



# YAXHAM PARISH COUNCIL



## VILLAGE NEWSLETTER May/June 2022

### **Annual Parish Meeting & Parish Council Meeting** **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00pm at the Village Hall in the David Myhill Room.**

#### **The Annual Parish Meeting 7.00pm**

This is the meeting where the Parish Council presents its annual report & accounts, and other parish organisations report on their past year.

#### **The Parish Council Annual Meeting 7.30pm**

This is when the Parish Council elects its new Chairman and Vice-Chairman. With Cllr Ian Martin having to stand down due to ill health, this meeting will see a new chairman elected.

### **Breckland Council, Mattishall Ward By-Election, 9<sup>th</sup> June**

As you may know Breckland Cllr Ian Martin has resigned from Breckland Council due to ill-health. There is therefore a by-election in the ward, that includes Yaxham, on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022. The polling station is at Yaxham Village Hall and will be open from 7am to 10pm.

**Please vote. The Candidates are:**

Name of Candidate	Home Address	Description (if any)
COGMAN Kendra	(address in Breckland)	The Labour Party
OECHSLE Maggie	Frogs Hall Farm, Cutthroat Lane, Yaxham, Dereham, NR19 1RG	Independent
PLUMMER Paul Jonathan	Penny Meadows, Dereham Road, Garvestone, Norwich, NR9 4AD	The Conservative Party Candidate

### **Yaxham Parish Council Vacancy for a Councillor**

The Parish Council Meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> May will not only see Cllr Ian Martin stand down as chairman, but also will be his last Parish Council meeting.

There will therefore be a vacancy on the Parish Council – so come along on the 26<sup>th</sup> May to see how the Council operates and decided whether you could help or do better. There's a challenge! Watch the Parish Council Notice Boards and website for details.

Formal Notice of the parish councillor vacancy will be published by Breckland with a deadline for 10 people living in the parish to request an election. If an election is held then the costs of administration of around £1,800 fall to the parish. If there is no call for an election then anyone living in the parish who may be interested in becoming a parish can apply to be co-opted.

If you would like more information then please see [www.yaxham.com/parish-council/](http://www.yaxham.com/parish-council/) or contact any of the Cllrs or the Clerk to The Council [yaxhamparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:yaxhamparishclerk@gmail.com).

### **THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS DATES**

5<sup>th</sup> June - Celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee at St. Peter's Church at 10.30am

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Picnic on the Recreation Field 12.30-4.30pm

16<sup>th</sup> July - The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Produce & Craft Show, Village Hall 1pm

*PS. St Peter's Church is open daily 9am-5pm*

For more information see [www.yaxham.com/parish-council/](http://www.yaxham.com/parish-council/) or email [yaxhamparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:yaxhamparishclerk@gmail.com).

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## PLAY AREA UPDATE

The play area refurbishment project is now complete, with the addition of two extra springer rides, see below, being recently installed for younger children up to the age of 6 years.



The successful completion of this project now provides a revitalised play area for the communities of Yaxham and Clint Green where young

families can meet and enjoy the space. Without the help and support of Breckland Council, The Parish Charity, Yaxham Parish Council, Yaxham Village Amenities Association and all community volunteers this project would have not succeeded, so a big thank you to everyone.

### Future Plans

Opportunities are being investigated to obtain further funding to enlarge the play area eastwards. This will provide an area for more play equipment to be installed in phased stages as funds become available. This will be an ambitious project requiring grants from Breckland Council, The Parish Charity plus a large contribution from the developer Badger Homes, who are building 24 homes on the site north of the Norwich Road.

If funding is successful, it is envisaged that the first stages of enlarging the play area would start later this year or early 2023. To ensure that the community are engaged in all aspects of the play area enlargement project, the Parish Council will be asking members of the community what play equipment they would like to see in the play area. Clearly, budget will be the deciding factor in all decisions.

*Well done to Cllr Chris Couves and all the formal and informal members of the Parish Council's Play Area Working Group.*

## PAROCHIAL CHURCH CHARITIES

With 6 trustees now in place on the Townlands village charity it is now planned to formally amalgamate the Fuel Allotments Charity with the Townlands Charity and run as a single entity.

Both charities have a similar purpose – i.e. to help elderly and needy Yaxham residents with small grants to help out when times are hard.

Small grants which are unlikely to be more than £50 are now available and application forms are available from Yaxham VA Primary School, St Peter's Church, and the Community Café every second Thursday as well, and by email [yaxhamtownlands@gmail.com](mailto:yaxhamtownlands@gmail.com).

### SEWAGE MATTERS – 3Ps!

Anglian Water previously installed a telemetering system to optimise the combined operation of the Norwich Road and St Peter's Close sewage pumping stations, and hopefully reduce the risk of sewage flooding at either site. The new sewage pumping stations for the Elm Close and Badger Homes Norwich Road sites will also be integrated into this system. And we are awaiting news from Flagship of when the ditch from St Peter's Close to the Tudd river will be cleared.

Parish Councillors continue to work with Anglian Water to seek to improve drainage and sewage matters for the village. Flow meters will now be placed leading to the Norwich Road Pumping Station to investigate if any surface water is entering and overpowering the system. Anglia Water reported that some new roofing and renovation of the old pumping stations' buildings is scheduled.

Anglian Water also reported that although Yaxham is better than some other places – a fatberg can be created and cause a blockage leading to unpleasant issues in gardens and out of manholes. **It was stressed that the 3Ps only should go down the toilet. Pee, Poo and Paper.** Wipes, microplastics, cooking oil etc etc all lead to a fatberg problem so we need to heed the advice so that these avoidable problems need not arise.

***You have been warned!***

# PLANNING MATTERS

## Breckland's new Local Plan

This process is underway. The first big step is the call for land to be nominated for all the new houses that will be required under the new Local Plan – as if you did not think there were enough already! This closes on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022. Later in the year Breckland will publish maps for consultation showing where land has been nominated – then the real work starts to make sure that any sites put forward in the parish are acceptable to the residents of the parish.

## NP4YAXHAM Review

To seek to help protect Yaxham Parish the Cllrs are actively engaged with Breckland Council over their new Local Plan. As a further protection for our small parish the Parish Council is also considering reviewing the Yaxham Neighbourhood Plan (NP4Yaxham).

The current Plan was “made” in 2017 and to keep the Plan up to date, councillors are considering a review to update NP4Yaxham in line with Breckland's Local Plan review. A grant is available for necessary professional planning advice. Details of the current plan can be found on [www.NP4Yaxham.com](http://www.NP4Yaxham.com), The Parish Council would welcome new people willing to join a Working Group to look at this very important village issue.

## THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE BENCH

A bench will be placed in Pinn's Corner as a commemoration by the Yaxham Parish Charity on behalf of the Parish Council to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee year.

Pinn's Corner is a quiet and restful local green space at the heart of the village between Clint Green and Yaxham and is well used by dog walkers, ramblers and maintained by the Yaxham Woodland Group on behalf of the Parish Council.



Yaxham's Produce and Craft Show



strawberry jam

16th July 2022 1pm

Show schedule available  
in St Peter's Church



Exhibits



Children's games



local stalls



For more information please contact: Sarah on [wellies555@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:wellies555@hotmail.co.uk)



## **The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration Picnic**

**Yaxham Village Hall Recreation  
Field**

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022, 12.30-4.30**

**Music, bar, ice cream and games**

**Red, white and blue outfits encouraged!**

**Free commemorative gift for Under 14s**

**Bring a picnic and join friends,  
family and neighbours for an  
afternoon of good old-fashioned fun!**