



All members of the town are warmly invited to attend

THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

TO BE HELD ON
TUESDAY **16 APRIL 2019** AT 7.30pm IN THE LINCOLN HALL
(doors open at 7.00pm, for setting up)

The Annual Town Meeting is NOT a Town Council meeting, but an occasion for members of the public to ask questions, make comments, raise issues with the Town Council and propose resolutions.

AGENDA

1. **Welcome, and to Receive Apologies for Absence**
2. **To Approve and Sign the Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting of 17 April 2018**
3. **Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting of 17 April 2018**

4. **Address by Hingham Town Council Chairman including:**
 - 4.1 **To receive a summary report from the Chairman on the work of the Town Council during the past year and its plans for the future.**
Draft copies of the 2018/19 accounts will be available at the meeting.
 - 4.2 **Chairman's Award for Services to the Community**

5. **Guest Speakers** (attendance from the below is dependent upon their work commitments on the day)
 - 5.1 **P.C. Andrew Read – Community Beat Manager – Norfolk Constabulary**
 - 5.2 **Representative from the Co-Op**
To talk about the Co-op in Hingham and the Community Support it is able to offer.

6. **Open Forum to Discuss Matters Raised by the General Public**
(Ideally notice of any resolutions should be sent to the clerk prior to the meeting)

7. **To Receive Reports from Hingham Clubs, Societies, Charities and Organizations etc. (approximately 5mins each)**

8. **To receive Annual Reports from County and District Councillors**
 - 8.1 **District Councillor Yvonne Bendle**
 - 8.2 **County Councillor Margaret Dewsbury**

9. **To Discuss Any Other Business**

Peter Eldridge

Chairman – Hingham Town Council
10th April 2019

Light refreshments will be served after the meeting



REPORTS

HINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL – CHAIRMAN’S REPORT – and Hingham Town Council DRAFT ACCOUNTS

COMMUNITY CONNECTOR

HINGHAM COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH

HINGHAM BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

HINGHAM GOOD NEIGHBOURS SCHEME

LINCOLN SOCIAL CENTRE

HINGHAM CHARITY

HINGHAM EDUCATION TRUST

HINGHAM COMMUNITY CAR SCHEME

THE HINGHAM SOCIETY

HINGHAM HISTORY CENTRE

HINGHAM W.I

HINGHAM SANTA’S GROTTO

HINGHAM AND HARDINGHAM ART GROUP

ST ANDREWS HERITAGE FUND

ST ANDREWS CHURCH

HINGHAM YOUTH CAFÉ

HINGHAM METHODIST CHURCH

HINGHAM TENNIS CLUB

GARDENING CLUB

HINGHAM CRICKET CLUB

HINGHAM PLAYING FIELD ASSOCIATION

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR YVONNE BENDLE

COUNTY COUNCILLOR MARGARET DEWSBURY

Hingham Town Council **Annual Report 2018/19**

This is the last report of the present Council as we are coming up to the local elections on 02 May 2019. This election is for both the Town and District Councils.

During the recent nomination period for 02 May elections to the Town Council, 7 nominations were made. As the Town Council has 11 seats to fill, those nominated will be elected unopposed and take office on 07 May 2019. The Council therefore had 4 vacant seats to fill by co-option. Those elected unopposed to the new Council are, Roger Bendle, Yvonne Bendle, Pat Dore, Christine Dunnett, (myself) Peter Eldridge, Daisy Food and Graham Shingfield.

I have to thank all of my colleagues on the Council for their support advice and guidance during this term of the Council. I would also like to thank our District and County Councillors for the help and support they have given to the Town.

The Council have been ably supported by our Town Clerk and the Town Handyman without whom we would not have been able to function as well as we have.

By now you will have had your Council Tax bill and will have noticed that there is a small increase in amount asked for by the Town Council. This is due to the increase in costs that we are facing to carry out our various functions. Both the internal and external auditors have given the Council a clean bill of health for the way we have been using your tax.

The Town Council powers are limited by legislation and we are therefore unable to resolve some of the issues around Town that are duty and responsibility of other authorities, although we do maintain close working links with the District and County Councils to try to get the best for Hingham in these difficult financial times.

The Town Council are responsible for some of the street lighting and open spaces in the Town, all of which require maintenance, both ongoing and specific improvements. The process of undertaking individual improvement and maintenance projects can be very lengthy. Obtaining the relevant permissions and finding contractors willing to provide quotations and undertake work can sometimes be challenging. We are pleased that we have now achieved improvements to the access driveway serving the Lincoln Hall, Library and Bowls Club and replaced some of the old footway lighting columns. Under the Parish Partnership Scheme in conjunction with Norfolk County Council highways we have installed the footway on the south green of the Market Place and made some improvements to the surface of the Public Right Of Way footpaths at the end of Folly Lane and between Hardingham Road and Norwich Road.

You may have noticed that there are three new trees on the Fairland green by the Lincoln Hall, these are replacements for the two trees we unfortunately had to remove as they were dangerous. I would like to thank the Hingham Society for their kind donation to cover the purchase the trees and all the ancillary bits that were needed to plant the trees so they have the best chance of taking and growing for a 100+ years.

Our Events Working Party put on the Easter, summer and (despite the terribly windy weather) Christmas markets. The Working Party has now dissolved to take a break from the markets in 2019 (due to the Town Council Elections). It is planned that a Christmas market will take place this year, but it being organised by some residents in the town.

The Town Council are consulted on planning applications and at the Council meetings we consider each application on its merits, we take into consideration any representations made to the Council from residents and vote on a proposal, either to recommend to approve or refuse an application. Our role is only one of a consultee, South Norfolk Council have the final decision.

There are a large number of organisations in Town that largely go unnoticed except by those who use them and I would like to thank them for all the hard work they do to make Hingham the brilliant place it is.

Pete Eldridge
Chair Hingham Town Council

Hingham Town Council DRAFT Accounts Year End 31 March 2019

| | | RECEIPTS | | | |
|----------------------|--|-------------|---|--------------------------|----------------------|
| | | 2017/18 | | 2018/19 | |
| | | £55,000.00 | PRECEPT | £61,000.00 | |
| | | £1,861.00 | GOVERNMENT GRANT | £1,008.00 | |
| | | £113.03 | BANK INTEREST | £380.98 | |
| | | £6,500.00 | CEMETERY FEES | £5,900.00 | |
| | | £100.00 | RECREATION GROUND LETTINGS | £100.00 | |
| | | £47,404.80 | CIL | £5,908.78 | |
| | | £2,143.65 | EVENTS | £770.00 | |
| | | £912.60 | NCC PARISH PARTNERSHIP/HIGHWAY PROJECTS | £643.76 | |
| | | £3,616.29 | NCC GRASS CUTTING PAYMENT | NCC PAID LATE - (APR 19) | £3,746.48 |
| | | £3,426.96 | SNC TOILET CLEANING PAYMENT | SNC PAID LATE - (APR 19) | £3,426.96 |
| | | £21,795.00 | S106 FUNDING FOR OUTDOOR GYM EQUIPMENT | N/A | |
| | | £5,570.61 | MISCELLANEOUS | £714.03 | |
| | | £148,443.94 | TOTAL | £76,425.55 | |
| FOR VAT PAID 2016/17 | | £5,885.80 | RECLAIMED VAT | £9,070.43 | FOR VAT PAID 2017/18 |
| | | £154,329.74 | GRAND TOTAL | £85,495.98 | |

| | | PAYMENTS (N.B. NET FIGURE SHOWN FOR GOODS AND SERVICES) | | | |
|----------|--|---|--|------------|---|
| | | 2017/18 | | 2018/19 | |
| | | £19,196.65 | STAFF COSTS | £22,492.70 | |
| | | £6,907.72 | GENERAL ADMIN (EXCLUDING STAFF) | £5,026.94 | |
| | | £240.00 | S137 | £93.00 | |
| | | £11,030.21 | STREET LIGHTING | £21,535.32 | |
| | | £9,507.52 | GRASS CUTTING | £9,697.80 | |
| | | £260.00 | TREES | £5,785.00 | |
| | | £1,079.66 | CEMETERY | £65.00 | |
| | | £1,086.20 | EVENTS | £437.06 | |
| CIL USED | | £4,500.00 | NCC PARISH PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS | £7,400.00 | CIL USED |
| | | £5,084.74 | MISCELLANEOUS | £6,292.44 | e.g misc maintenance and items purchased, grants (other than awarded from CIL), water charges, cleaning/toilet products |
| | | £21,795.00 | S106 FUNDING FOR OUTDOOR GYM EQUIPMENT | N/A | |
| | | £5,250.00 | CIL (other than Parish Partnership) | £5,000.00 | |
| | | £85,937.70 | NET TOTAL | £83,825.26 | |
| | | £9,070.43 | VAT | £8,136.86 | |
| | | £95,008.13 | TOTAL INC. VAT | £91,962.12 | |

| | | | |
|--|---|--------------------|--|
| Balance per bank statements 31 March 2019 | | | |
| | Current account | £43,040.44 | |
| | Business Premium Account | £120,744.60 | |
| | Capital Account | £1,176.43 | |
| dormant account | Business reserve account (last state | £186.80 | |
| | TOTAL | £165,148.27 | |
| | LESS Amount from Unpresented Cheques | £47.27 | |
| | ADD any unbanked cash | £0.00 | |
| | Net bank balances as at 31/03/2019 reconciled with the cash book | £165,101.00 | |

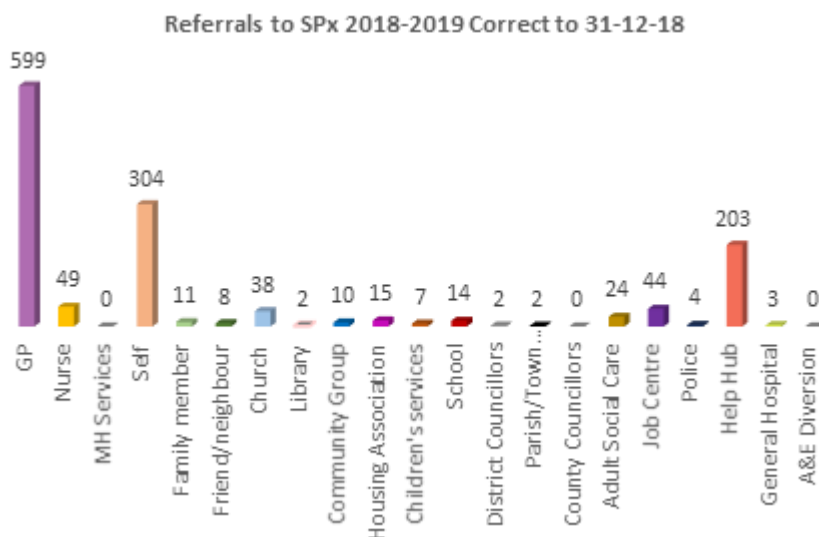
| | | CASH BOOK | |
|--|--|-----------|--------------------|
| | Opening Balance (as per bank reconciliation 31 March 2018) | | £171,567.14 |
| | Add Receipts 01 April 18 -31 MARCH 2019 | | £85,495.98 |
| | Less: Payments 01 April 18 -31 MARCH 2019 | | £91,962.12 |
| | Closing balance per cash book as at 31 MARCH 2019 | | £165,101.00 |

| | | OF THE BALANCE THE FOLLOWING IS DESIGNATED OR RESTRICTED FUNDS | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|---|--|
| CIL | £47,393.04 | of which £ 23,380 (NET) for Lincoln hall access driveway APR 2019 | |
| BUS SHELTER PLAQUE | £300.00 | | |
| CAR PARK DRAIN REPAIRS (FROM CHURCH) | £100.00 | UNABLE TO UNDERTAKE AS NOT OWNERS OF LAND | |
| COMMUNITY FUND FROM ABELS | £500.00 | | |
| CO-OP DONATION EVENTS | £500.00 | | |
| EVENTS | £3,394.66 | | |
| TOTAL | £52,187.70 | | |

IN ADDITION TO THIS THE TOWN COUNCIL HAS A RESERVES POLICY WHICH ALLOCATES ANY REMAINING RESERVES TO A SPECIFIC PURPOSE (FIGURES ADJUSTED ANNUALLY), INCLUDING A RESERVE FIGURE OF 1 QUARTER OF THE PRECEPT - TO ENSURE THE COUNCIL COULD CONTINUE TO OPERATE IN THE SHORT TERM IF THE PRECEPT IS NOT RECEIVED

COMMUNITY CONNECTOR REPORT TO HINGHAM ANNUAL TOWN MEETING 16th APRIL 2019

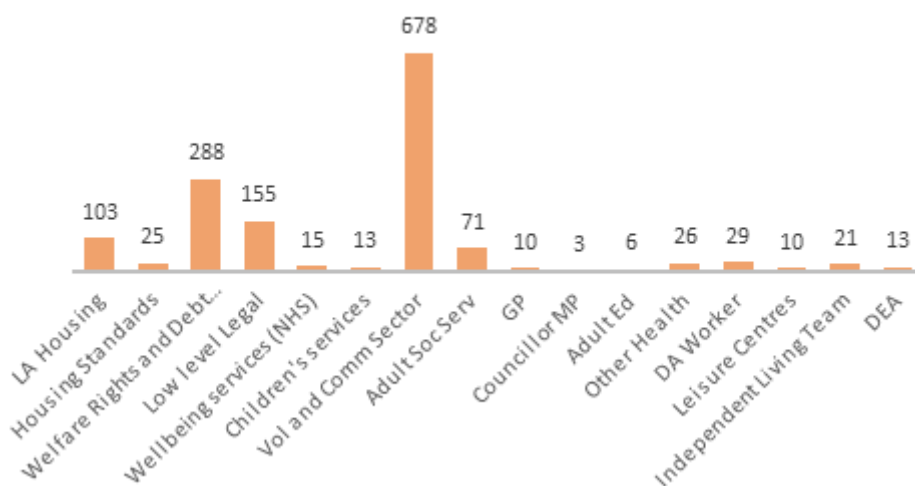
Once again this year the role of Community Connector continues to evolve and Connectors are now offering social prescribing within all GP surgeries in South Norfolk. Patients can be referred to a Connector by a GP, nurse or health care professional to access non- medical and community support services to improve their health and wellbeing. Whilst some residents will be helped directly in the local community some will be referred through to the Help Hub to receive multi-agency support. Patients can also self- refer and home visits can be offered to those patients who cannot access the surgery for one reason or another. I am currently at Hingham Surgery on a Monday afternoon 2 pm – 4 pm



I continue to visit local clubs and activities and to maintain local contacts that enables me to both gather and provide information e.g. local community grants. One of my most pleasurable duties this year was delivering Xmas hampers and toys to local families, something we hope to extend for Xmas 2019.

Maintaining a working knowledge of what is available in the community is vital as can be evidenced in the following graph:

Primary points of referral on from SPx: Correct to 31-12-18



With community in mind South Norfolk Council's Community Awards are back and the search is on to find our community champions. These popular awards celebrate South Norfolk's unsung heroes and pay tribute to the valuable contribution that volunteers make to the district. You can make your nomination by visiting www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/champions or call 01508 533945.

This coming year promises to be every bit as eventful as the last with social prescribing continuing to be rolled out across the whole of Norfolk and with the NHS looking at social prescribers to be in every surgery countrywide over the next ten years!

Please do contact me if you have any questions with regard to any club/activity you may be engaged in or if you wish to refer yourself or someone else to me for support.

bhoward@s-norfolk.gov.uk

07890599514

Barbara Howard

Community Connector

Hi All,

Hingham Community SpeedWatch here!



What do we do:

- Gather as a group, get trained in the use of the Police issued RADAR speed gun and general procedures and also H&Safety issues.
- As a group of 3 (min) gather roadside to monitor and record any speeding vehicles
- Submit our recordings to the Police Volunteer Support Team, who then
- Issue warning letters to the owners of vehicle found exceeding the (30mph) speed limit.

We can only do this with VOLUNTEER support. Our Hingham Community Speedwatch Team currently has 7 active members and for any one session roadside we need a team of at least 3.

WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS to be able to do **MORE ROADSIDE** monitoring sessions to **improve the SAFETY** of our roads.

If you want to DO something about speeding in Hingham (and generally) why not join us as a Volunteer. It is not onerous, we only undertake sessions in reasonable weather and each sessions is typically only 1-1 ½ hours long.

Feel like making a difference? Call Barry on 01953 797 124 or e-mail on barry.glynn@yahoo.co.uk

We look forward to hearing from you.

P.S. last year we undertaken dozens of sessions and had hundreds of letter issued to owners of speeding vehicles. **Help us do even more this year.**

KEEP HINGHAM SAFE.

HINGHAM BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

CHAIR: Rev Colin Reed VICE CHAIR Rev Sally Wallace-Jones

SECRETARY/TREASURER Mrs Heather Juby

REPORT FOR HINGHAM TOWN MEETING 2019

We continue to meet successfully on the second Saturday of each month at 10.30 am in the Sports and Social Club, Watton Road, Hingham. We are very grateful to them for the use of the bar area free of charge.

There are around twenty people who meet regularly for coffee, conversation and confidential one to one chats when necessary. We have also benefitted from Rev Colin "interviewing" Dr Shaun Conway and Belinda Robison (local Solicitor) which were both very interesting and informative mornings. We have more planned! Birthdays are celebrated with homemade cakes, and if no birthday to celebrate, we still have cake!

Last Christmas we had a lovely lunch at Thompson Chequers and are planning Afternoon Tea at Bressingham in July.

We welcome anyone who is bereaved to come along to our meetings or for more information to contact Heather Juby on 01953 850228

HINGHAM GOOD NEIGHBOURS

There is not a lot to report on this year other than we are here to help when we can.

We have a slot in the parish magazine every month advertising our availability and can be contacted on 07391 792398.

Ann Denman
Secretary



Lincoln Social Centre

Report for Annual Town Meeting. 2019

The Hall continues to be well supported by local clubs. You can see a complete list at the end of this report. We have retained all the regular users and also added Line Dancing to the list. Casual bookings have remained steady, but we are always trying to promote the Hall for weekend events. We are hosting more children's parties and anniversaries and have a wedding reception booked for this year. Lincoln Social Centre had an income of £14,660 in 2018.

The Committee is improving the ground at the rear of the Hall. The whole area will be cleared, with a view to increasing the size of the car park. The small storage shed will be pulled down as it is no longer water-proof. And, at present, the big shed needs some repairs.

The shingle on the main car park is getting very thin in places and needs to be improved.

Lincoln Social Centre was awarded a grant from the Town Council, which was used to purchase more chairs.

Annette and I were very pleased that John Wallace Jones was voted as Chairperson at the A.G.M. and Graham Shingfield agreed to be a trustee. We have also Co-opted a new Committee member. We are very pleased to have their experience and support in making decisions about the Centre's future.

Frustratingly, there has been an increase in unreported damages, which has meant that the next group in has discovered the damage. The caretaker has had to deal with these. The committee has had to ban the use of the cooker, unless pre-arranged with the booking secretary, as it was damaged and left in a filthy condition. Also the stage curtains were forced open without using the winder. Dave managed to repair these and saved the Hall an expensive repair bill.

Annette and Dave continue to keep the Hall looking well kept for the users.

Bop Tots , Cycling, Dance, Dog Club, Fit Steps, Gardening Club, History Centre, Town Council, W.I., Lunch Club, Yoga, Slimming World, Hingham Society, and Youth Cafe are all regular users. There have been many casual bookings which has included a rise in weekend bookings such as Craft Fairs, Textile and Art Groups.

HINGHAM CHARITY

The Charity has had an uneventful year apart from the fact that the Turf Meadows as a small SSSI had been joined with the Seamere to form a larger SSSI. This means that we have less money to grant as a charity. Unfortunately this also meant that we were not able to grant Christmas donations this year. But should you feel that you are in real need please contact us.

The Mill Farm allotments are doing well and we have 3 new plot holders and an Allotment Society.

A new clerk has been appointed Mrs D Hughes who you can contact if you feel you need a grant or an allotment, Tel 01953 851214

Hingham Education Trust 2019

Qualifying applicants are those going on to Further Education from the area that was covered by the Old Hingham Grammar School.

This year we had a smaller list of applicants so we were able to increase the size of the grants somewhat, but the amount granted will always depend on varying factors and the number of those applying.

All grants are at the discretion of the trustees and we will endeavour to ensure all the relevant Sixth Forms are made aware of the availability of these grants.

Peter Trett

Acting Chairman

HINGHAM & DISTRICT COMMUNITY CAR SCHEME

Serving the communities of Hingham, Deopham and Hackford

ANNUAL REPORT - 2018 -2019

Introduction:

The Hingham & District Community Car Scheme supports people in our communities with essential medical journeys which cannot reasonably be made by public transport or where a person would have difficulty in using public transport. The Scheme is managed and delivered entirely by volunteers. Volunteer drivers use their own vehicles and are paid a standard rate for their mileage. They offer their time free.

The Scheme charges the passenger 50% of the mileage cost; the remainder is subsidised by SNDC (20%) and Hingham Town Council / Deopham & Hackford Parish Council (30%). [Norfolk County Council contribute £120 per year via SNDC]. The Administrator is paid a small retainer of £20 a month and administration costs such as phone call charges, and booking diaries are also reimbursed (50/50 SNDC and HTC).

SNDC make their contribution annually via a Funding Agreement. For 2018/19 this was £2,189, based upon previous year's grant. Hingham Town Council (and Deopham & Hackford Parish Council) pay quarterly in arrears in response to submission of a claim.

Review of the year:

The Scheme undertook 961 journeys during the year. This is a small increase on last year. The majority of the journeys are to one of the three main hospitals (N&N; West Norwich and Spire) the next greatest number is to the Hingham Surgery. There are also regular visits to Physiotherapy, Cranial-Osteopathy, Chiroprody, and Dental practitioners in nearby towns. With the changing methods employed by the Hospitals to deal with waiting lists, we now occasionally get requests to take people to hospitals further afield, such as Bury St Edmunds, King's Lynn, or Papworth. We try to establish a reasonable rate for these, but in some cases it has proved too expensive for the patient so we have referred them to the Hospital Car Service.

Our clients range from the long term ill, residents in the care home and the two assisted living premises in the town, the housebound at home, or those who are independent but temporarily unable to travel alone.

The scheme is now being excellently administered by Kaylea Monk, who I would like to personally thank for taking on this task. She has replaced Caroline Boyce, who left Hingham for the south west in December. I would like to thank both Caroline and Tony for their dedication to the scheme while they were residents of Hingham, and wish them well in their new adventure in the South West.

Our finances are managed on-line by Geoff Divers, who receives the funds, arranges monthly payments to drivers and wrestles with the world of on-line banking. Continued thanks and gratitude for his vital contribution to the smooth running of the scheme.

Our Drivers:

I would like to thank our regular drivers Trevor Nudds, David Trollope, Paul Mallett, Peter Hall and Alan Juby, for their unflinching support and generosity in continuing to give their time to this vital service during the year. This helps ensure that we are able to respond to most requests. However, it would be good to have more drivers on our books, even if they are only able to offer a small amount of time, or only wish to undertake journeys around the local area.

As volunteers, no driver is ever pressured to take on any job.

If anyone is interested in contributing some time to the scheme, please get in touch with me.

Plans for 2019/20:

The funding from NCC/SNDC continues, and we thank them for their continued support. Our annual funding agreement with SNDC/NCC remains the same (at £2,189). The reporting regime has now thankfully been simplified. HTC have also kindly budgeted £2,500 for continued support of the scheme.

Since the removal of a number of Watton, Carbrooke and Scoulton residents from the Watton Surgery's list to the Hingham Surgery, there has been a small stream of requests from those residents asking for use of the Hingham Community Car service. Unfortunately, these live within the Breckland District Council area and so are not covered by our funding from Hingham and South Norfolk District Council. Last year we undertook these journeys at no charge when no other alternative was available. However, I am pleased to report that I have now tracked down Watton Community Cars, which operates without any local authority funding. These Breckland residents can now be signposted to that service and appropriate notices have been put up in Hingham Surgery and in the Hingham Newsletter.

Watton, Carbrooke and Scoulton residents can now contact:

Sylvia Welsh on 10953 882 961

Anyone in Hingham, Deopham or Hackford wishing to book a Community Car journey should contact:

Kaylea Monk on 01953 851 643

Despite the many day to day issues, I still believe that our service is vital to the people of Hingham & District, especially in helping those who can continue to live independently in our community with a little support. I know that the Neighbourhood Scheme, the Lunch Club, the Churches and the Surgery are all fully aware of the services we offer and I thank them for their work. I also believe that our joint efforts will continue to keep Hingham a particularly friendly and supportive town to live in.

May I remind people to give as much notice as possible when booking the service.

It is very difficult to organise a trip for someone in less than 48 hours.

Alison Lys

Scheme Co-ordinator

The Hingham Society

Report for Parish Meeting, April 2019

The Hingham Society was formed in 1972 and its objective is to “improve, protect and preserve the parish of Hingham”. It is managed by an elected committee and is affiliated to the CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England). We monitor and comment on any planning applications which affect the town’s appearance. We try to ensure that new developments are in keeping with the surrounding buildings. Our programme of evening meetings and outings provide opportunities to discuss topics of local interest and to increase everyone’s knowledge of issues that concern them and the town.

Our programme began with an entertaining and informative talk in April by Paige Langton on the work of the Dogs Rehoming Trust, followed by a visit in May to the Hawk and Owl Trust at Sculthorpe. This was a splendid and comprehensive visit, led expertly by Trust staff.

The annual litter pick took place in early June, and was much more successful than the previous year, with a good army of volunteers. For the second year running we won the South Norfolk prize for community activity, and we used the £200 to buy and plant three English oaks on the green by the Bowling Club to replace the diseased one cut down last year. We thank the Town Council and David Ramm for assistance with planting and maintenance of the new trees. **Please join us this year for the litter pick. It will take place on SUNDAY 19 MAY at 2pm, not Sunday April 28 as it appears in membership cards.** We also cleaned up the space by the entrance to the churchyard opposite Harrods and replanted with flowers and shrubs. We thank David again for offering to maintain this.

In June we hosted a talk by Amanda Rix from the Norfolk Windmills Trust and its mills. This interesting talk focused particularly on the mill in Wicklewood, which is open several times a year. Some of us went on a visit to the mill itself. The highlight of the year was undoubtedly the garden picnic in the grounds of Southernwood House, hosted by Fran and Richard Harrold. Music was provided by the Song Noir duo. It was a resounding triumph, blessed by wonderful weather. We received enthusiastic feedback with calls for a repeat performance. We shall certainly consider it. Our grateful thanks to Fran and Richard, and of course Song Noir

After a midsummer break, Tom Cowin led the annual footpath walk in September. The walk took in paths to the north of the town, and parts of Hardingham Estate. The weather was not promising in the morning but as the walk began the sun came out. Perhaps as a result of doubtful weather, not many turned up, but those who did had an enjoyable walk.

In September we welcomed Tony Leech who gave a fascinating talk called “Witches and Devils, the darker side of fungi” He told us some wonderful stories about myths and legends about fungi, as well as how to identify them. In October he led a visit to Wayland Wood to help us to search for and identify fungi. For those who stayed the course til the end it was an absorbing expedition.

Our eighth quiz took place in October and we were delighted to welcome Rector Colin Reed for the second year to devise the questions and present them with his usual panache. This year Colin will not be with us as he is on sabbatical during the autumn. We shall be in touch later about booking tables. In November we welcomed back Stephen Pope from Gressenhall. He gave us a talk on "The Village Craftsman", a talk he had been due to give last year but had to cancel through illness

We organised carols again in the Market Place with St Andrews Church in December, raising £44.77 for the East Anglia Air Ambulance. Weather was utterly diabolical, but to our amazement the turnout was if anything greater than previous years. We tried squeezing everyone in the bus shelter but there were far too many and most were left outside in the rain. But fortunately we were rescued from the weather by the kindness of Ann and Stephen Hare, who opened up their house for the mince pies and mulled wine. We sang them an appreciative carol to say thank you.

With a small group of volunteers we have kept the footpaths open this year, and we would like to thank the major landowners in the parish for the way they are managing informal permissive paths and keeping the field margins clear for walkers, with or without dogs. We owe them as well as the rest of the town a duty to ensure all dog mess is picked up and placed in the bins provided.

In June we ran a small housing development survey at the Market in the Market Place. The purpose was to increase awareness of the Greater Norwich Local Plan and what it might mean for Hingham in terms of more houses. We presented a map of the village showing the ten sites identified as options for housing development, and asked preferences. Most preferred sites were to the west, mainly the land south of the Watton Road opposite the Sports Club. Least preferred option was east of the current Hops development. This was a small sample (80+) so we can't put too much weight to it. But it suggests perhaps a reluctant acceptance of the then indicative figure of 50 or so houses. Early days yet but we continue to monitor developments.

The Hops development is now complete. While most people appear reasonably satisfied with the development, there have been occasional problems with flooding into the estate from the Norwich Road and concerns about speeding on the main road. An informal group of local residents has lobbied the Town Council and Norfolk County Council's Highways Dept. for improvements to mitigate flooding and reduce speeding, and to re-locate the Ringer's Lane bus stop to avoid illegal overtaking round the refuge while buses are stationary. Anyone interested in assisting with this should contact Geoff Bedford on 851823.

Our financial position is stable. On January 1 2018 our balance was £3,341 and on January 1 2019 it was £3,281. We shall endeavour to continue to develop our activities whilst maintaining a stable cushion. Membership last year was 495, a small decrease on the previous year. We are always looking for people to join our committee. Would anyone interested please get in touch with any member of the committee, or Tom Cowin, on 01953 852549.

Finally we would like to thank all those who have supported us over the past year, and look forward to their continued support in the coming year. Please remember to renew your annual subscription (still only £1) plus any donations you care to make. The programme for 2019 is now available.

Tom Cowin
Chairman

Hingham History Centre

Report for Hingham Town Council Annual Meeting

The Hingham History centre has now been in existence for 8 years and always meets on the last Wednesday of the month in the Lincoln Hall.

This meeting we call a "Mardle" an old Norfolk & Suffolk word for a gathering of folks having a good old chat or gossip!!

The actual definition in the English Dictionary (according to google) is "A Rabble or unruly crowd" - well I can assure you we are definitely not that!!

As I said we meet on the last Wednesday of the month and usually have a Speaker - tea , biscuits and of course a good old "Mardle" amongst ourselves.

Usual attendance is about 35.

One of the aims, as well as providing a place for people to meet up socially, is to raise money to aid the purchase of a safe storage place for all the many old historical documents that are held in private homes in Hingham, where the people holding these documents would feel that it is a safe and secure place and would be happy to release them.

Attleborough has an extremely good storage centre situated in the middle of the town and our aim would be to purchase something similar.

It has been noted that it would be good and very useful if we could have somewhere that could be shared between the Library, H.T.C. and the History Centre for the safe storage of all documents relating to Hingham. This would definitely Not replace the function of the Lincoln Hall where all meetings would continue to be held, just a smaller centrally secure place for the storage of these documents - where any visitors to Hingham who wish to look up anything, perhaps relating to their family, could be directed.

Ann Hare

Secretary - 31:03:19

Report for Hingham W.I.

2018 was a very important year for our W.I. as we celebrated our 100th Birthday. A special service presided over by Rev. Sally Wallace-Jones was held in St Andrew's Church on July 8th.

On July 11th we held a Birthday tea in the Lincoln Hall and all our members were given a bag to mark the occasion. Many of our members joined members of Barnham Broom, Ditchingham, Hardingham and Hethersett W.I.s for a joint celebration meal at Park Farm Hethersett on July 25th. We were presented with a certificate to mark our 100th Birthday at the Annual Federation Meeting held in St Andrew's Hall. During the year we have held our normal monthly meetings with a wide variety of speakers as well as supporting the group events.

In May we visited the Fairhaven Gardens and in December we held our annual Christmas lunch at Broom Hall.

Our main fund raising events were a strawberry tea and a cake stall.

This year the Norfolk Federation of W.I.'s is celebrating its 100th Birthday. The annual meeting was held in the Theatre Royal on March 21st and the guest speaker was Pam Ayres.

New members and visitors are always welcome to any of our meetings.

Hingham Santa's Grotto

For the past four years Hingham Santa's Grotto has stood on the Fairland throughout December, providing a focal point for the young (and not so young!) people of Hingham and surrounding areas as Christmas approaches. Santa himself attends the town's Christmas Market every year, providing great excitement for the children, and is a highlight of the annual market.

The wooden grotto was originally constructed in 2014, created by a team of volunteers who gave their time and effort for free, and boosted by donations from local businesses. Thanks to growing interest from the local community, in 2017 the grotto was extended with the addition of Santa's Cabin and furnished with handmade items and donations including a stove, table, bed, comfy chair and, of course, a typewriter for compiling his 'Naughty & Nice' lists! And, of course, there is a 'Letter to Santa' post box where children can post their special letters to Santa. The grotto has become a feature of the town's Christmas Market, attracting people from across Norfolk to Hingham and bringing additional revenue to local businesses. Lighting has been an ongoing issue for us as there is no electricity point immediately available, we are hoping that this can, in some way, be rectified for next Christmas. We held a 'cake stall' in the market place on the 30th. March 2019 which was a great success with donations from the local Co-op store, Hingham Bakery and many local people.

We are always looking for new ways to raise money and any suggestions will be welcomed. Hingham Santa's Grotto brings the spirit of Christmas to life, giving young and old the opportunity to experience the magic and joy of this special time of the year.

You're never too old to visit!

Sid Weiner - Secretary Hingham Santa's Grotto

hinghamsantasgrotto@gmail.com

Hingham and Hardingham Art Group: Report April 2019

The Hingham and Hardingham Art Group meets fortnightly on a Tuesday afternoon at Hardingham Village Hall. During these meetings, some members do figure drawing or work from a still life whilst others work on their own projects. Members use mediums of their own choice, perhaps pencil, charcoal, pastel, or collage, acrylic or oils. We now have 28 members.

We were very sad to say goodbye to Anne Howarth when she died last autumn; she was a long standing and influential member, a gifted artist who shared her knowledge and experience to the benefit of us all. The Club holds 3 workshops a year for members, usually led by a visiting practitioner.

In July, Andy Parker led a day using oils to sketch 'plein air' in Hardingham around the Hall; in November, Stuart Green came from Cambridge to encourage us to loosen up with water colours and inks and in March, Kay Barker led a workshop on portraits using acrylics and a limited palette. The three days were all well attended and very enjoyable.

Our trip this year will be in April to Henry Moore's home to view the exhibition of his drawings as well as his sculptures; we will be meeting as usual in the summer to paint in the open air. By popular request we are meeting for whole day sessions on four Tuesdays this year, bringing a plate of food to share over lunch. We held our AGM and annual lunch for members and their partners or guests at Hardingham Hall on the 26th March this year; Jane Howard catered for us, producing another delicious meal.

After another very successful Exhibition at the Lincoln Hall, Hingham, last year, this year's Exhibition will be held at the Lincoln Hall on the 17th and 18th November, with the private view on the 16th; we offer a warm welcome to those who would like to come and see our work.

Hilary Hodges Chair person.

St. Andrew's Hingham Heritage Fund - Chairman's Report 2019

This year is not much different to my report last time. Other than that in 2017 we were lucky to have the Open Gardens Day which raised £3000 for the funds. This event will be held again this year on 9th June. Also, the Academy of St. Thomas will be giving a concert on September 14th.

For this year we changed the timing of the Soup and Sweet Lunches from summer to January, February and March. The Curry Lunch will be held again on the 11th May, and the Market Stalls will start in April and run through to September; they usually give a good return. The Ceilidh, unfortunately, was not supported in the same way. However, those that did attend enjoyed themselves and we did make a small profit.

Unfortunately this year we have lost several members of the Committee for various reasons; but I am hoping that we will still have their support at events, though this does leave us a bit under staffed. If we cannot find replacements, and more support, then it will be up to the Trustees to decide what is to be done in the future.

To those that have left the Committee I do sincerely thank them for the work that they have given to Heritage Fund. You have been a pleasure to work with.

There is some good news. A few weeks ago we received tenders for the repair of the guttering to the south side of the church. This was a satisfactory figure and we were able to tell the PCC that we will fund this work to the agreed amount. It is so nice to be able to be of service. The down side of this is that we will have to make the money again so that we can do it again.

Geoff Young - Chairman St. Andrew's Heritage Fund

St Andrew's Church Hingham - Report 2019

We have now had the benefit of the heating/lighting system for a full year. This has enabled us to initiate and host new activities.

The monthly Computer Club helps with computer/tablet/phone use.

The monthly Wheels Cafe is designed for anyone who uses wheels, whether that be wheelchairs, mobility aids, bicycles or children's buggies.

Recently 'Remini -sing', a singing and music group for older people has begun meeting on Mondays in term time.

We were very pleased to provide a rehearsal and performance space for the Community Choir and look forward to welcoming them again to prepare and stage a Summer Concert.

Last Summer we held a holiday club for older people which was a very happy few days.

We have also been able to have refreshments after funeral services at the rear of the Church.

The Monthly 'Messy Church', for children and their parent/carer, continues to flourish, as does the mid week exercise groups.

We were very pleased by the support and appreciative comments for the Remembrance displays and events this year. The church is open every day and many of the visitors during November wrote good comments about the displays and the effectiveness of the silhouettes in the pews.

The Christmas windows arranged by many organizations in the town were again very impressive, and all were in place for the Town Christmas Market, remaining until 12th night. The Christmas services and concerts were very well supported with Christmas Eve seeing over 400 people enjoying the early evening 'Light of the World'. During Advent, and again during Lent we have a collection point for the local Food Banks. We continue to support local and overseas charities.

With all these many and various events it is obvious that we need toilet facilities in the church. The PCC have chosen a plan which will enhance the church and have consulted with the appropriate bodies. We are now ready to have specifications drawn up to apply for a faculty from the Diocese. We will have to raise a huge amount of money and will be looking for grants and support in this.

The maintenance of the building is very costly and we are very fortunate to have the support of the Heritage Fund who work throughout the year to raise money for the

fabric of the building. At the moment they are funding work to the South Gutters to keep the damp at bay and are hoping to also fund the restoration of the original ringing floor so that we will be able to teach a new group of bell ringers. Interest has been expressed by a few people in learning to ring the bells. One or two of the stained glass windows also need attention. We are working on improving the appearance of the church floor, especially the black ledger stones with their memorial text.

The year 2020 is the 700th anniversary of the beginning of the building of the present St. Andrew's Church. We intend to mark this over the weekend of 3rd, 4th and 5th July 2020. We would very much appreciate ideas and support to make this a truly community event.

Hingham Youth Café

Annual Report April 2019 Co-ordinator: Dawny Christien

Hingham Youth Cafe delivers a monthly session for young people aged from school year 7 onwards, who live in Hingham and the surrounding areas. Each 2 hours session is staffed by volunteers, with activities and resources courtesy of fundraising efforts and support from Hingham Town Council. Since September '18, we have made over 150 contacts, with a roughly even gender split, working with around 40 individuals. This shows there is still a need for the service we offer - namely, a safe and relaxed social space for young people to meet with their friends and get involved in projects and activities, whilst having access to helpful, supportive youth workers.

Our best achievements this year: our first off-site visit to the One Life Left gaming cafe in Norwich, fitting a bouncy castle into Lincoln Hall (only just!), developing a website and purchasing a badge machine! With the three sessions we have left this year, we hope to get outdoors and play rounders, go climbing indoors, and hopefully have a rollerdisco! Young people make the decisions on what we do.

Why do we need a Youth Cafe? There are around 200 young people aged 11-19 in Hingham itself and far more if we include surrounding areas, and those we work with are clear that, while they are dispersed during the day to at least 7 different High Schools, having an easy to access space and place to maintain and develop friendships with their 'local mates' is really important. And they are correct - the latest research shows that social time spent in the company of others, and not via social media, gaming and screens in general, is a hugely protective factor for young people's mental health.

We decided last year that, in line with national youth work themes, mental health was a priority for Hingham Youth Cafe, and trained the coordinator as a Mental Health First Aider. We have connect with the wider youth work picture in Norfolk, and had young carers referred to us from delivery organisation MTM youth services, who continue to support us and our coordinator.

What of the future? We continue to be in good financial shape to operate for the remainder of the year, and are better resourced than ever for trips off-site, activities and the like. There is more that could be done for those more 'at risk' in Hingham, and we are working less so with young people in the 13-19 age bracket, for whom a different space, youth work style and curriculum might be more appropriate.

For these groups, as well as mental health, issues such as County Lines/Child Criminal Exploitation, and drug/alcohol education more broadly, could be usefully addressed through a youth work model. We need to talk to local young people more, and find out what they need. We have good quality meeting spaces, a skate park, open space and a sports hall. There is no reason why Hingham shouldn't be home to the safest, healthiest and happiest young people in the country.

The Town Council agreed to support the youth cafe in it's quest to achieve funding to pay a self-employed youth worker to develop and deliver a youth work model for Hingham ongoing. This is being moved forward by the same volunteers running the current youth cafe, so time is short, and we invite anyone with experience and expertise to come forward to help with this piece of work. Huge thanks go to all the volunteers who make these sessions possible (and awesome fun!), to our fantastic treasurer, to the Town Council for their support, and also to anyone who champions the need for Hingham to grow it's offer for children and young people.

Find out more at www.hinghamyouthcafe.co.uk.

HINGHAM METHODIST CHURCH

Bond Street, Hingham. NR9 4HA

REPORT FOR HINGHAM ANNUAL TOWN MEETING 18th APRIL 2019

Hingham Methodist Church Activities and Fundraising

Events 2018 -2019

Our regular Church Services and Activities continue as follows:-

*Sunday Morning Service at 10.30 am. Give us a look! We are a friendly bunch and would be so pleased to see you and welcome you to our Church.

* Bible Discussion Group. Second and fourth Monday in the month, 10.00 am. In the School room at Chapel.

Open to anyone who would like to join us in discussing the Bible. How does it relate to us here and now, in our everyday lives?

See Community Magazine for Monthly dates.

* Chapel Anniversary, Sunday April 28th 2019

*Harvest Festival Service, Sunday September 29th With guest preacher.

*Annual Christmas Carol Service. Each year, just before Christmas, we have a Carol Service. It's a Carol Service with a difference ! Come along and sing Carols with us, get the real Christmas Spirit!

*Coffee Shop and Market. First Saturday of every month. 10am- 12noon

Held at the Methodist Church Room in Bond Street. Market stalls, selling cakes, bric-a-brac, books, jigsaws, jewellery and fancy goods, household linens and rails of pre-loved clothes. That's not all! We have a café, serving coffees and teas and homemade cheese or fruit scones.

*Children's Crafty Corner. Crafts for children while the 'grown ups' enjoy their coffee and scones!

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

*June/December 2018/19—Town Market and Town Christmas Market.

2018 Hoop-La stalls raised £30.20 for 'Action for Children' Methodist Charity.

*July -2018 Town Garage Sale raised in excess of £300.00 for Church funds. This has proved very popular. We will be holding another Town Garage Sale This year on July 13th from 10 am -2pm.

Hundreds of people from all over Norfolk came to Hingham! Good for Hingham businesses !!!

*October 2018, we put on a 'Sing-a-Long with Sketches etc' in the Lincoln Hall.

This proved very popular and raised £432.00 for Church Funds.

This was our last sing-a-Long event to be held in the Lincoln Hall. We are all getting too old !!

As you will appreciate, our Chapel building needs to be kept standing, and we also have to find £10.000 per annum to help fund the four ordained Ministers in our Mid Norfolk Circuit.

Charity Raffles (6 held per year) are held at our Coffee shops. We aim to support local charities, and national /international disasters.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for supporting our fundraising throughout the year. We really do appreciate it.

FORWARD DATES FOR THIS YEAR'S EVENTS. 2019

TOWN GARAGE SALE Saturday 13th July 2 10am- 2pm

'CHRISTMAS UNWRAPPED' December. Date to be announced.

Hingham Tennis Report for Hingham Annual Town Meeting

As Hingham Tennis approaches its 3rd birthday, we're pleased to report the facility is still well used and supported by the local community.

We've managed to retain the membership at the same levels since we opened, with almost 200 members on the books. We're a 50-50 split of male and females and have a good range of members from 4 years up to 80!

Sam Howlett remains our Head Coach, with the support of Jonathan Linder who achieved his level 3 coaching qualification last year. This places our club in a minority in East Anglia, where many of the small rural clubs cannot attract or sustain a coach. Thanks to Sam and Jonathan we have an excellent weekly timetable of tennis sessions to cater for all levels and ages, and are open to non-members. We offer twice weekly cardio tennis, plus 2 group adult coaching sessions per week. We also offer various group lessons for children up to 16, and a 'drop in' club night for our junior members.

Our coaches offer tennis days during school holidays and are running coaching programmes in local schools.

For adults members there are 5 social play sessions (including a popular Monday morning cake & coffee session!) which are free, plus they can book courts whenever they wish, using an online booking system. There is also a 'tennis ladder' available for those wishing to challenge other members to matches.

We have a strong, active committee who have helped to put together some super events in the last year. A big thanks to them. Highlights have included:

- Various bring & share picnics & BBQs, with tournaments alongside. We've hosted mixed, mens and ladies and last season a family tournament with one child & adult per side.
- Our 'Great British Tennis Weekend' - an LTA supported initiative offering free tennis taster sessions.
- Friendly matches against other clubs – including Cromer and Garboldisham.
- A Quiz to raise funds for Hingham Tennis, the HPFA and Air Ambulance.
- Distributing 10 pairs of Wimbledon tickets to our members !

Another huge highlight has been the introduction of the game 'Pickleball' to Hingham. It's played on a badminton size court, with paddles (bats). We're currently running 6 weeks of trial sessions (on Friday mornings and Sunday nights) to see how demand goes. It's suitable for all ages and people who've never played any sport, so do contact us for more info.

In 2018/19 the Junior members of the club have continued to do well at local competitions, nearly always coming home with medals. It's a pleasure to report 8 are now in the County tennis squad which is great achievement for the club, coaches and those committed young people.

As for 2019, we have many events planned, but the most relevant to everyone here is Friday 10th May which will see us host a 'Hingham Quiz' aimed at all of the community. It's to raise well needed funds for the HPFA & Sports Hall, and we were hoping each club and society in Hingham could try and put a team together. The evening will include food and a raffle, please let us know if you're interested.

During 2019 we will host our 3rd birthday party, more tournaments and social tennis. As always, we welcome any interest or new members, so please don't hesitate to get in touch. The courts are also available to book on an hourly pay & play basis if you just fancy having a go. Floodlight tokens are available at the Sports Hall bar.

We believe that tennis should be enjoyed by anyone, no matter their age or ability, and that we want a friendly, inclusive club. So please come and see what we're all about!

Emily Cary & Lindsey Read
Co-Chairs of Hingham Tennis
hinghamtennis@gmail.com
www.hinghamtennis.co.uk
Tel: 01953 850 342

Gardening Club

2018 was a fairly successful year for the Gardening Club but like most clubs across the country we struggle for members, committee members and help at meetings, but we still keep plodding on.

Speakers were varied starting with Mary Sykes talking about composting to Justin from BLS Safety and Training giving advice on first Aid, demonstrating how to use the defibulator and how to put someone in the recovery position. Some members thought this was going to be boring but many said afterwards that it wasn't and was very helpful.

We also had talks by the Lady Mole Catcher, Howard Norton showing pictures of some beautiful delphiniums, Lynn Pettit on bees, David Mason showing slides of the wildlife of the Scottish Islands, Jane Steward talking about Medlars and Simon White telling us all about Beale's past, present and the future after their very costly rebuild.

The Spring show was successful as was the plant and cake stall in May and the plant and cake stall at the council market in June.

This year we've already welcomed Simon White, Robyn McDonald (Botanic Gardens), Sam Steggle (Fielding Cottage Goats Cheese) and Hodmedod's hedgehog support. There will be talks to come from the Hawk and Owl Trust, one about Fuchsias, companion planting for a balanced garden, roadside nature reserves and images of woodland. An evening visit has been arranged to the Medlar orchard in June.

The committee reluctantly cancelled the Spring Show in April as most of the daffodils had already flowered and had died off. It was also cancelled as one of our prolific contributors died in February. George Craig will be sorely missed for all his help, friendship and exhibits. The ashes of our ex. Chairman and president, Arthur Marshall, were brought back to Hingham in March and interred in Norwich with his wife Clarice and another of our enthusiastic members, Anna Brown, died at the beginning of the year.

The club meets on the second Tuesday of the month and all are welcome to join us to listen to the talk and enjoy a cup of tea and a biscuit.

Hingham Cricket Club

Hingham Cricket Club had a very successful season last year with both the first and second teams being promoted. The mid-week team also won the Wicklewood Shield.

Captains Jake Scent and Kevin Chilleystone are looking forward to more success this year and with an influx of new players are both very optimistic.

The first home match is on Saturday 4th May at Watton Road Playing Fields, and we welcome support from the Town.

This season the Club is introducing Junior Cricket under Level 2 Coach Steven Guy.

Further details on this will be published in the Community Magazine.

REPORT from - Hingham Playing Field Association (HPFA) for 2018/2019

Charity No: 286060

Introduction

The HPFA manages the play and sports facilities on behalf of the town. The HPFA is a charity, run by 4 trustees and volunteers, who might not be involved in any of the Clubs. The HPFA Committee is made up of these volunteers, a representative of each club, and representatives of other village interests, such as the Town Council, District Councillor, Team Rector, etc. The Committee meets monthly and club representatives attend when they can. We have one self-employed Bookings Manager/Caretaker (Mr Nigel Matthews) and a cleaner (shared with the Social Club), paid on an hourly basis.

The HPFA's job is to manage and maintain the fabric of the Sports Hall building; the two children's play areas and the playing fields as directed by the lease with the Hingham Town Council. HPFA pays £100 per year rent to the Council under the terms of the lease for the Sports Ground, last signed in September 1999 for a period of 50 years. The Play Area in Hardingham Street (The Welcomme Space) and the buildings and structures on the Playing Fields are owned by the HPFA.

HPFA income is received solely from fees charged to the Social and Sports Clubs and other users of the Sports Hall. All other income is from funding applications that we make ourselves to the Council, South Norfolk District and other funding bodies. This accounting year we have again made an operating loss. Our major outgoings are for the electricity and oil – the cost of heating and lighting an uninsulated building. We are therefore increasing our hire charges for the first time since 2014 from May 2018.

The Sports Hall and Playing Fields are used by 14 clubs and other groups, accounting for around 1,600 visitors each month.

Major Maintenance Activities

Oil fired boilers The boiler has finally been replaced this month which should result in a more efficient use of oil. The oil tank itself is being replaced in May to move it further from the building and ensure it meets current safety standards. We are also replacing the two immersion tanks which are severely clogged with limescale which will also ensure more efficient use of oil.

Electricity. Our insurance company flagged up a number of issues relating to our electrical systems, which have, over the years, been added to, altered and improved. A full Electrical Report was commissioned in February, which led to a fairly daunting list of problems being identified, ranging from very urgent to minor adjustments. We are beginning these works imminently and by the summer our systems should meet all the current requirements.

Play Areas: Management of the Play Areas at the Watton Road site and Hardingham Street continue to be problematic, with mis-use, vandalism and inconsiderate dog owners causing an endless round of issues which we have to resolve. The equipment at the Welcomme Space has been renovated during the year, and we are currently seeking quotes for further works at the Watton Road Play area. Our next RoSPA Report is due in June.

Major User Updates

The Social Club: The club is doing well and offers a wide range of events every month, which are advertised in the Town Newsletter. The sports clubs are always welcome, as are any other visitors. The club is ready to welcome new members and anyone who would like to join (at a modest £10 per year) can take advantage

of the discounted drinks prices! Anyone who would like to join should call into the club to find out more. Particular thanks to Tracey Scent, who has organised the increasing number of very successful fundraising events for both the Social Club and the HPFA.

The Antiques Fair: The Antiques Fair (on the last Sunday of the month) has expanded considerably under the new management of Philip Crossthwaite. This successful regular event has led to problems with inconsiderate parking around the margins of the Sports Hall, and Philip has worked hard to marshal the parking around the area, but the Police are no longer able to support us (even in allowing us to use cones). I can only ask that residents try to be patient during the few hours once a month that this problem occurs, and if a car is clearly illegally or dangerously parked, please call the Police. In the longer term we are still aiming to expand the car parking at the Playing Fields, so that all visitors can park at the site.

Plans for 2018/19

The main driver for our activities continues to be upgrading our now elderly Sports Hall. As well as the oil-fired heating and electrical works described above, we still have to complete the installation of LED lighting in the Sports Hall, extend the car park and improve the security and fabric of external doors and windows. It remains difficult to fund upgrades and renovations to existing building through grant funding, which puts increased strain on our income. Led by the Social Club, we are undertaking an increased level of fundraising events to help with this.

We continue to be grateful to the Town Council and South Norfolk Council for their help and support where they can and we are determined to continue to provide good facilities for the people of Hingham and the wider community going forward.

Finally, thank you to all the Clubs who stay in touch with HPFA, to the trustees and committee volunteers who give their time to the administration and maintenance required to keep the facilities open, and special thanks to our Bookings Manager, Nigel Matthews, whose dedication to both the facilities and to the Clubs and other visitors has led to increased income from users.

Alison Lys, Chairman

South Norfolk Council Annual Report 2018/19-Hingham and Deopham

During the last financial year South Norfolk has embarked on a new chapter with a single Paid Service with our colleagues in Broadland. Local Government finance is undergoing the biggest upheaval since 2006 with wholesale risks passed from central Government to ourselves.

In spite of these changes we continue to focus on our social agenda. This year South Norfolk delivered 315 new affordable homes to rent or buy and a further 384 were purchased under the Government help to buy scheme. There are now many more affordable homes locally than before the right to buy started and our housing team are finding two socially-rented homes for families every business day. Our £2m upgrade at Long Stratton Leisure centre was completed this March and membership is already growing.

We have also delivered a new All-Weather pitch this spring at Ketts Park in Wymondham so that more people have the chance to lead healthier and active lifestyles. It's not just about housing and infrastructure and strengthening the economy. We also seek to solve peoples' problems one family a time.

Our Community Connectors deliver Social Prescribing in every town and village in the District and this year dealt with more than 1600 cases. That's just one example of our work which covers preventing homelessness, sorting out debt problems, helping youngsters find a rented home or ensuring that landlords keep their promises to tenants.

We mustn't also forget the work we do to help small businesses and this year we have been able to reduce the rates bills of the smallest firms by more than the Government expects so that, especially, rural pubs, and shops can remain open for longer.

Everyone knows that finances are tight in local Government so we have invested in becoming a low-cost operator. 62% of our ten most popular transactions are now applied-for online via our website. It means that we have fewer administrators and can deal with problems faster and at times when it is convenient for our customers – even if the office is closed. These efficiencies are important, but they are not enough if we are to deliver the 86 services we provide for residents. So that's why we are looking to do more with our neighbours in Broadland Council. Working more closely together offers both councils increased capacity and resilience, together with greater financial stability whilst taking advantage of commercial opportunities to deliver better value for our residents.

Finally, all these things work on a district-wide basis. But we're delivering locally too. We still offer community grants and this year I have been pleased to support Hingham Rectory Bowls club with a grant of more than £8000 to install a heating system in their clubhouse, and a grant towards a Defibrillator in the Hingham Industrial Estate. We try to make Better Lives and Stronger Economies for everyone whilst keeping the cost down with a dedicated team of staff members and Councillors working with the other parts of Government to improve lives one family at a time, one street at a time and one place at a time.

Cllr Yvonne Bendle, Hingham and Deopham Ward Cabinet Member for Housing, Leisure, Wellbeing and Early Intervention South Norfolk District Council

Vice-Chairman Norfolk Health and Wellbeing Board Tel: 01953 850306 YBendle@s-norfolk.gov.uk

Norfolk County Council - Annual Report 2019

We kept within the budget that we set for last year and we have just agreed a £409 million revenue budget for this year. We will invest an extra £6million to address the growing demand for Adult Social Services and another £14.5 million to tackle pressures on the looked after children service. The Revenue Support Grant that we receive from government is £39million this year but it has been gradually reducing and will cease next year.

To help make the money go further we have adopted a new 'Norfolk Futures Strategy' based on four principles:

- *Offering our help early to prevent and reduce demand for specialist services
- *Joining up our work so that similar activities and services are easily accessible, done well and done once
- *Being business-like and making use of digital technology to ensure value for money
- *Using evidence and data to target our work where it can make the most difference.

Highways

You will have noticed that there have been several road closures just lately. In November Norfolk received an additional £12.694million from Government to spend on road maintenance. To date 125,000m² of worn out highway surface has been replaced.

Transport for Norwich has also received £7.3 million towards sustainable transport schemes and the Department for Transport has awarded £98million to the Gt Yarmouth Third River Crossing.

Broadband

Thousands more homes and businesses will be able to access Superfast Broadband. Thanks to Norfolk County Council securing an extra £11million funding Better Broadband for Norfolk should deliver 95% coverage across the county by March 2020.

Mobile signals

Following a survey of mobile signals across the county the council has created a map showing over 200 council owned sites with poor mobile coverage. These are being offered to mobile operators as potential sites for new masts to boost the phone signals in those areas.

Early Childhood and Family Service

The Early Childhood and Family Service has been restructured to include more outreach groups in libraries, nurseries and community centres as well as the 15 new service bases, in order to reach families in most need of the services.

The council will be investing £120million in special educational needs and disabilities provision. We will be providing four new special schools plus specialist bases in mainstream schools to create 500 extra school places.

Education and safety

Norfolk was ranked 6th. (Out of 31 peer councils) for Road Safety Education in a Highways and Transport survey.

The Fire Service continues to hold Crucial Crew events to educate primary school children about various dangers including fire, water, internet, road safety, etc. Over 6,000 Primary School children have attended these events since they began.

Fire and Rescue Service

Last year the Fire Service worked very hard rescuing people from the Beast from the East snow storms in the spring and fighting field fires in the summer when the weather was exceptionally hot.

Apprenticeships

The council works with local businesses to provide apprenticeships for all ages. Last year there were 2,030 apprenticeships started in Norfolk.

Libraries

Following another successful summer reading scheme for children last year, this years theme will be 'Space Travel' to commemorate the 50th anniversary of landing on the moon.

Adult Social Care

A new network of "life Connectors" will provide advice and support to enable people to remain in their own homes and communities.

We are also investing £29million in Housing with Care to deliver 3,000 extra homes for older people over the next ten years.

The Carers Charter was launched in November as part of a national campaign to help unpaid carers, organisations and communities understand their rights and help improve the lives of carers. They are an enormous, hidden resource which saves the public purse billions of pounds each year.

Trading Standards

Following a successful joint conference with Suffolk last autumn, which was attended by over 200 organisations interested in helping to protect people against SCAMS and fraud, a Norfolk Against SCAMs Partnership has been set up to draw together local councils, Police, businesses and community and voluntary groups which will work together to warn local people about SCAMs and fraud. They are already planning another conference for November.

I endeavour to attend all Parish council meetings but unfortunately there are often other meetings that I also have to attend on the same evening. Parish clerks know they can contact me anytime if there is a problem in the area that I can assist with.

Margaret Dewsbury