Sir Henry Bellingham, were guests, along with many of Ann's friends and colleagues. Sir Henry spoke at length of Ann and her contribution to Village life.

In April, **Maria Fountain** left the area, and resigned from Council. Maria had been a member for many years, and had made a great contribution throughout that time, particularly as Lead of the Amenities Group, looking after the physical appearance of the Village. She was not afraid of getting her hands dirty, and we thank her both for her time on Council and as a volunteer with tools in hand! We wish her and Eddie well in the Deep South.

Alf Todd joined Council more recently, but has certainly made his mark in that time. As prime mover behind the regeneration of our Play Areas, and planned improvements in Lodge Walk, he has made a tangible difference to the lives of many people, particularly our youngsters. He stepped down from Council recently, and we thank him for all he has done.

We have welcomed two new Councillors, **David Lamplugh** and **George Deverick** in recent months both of whom are already taking an active part in Council. There is one vacancy.

After two years in the hot seat, **Richard Barker** stepped down as Chair. His quiet and measured approach was much appreciated by all who had contact with him, whether Councillor colleagues or members of the public – thanks, too, to him. He remains on Council, and is followed as Chairman by **Ros Pugh**.

We also would like to thank **John Dobson** for his work as County Councillor over many years. He is succeeded by the PC's own **Stuart Dark** – congratulations to him

CLERK'S NOTES

After just over a year, work on our **Neighbourhood Plan** moves into the final stages. We have submitted it formally for "pre-submission consultation". This is the stage where everything should be in place, and we are asking for views. It is all available online (web address on front page), or by application at the Office. Please do have a look – it is a vital document for the medium-term future of the Village. Comments are more than welcome, and, please remember, that includes positive comments, as well as critical ones! We have endeavoured throughout to consult the residents as much as possible, and the more support we have the stronger the Plan is. After this it will be sent to the Borough, and a referendum in which all Village electors can take part will occur – please keep your eyes open for this; it is likely to be at the end of this year, or just into next.

Another major project we have been working on has been the Play Area in **Lodge Walk**. As you will know, this is complete, but we are planning some wider improvements next, with additional planting, benches and bins etc. We will be keeping local residents fully in touch with this process. We would also like to thank those companies and organisations who have helped practically or with funding. These will be listed fully on completion.

We have also agreed to extend the **TROD** (footway) along Beach Rd from the Common westwards – this is to improve safety, and is part of a longer-term plan to complete a path as far as the Beach. The Parish is paying £4,000 for this, matched by the County Council. You will have noticed the **bus stop** in the Market Square has been reroofed; this cost £1,800 but will be secure for many years to come.

We have continued to work with other parishes on the question of funding the **flood defences**. There is unanimity in our objection to this being funded locally. We will be pursuing this once more with new Government ministers.

We have continued to organise meetings to allow you to have your say; the two **Open Meetings** in April were not as well attended as previously and we may try combining these with the Annual Parish Meeting in Spring 2018. There will be a meeting in September (date tbc) dealing with local wildlife, geology etc., particularly in relation to the Common. We will also be launching a volunteer team at that event – please watch out for more news.

It is not always easy to disseminate information, and it can be frustrating when efforts to keep you all informed do not seem effective. The TORC is one vital route – please do read it, and do let us know if someone is not getting a copy – but we do have our website and **facebook** page, which is now online again. I use the latter to send out a lot of information about local events and information from other Councils and local groups – please spread the word!

Another opportunity will be “**surgeries**” that councillors will be running in the centre of the Village. These will take place on the last Wednesday of the month from 2-3pm, starting from 26th July, and allow you to meet your councillors and raise anything which concerns you. The location will be confirmed nearer the time.

We have been pushing for the double yellow lines around the school, where they now are, and on Lynn Rd. I am investigating where the Lynn Rd ones have got to, but, in the meantime, there have been some problems at the School. Please park considerately, and remember, **parking** behind such lines (e.g. on the grass) is just as much of an offence as parking on them. I have also been contacted by a resident observing that the parking in Park Lane (particularly around Stileman Way) has been very poor and likely to cause problems for emergency vehicles – please bear this in mind.

There have also been many comments about the **chickens** roaming around the by-pass and the Village. Trading Standards was our last port of call, but they are satisfied with the domestic arrangements (!) of the birds, and so cannot pursue this further. All I can do now is discourage people from feeding them. **Dog** mess has been getting slightly worse, and I would encourage everyone to be observant and report obvious issues directly to the Borough Council; I am always happy to provide poo bags at the Parish Office.

We see that the **Scouts** are working on a new Hut for Jimmy’s Field, the **RSPB** is planning their new hide, and that the **Sailing Club** has a visit from Princess Anne, as we go to press, to open their new facilities. We congratulate them, and the **School** on their OFSTED report, and remind all groups in the Village that we are happy to pass on news of events etc. It is also very useful to have contact details, especially given the number of people moving into the Village recently, or over the next few months.

Looking ahead to **2018**, this will be the centenary of the end of World War I. Anyone who has ever looked at the War Memorial will know the devastating effect that this had on the Village. We have set up a working group to look at how we can commemorate the anniversary in the most appropriate way – please contact us if you, or a group you are in, would like to take part.

Finally, may I encourage all of you to attend the **Village fete**. There is information elsewhere in the TORC about this, but it will run from 12-5 on Saturday 22nd July. After last year, we are keeping our fingers crossed against the rain gods.... I cannot thank Barney enough for her work on this – please contact her directly if you have any last-minute requests for stalls/activities. As ever, I would invite as many of you as possible to offer some time on the day – even an hour or two will spread the load much more evenly.

I hope you all have a wonderful Summer
Simon