

BURNHAM THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2021

Welcome to the Burnham Thorpe Parish Council Newsletter, intended to help keep residents up to date with what is happening around the village.

FUTURE BIOGAS, EGMERE

The Parish Council expressed concerns to Future Biogas and JLEN regarding Highway and Planning issues. A meeting has been arranged with the manager of Future Biogas at the end of January. Other Parish Councils in the area, the Borough Councillor and County Councillor will also be involved in this meeting. Hopefully, there will be an update for the March newsletter of the outcome of this meeting.

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL)

The Parish Council has received just over £4,000 of CIL money from the Borough Council. It's planned to use some of this money for Village Gateways to help slow the traffic. Other potential items for funding are listed on the Action Plan, on the Parish Council website.

VILLAGE GATEWAY

An application has been made for a County Council Parish Partnership Grant. If successful, the grant will provide half the cost of the Village Gateways, and the cost to the Parish Council for the gates and installation would be £1118.93 exc VAT. The gateways would be placed on Walsingham Road near Whitehall Farm, and incorporate the village name and 30MPH signs. A meeting has been arranged with County Highways to discuss the size requirements in early February. The Parish Council should be informed if the grant application is successful at the end of March 2021. A sketch of the gateways can be found on the website.

POSSIBLE SPEED REDUCTIONS & TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER (TRO)

A survey will be delivered to all residents which can be completed online or paper copy. It will ask parishioners what they think about lowering the speed limit in Burnham Thorpe from 30mph to 20 mph, and if so, on which roads. Andrew Jamieson (our County Councillor) is proposing lowering speed limits for villages along the A149, and this would need the legal arrangement called a TRO. Getting village views on if they would like to be included in this speed reduction programme will be needed for the TRO. If the speed reduction TRO includes Burnham Thorpe, that is likely to cost about half of a stand-alone TRO for the village, but it could still be between £3000-£6000.

MILLENNIUM PIECE

The lease is being updated by solicitors and the Parish Council will hopefully have the lease signed and completed very soon. A quote has been considered and accepted by the Parish Council for the Fakenham Area Conservation Team (FACT) to carry out works needed to Millennium Piece. CGM, who compiled a quote were unable to undertake the work so FACT was contacted. FACT will carry out work to cut and trim both sides of the riverbanks, all arisings to be raked off and a compost heap made at the eastern end of Millennium Piece. They will also undertake work to some canopies of the trees which will be cut back to allow 2.5 m from the ground. An application will be submitted to Holkham and the Borough

Council in due course to allow for tree works to be completed. FACT also encourages volunteers to join FACT for the day to help complete tasks. This membership for the day does not incur a fee and with no commitment to any further involvement. Volunteers would be covered by FACT's insurance for the day.

FACT would like to undertake work as soon as possible but Lockdown has caused a delay. As many volunteers as possible would be very welcome and more information to follow. If you would like to be a volunteer, please do let the Clerk have your details to keep on file so that you can be contacted when a date has been arranged.

WIFI FOR THE VILLAGE HALL

The Parish Council are investigating how much Wi-fi would cost to place into the village hall. More updates on this at the March meeting.

NEW HOUSES AT BLACKSMITHS LANE

Holkham has advised the work is progressing well albeit slightly slower than anticipated. The semi-detached properties will be rented. One of the rented houses will be let on the open market and the other will be discounted by 20%. Holkham will be undertaking the marketing of both soon.

NORFOLK ASSISTANCE SCHEME (NAS)

The Norfolk Winter Support Offer will run until the end of March 2021. If anyone needs emergency help with food or fuel then contact the Norfolk Assistance Scheme www.norfolk.gov.uk/NAS or call 0344 800 8020. There is also lots of other support for people struggling with a range of issues during the pandemic. You can find out what's available at www.norfolk.gov.uk/supportathome

MINUTES

The minutes to all parish council meetings are on the website and the Noticeboard near the bus shelter. If parishioners with no internet access would like copies of the minutes or other documents, then please do contact the Clerk.

DATES

The next parish council meeting will be on **Monday 22nd March 2021 at 6.30pm, Zoom**

Dates for the rest of 2021 are: 24th May, 19th July, 20th September, 22nd November 2021. Public are always welcome to attend.

CONTACT

Any issues please do contact the Clerk – Sarah Raven on email: clerkburnhamthorpe@gmail.com or telephone 01328 738512 / 07788516733

Website for Burnham Thorpe Parish Council: <https://clerkburnhamthorpe.wixsite.com/btpc>