

SNETTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Annual Review 2018/2019

Office opening hours 10-12 Monday and Thursday

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<http://snettishamparish.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/>
www.facebook.com/snettishampc

18/19 Chairman – Ros Pugh; Vice-Chairman – Mel Billington
19/20 Chairman – Alf Todd; Vice-Chair - Hazel Platt
Clerk – Simon Bower; Admin Asst – Rachael Edwards

SNETTISHAM PARISH ACCOUNTS 2018/19

	2017/18	2018/19
Balance at year start	£122,151	£98,688
Income - precept	£77,500	£77,500
Income - other	£39,278	£13,974
Expenditure - staff	£35,360	£42,293
Expenditure - other	£104,881	£48,690
Balance at year end	£98,688	£99,179

NB: These figures have been agreed by Council and our Internal Auditor, and are currently with the External Auditor.

Three major items of expenditure agreed last year, but not invoiced by year-end, are not included in these accounts: Bridge on footpath 18 (c£5,900), work on Village sign (c.£1,000), 2 new streetlights (c.£3,200) – all excluding VAT.

In addition, £36,950 of reserves is ring-fenced for future projects.

c.£1,550 of the printer expenses was reclaimed from local users, and from overpayments.

After three years when it has fallen, the precept for 19/20 has risen slightly to £82.02 per Band D property. This has been due to such large extra items as the Bridge. The rise over five years has been 10%

I am always happy to explain how the Parish accounts work if you are interested – please contact me.

Major areas of expense, 2018/19, incl VAT:

TROD – for 19/20	£6,000.00
Grounds/Maintenance	£5,811.00
Trees	£3,250.00
Printer	£3,218.79
Bins (incl dog bins)	£2,739.69
Street Lights	£2,119.11
Neighbourhood Plan	£1,818.00
I.T.	£1,713.59
Grass Cutting	£1,653.00
WWI Commemorations	£1,554.87
Office electricity	£1,167.00
Subscriptions/Membership	£1,091.19
Telecomms	£1,003.63

SNETTISHAM COUNCILLORS

As you will all know, there was an election in May. Our new Council is listed below with their contact details and photos. There are two vacancies as I write, but these may be filled at our July meeting. Ian Devereux and Stuart Dark continue as our Borough and County Councillors respectively.



Chairman: Cllr Alf Todd
35 Shelduck Drive
545838



Vice-Chair: Cllr Hazel Platt
Squirrel Lodge, 1 Alma Ct
07739-301313



Cllr John Bailey
Phoenix House, Lynn Rd
544415



Cllr David Bocking
3 Kenhill Close
541208



Cllr George Deverick
18 Beach Rd
541512



Cllr Ralph Garwood
61a Lynn Rd
540293



Cllr Jane Kerr
Grapes Gallery 33 Lynn Rd
542480



Cllr Robby Kerr
Grapes Gallery 33 Lynn Rd
542480



Cllr Ros Pugh
38 Kenside
543222



Cllr Linda Standeven
94 Station Rd



Cllr Janet Todd
35 Shelduck Drive

Two vacancies

CLERK'S NOTES

Of our previous **Councillors**, Richard Barker, John Bateson, Mel Billingham, Gerry Byrne, Emma Carey, Stuart Dark, Pat Morton and David Snelgrove are no longer members. As ever, I have written to all to thank them personally for their work on Council, but I would like to take this opportunity to thank them publicly.

The **Neighbourhood Plan** was passed at the referendum in November. The external inspector had made several changes prior to this. Some of these were relatively minor but there were issues with the "second homes" policy, and the wording dealing with the allocation of land at Poppyfields. The Borough Council were very helpful at this final stage, and agreed to keep some of the original proposals. We are currently looking at the results of the questionnaire dealing with the second homes issue.

The benefits of the Plan being in place are two-fold. First, developers pay an infrastructure levy, and the Parish gets 40% more funding with an active Plan. Second, policies are part of planning law, so local wishes are given more weight. We have already been able to have planning applications modified, which in the past we would not have been able to influence.

There is a proposal to build on the land allocated under the Plan. Council has been talking to the potential developer – Pigeon Homes - for two years, and they recently presented their proposals to Residents. It is likely that a formal application will be submitted soon, but it will be a while before any work starts, should it be approved. They have taken full account of suggestions both from Councillors and members of the public, and have come back to us with amendments.

The second major project last year was the "**Snett45**" Commemoration of the end of World War I. This became a massive undertaking, and gained national recognition, including extensive TV coverage leading up to a live relay on Remembrance Day itself. Villagers took part in visits to the graves of all 45, including one in Canada, and two in Gaza, where we were represented by UK Forces due to the security issues there. As well as at our own Parish Church, there was a moving ceremony on the Beach for one soldier killed at sea. An exhibition at the Memorial Hall followed the Annual Memorial Service, including much new research, and was attended by several hundred Villagers.

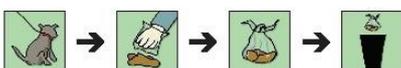
Dog Fouling – advice from the Borough Council

The Parish Council has again received complaints from residents about the increase in dog fouling along the pathways and lanes in the village. There are plenty of dog waste bins located conveniently around the village to make this job easier and these are emptied weekly. Everyone in the village is paying for this service, so please use it and help keep your village a pleasant place to walk in. Dog faeces are not only unpleasant and unsightly but also carry a harmful infection, which can cause serious illness and/or disability if ingested. Not clearing up your dog's waste is a Criminal Offence under the legislation described above, which can be prosecuted in the Magistrates Court with fines of up to £1000. Further action may also be taken against repeat offenders in the form of Civil Injunctions which, if breached, can result in custodial sentences of up to two years.

Dog fouling



Bag it, tie it, bin it



You can use any dog-waste or litter bin. Or if double-bagged, it can go in your black bin/sack



Do you know the facts?

Dog faeces can carry harmful infections, commonly known as **Toxocariasis**, which can cause eye disorders, dizziness, nausea, asthma and epileptic fits.

Dog owners have a legal requirement to clean up their dog's waste. Failure to do so may lead to **prosecution.**



The cost of clearing up dog faeces costs taxpayers **£2.3m** every year.

To report dog fouling, contact:
CSNN@west-norfolk.gov.uk 01553 616200
www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/dogfouling

Dog waste should be picked up and disposed of responsibly in a dog waste bin. It can also be placed in any litter bin, as well as a domestic black refuse bin if double-bagged. Dog fouling is a social problem caused by a few irresponsible dog owners, and it is only with the combined efforts of the community, Parish Council and Local Authority that we can address this unacceptable behaviour.

Offending dog-owners should not be confronted, but witnesses should contact the Borough Council with information on the type of dog, where the offence took place, owner's name and/or address if known. You can do this by: Email to csmn@west-norfolk.gov.uk, online form at www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/dogfouling or by telephone 01553 616200.

Alongside this there was a year-long fund-raising effort which enabled donations totalling £18,399.95 to be given to the Poppy Appeal and Scotty's Little Soldiers. This is over £100 for every household in the Village! We thank all those individuals and businesses who helped with this remarkable achievement. Finally, though it is invidious in some ways to thank individuals, mention must be made of Cllrs Stuart Dark and Ros Pugh and Revd Veronica Wilson, without whose work this would not have been possible. Council is looking at the possibility of supporting a paperback book focusing on the lives of those lost, and the commemoration itself.

The new **Council** is busy setting its priorities for the immediate future, and the longer term. The agendas and minutes of Full Council meetings are available online, and on request, so you are able to see what decisions are being made. Full Council meetings are open to the public, and now occur at 7pm, usually on the first Wednesday of the month. Any major proposals will be covered in my TORC notes, and be publicly presented in due course.

We have become concerned recently with the increase in **anti-social behaviour** in the Village. There has been an increase in vandalism – e.g. to the phone box in the Market Square, and bollards, bins and signs (particularly at the Common) being repeatedly removed or damaged. We would urge you to let us know if you see such damage, but also to contact the Police if you observe suspicious behaviour. In the end damage has to be repaired, and the cost, sadly, falls on your Council Tax.

Please note that the **bins** in the Village are emptied by our cleaner, Marian, and are not for your household rubbish – it is unfair to expect her to carry your rubbish to the Council bin! (She does not get enough thanks for her work, so, Thank You, Marian.) I have put information about (guess what!) dog fouling in separate boxes here, and would again ask you not to feed the chickens....

We have replaced three **benches** as part of a rolling programme to keep these safe and attractive, and the Market Square Village Sign, which was becoming tired, has been reproduced on longer lasting metal.

Those who use the footpath alongside the Ingol will have seen the new **bridge** there. The old one was becoming unsafe, sadly not helped by more of the vandalism I have mentioned. The stretch from the bridge to the Mill is unusual in that it is officially Parish Council responsibility. [Because of the large cost of this unexpected, but urgent, work, we have moved the TROD footway extension on Beach Rd

into the 2019/20 programme – both of these have benefited from match funding from the County Council.]

We also made **donations** to Norfolk Citizens Advice, the Village Cinema, the Events Committee, Norfolk Accident Rescue Service, Norfolk Age UK, and Classical Music Rocks. Our policies allow such donations, but only to local groups, and the size of these depends on how relevant they are to Residents.

The Annual **Parish Meeting** was held in May, and we received reports from more groups than in previous years. It was good to hear from the Memorial Hall Trustees, the W.I., the TORC Team, Heacham Group Practice (i.e. the Surgery), Classical Music Rocks, the Common Volunteers, the Gardening Club, the Village Events Committee, Townlands, the Friends of St Mary's, the Bowls and Sailing Clubs, the Halls Foundation and the Scouts. As ever, if your group would like to get the word out about your activities, please let me know.

We should thank all those who **volunteer** and help maintain such an active Village. However, I would repeat the pleas I have made previously to give some time if you can; the **TORC** itself is now in danger of having to cease publishing (see elsewhere), and we still need a few volunteers to help with the **Fete**, even if only for an hour or two. This will be on July 20th from 12 until 4.

We are holding another meeting on 25th September dealing with the **Common**; the Village is very fortunate to have a resource with such interesting natural history. After the last such meeting a volunteer group was set up to help, which has been very active. There will reports from them and news on the updating of the management plan.

Have a good Summer,
Simon

With three levels of local government it can be difficult to establish where to go if you have a question. Though we are always happy to help, it can be much easier to contact the Borough and County directly if it is one of their issues, and you will receive updates on progress. This list might help:

Parish Council: Bus Shelters, Dog Bins, Play Areas (Memorial Hall & Lodge Walk) Street Lights (except Lynn Rd)

Borough Council: Dogs (barking, fouling, strays), Fly-tipping, Parking (on double yellows etc.), Play Area (Poppyfields), Street Signs (street names)

County Council: Bus Stops, Footpaths, Hedges (overgrown), Highway Problems, Street Signs (direction posts), Street Lights (Lynn Rd)

Police (101): Parking – obstruction