



Tasburgh Parish Council

Annual Report 2017/18

Contacting the Parish Council

If you have any comments about Tasburgh Parish Council and its work or you have any issues you wish to be raised please contact one of the Councillors or the Parish Clerk, contact details are below.

Councillors

Dave Moore	16 Henry Preston Road david.g.moore@homecall.co.uk	471041
Geoff Merchant	14 Orchard Way geoffmerchant@btinternet.com	470606
Jill Casson	12 Hastings Close jillian_casson@btinternet.com	470334
Brian Hill	8 Harvey Close brian.hill2@homecall.co.uk	471011
Keith Read	Thornly Barn, Saxlingham Lane k.a.read@btinternet.com	470229
Rachel Simmons	2 Prior Close rachelsimmons1974@outlook.com	471197
Willie Crawshay	The Grange, Low Road willie.crawshay@btconnect.com	471650
Matthew Read	1 Harvey Close matt.read.taspc@gmail.com	470612
Adrienne Watts	Grove Cottage awatts.tas@hotmail.co.uk	470217

Clerk

Tina Eagle	17 Alder Close, Poringland NR14 7LY tasburghpc@btinternet.com	494569
------------	---	--------

Website <https://tasburghpc.wixsite.com/tasburghpc>

Chairman's Report

This is my first report as Parish Council Chair, and I would like to start by thanking Dave Moore for the seven years he stood as the previous chair.

Our theme this year is 'Volunteers'. Most of you here tonight – including all of us at the 'top table' - are here because we are volunteers for one or another of the various community groups within the village. Outsiders to the village often comment how lucky we are to live here, and what a great community spirit there is. For a village of our size, we do indeed have a large number of village groups. However, as I well know myself, all of these groups require people to organise and run them, and often these people are willingly giving up hours of their own free time to do so. Everybody today has increasing demands upon their time – most people are working longer hours, and retiring at a later age. Therefore tonight is a chance for us to thank all of the people who still do volunteer, and to celebrate all that they do to make Tasburgh such a great place to live.

This year in particular we look back on a fantastic event that was largely made possible by the hard work and efforts of a whole band of volunteers. Most of the village turned out on a damp September evening last year to see the amazing procession and pageant which brought the Imagined Land Project to an end. So a big thank you to all of the actors, singers, writers, sheep, lantern and banner makers, and also to all who gave up their bank holidays to dig, scape and sift soil. I think I speak for everyone involved when I say that the whole project will stay in my memory for a long time.

This event, as well as many others in our village, shows the value of volunteers in our community, and I would like to thank you all again for all of the time and effort that you put in.

Jill Casson, Chair

Your Council Tax

We are pleased to announce that the Parish portion of your Council Tax has been frozen for the year 2018/19. Budgeted general expenditure has been retained at broadly the same levels as last year, due to the council ensuring good value for money on all purchases and projects.

Recreation for All / Play Area

Recreation for All granted a sum of money to the Parish Council for the purpose of purchasing a log pile climber and springer to be added to the existing play area. The equipment was installed over the summer months and is a great addition to the play area.

Burrfeld Park

Tasburgh Parish Council has responsibility for this wildlife site in Lower Tasburgh, which is open for the public to enjoy. Over the last year we have undertaken a tree inspection to monitor the health of the trees in the park, as a result of which we had to fell a large tree which was dead and covered in ivy. A small but dedicated and enthusiastic band of volunteers maintain the park over the year and new helpers will always be made welcome at the regular “work days” held throughout the year.

SAM2 /Community Speed Watch Group

Concerns continue to be raised to us about the volume and speed of traffic around the village. The SAMS machines do seem to have had some effect, and we continue to monitor the data that these provide for us. To help further with these issues the Parish Council has supported the setting up of the Tasburgh Community Speed Watch Group which will soon be in operation. Volunteers of the scheme will be very noticeable in their “high-vis jackets”. If you are concerned about *speeding* traffic in the village, can spare a few

hours to volunteer and would like more information please get in contact with the Scheme Co-ordinator Willie Crawshay, or the clerk for more information on the scheme.

Church Hill 'Laybys'

At a recent Annual Parish Meeting, a member of the public suggested providing pedestrian lay-bys at the sides where walkers could safely allow cars to pass. Since then this idea has progressed and the lay-bys have been installed. Walkers now have a safe place to stand aside when traffic is coming up the hill and will no longer have to jump up onto the bank. Tests have shown that at least five people (and dogs) can safely fit into one of them.

Dog Bins

A recurring problem for the Parish Council is dog bins. We currently have 5 of these around the village, and the cost to us of having South Norfolk District Council emptying them has doubled in the last financial year. We are anxious that Tasburgh should remain a clean and pleasant village to walk around for all parishioners. However, we would like to remind dog-walkers that they do not have to put dog waste in one of the special red dog bins, but that it can be placed in ordinary domestic black bins.

New Look Parish Council Website

The Parish Council has a new website which can be found at <https://tasburghpc.wixsite.com/tasburghpc>. We hope you find your visit/s helpful and please check back regularly as the contents are regularly being updated.

We also have our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/Tasburgh-Parish-Council) where you can keep up-to-date with everything that is happening in and around the village, so please do continue to like us.

If you have an event you would like to publicise on either the website or the Facebook page, please email details to the clerk.

Highway Matters

A frequent problem reported to the Parish Council is that of the numerous potholes around Tasburgh. If these are reported to us, we do in turn report them to Norfolk County Council Highways Department. However, we know that they currently have a huge backlog to repair. It is possible to report potholes or other Highway issues yourself at:

www.norfolk.gov.uk/roads_and_transport/roads/report_a_problem.

Hopefully, the more people who report particular issues, the quicker they may be repaired.

Long Stratton Bypass / Hempnall Crossroads

The long-awaited planning applications for the development of the Long Stratton by-pass and 1800 new houses have recently been received. The Parish Council have responded to this, as we have responded to all consultations on this subject. We are especially concerned about the problem of many new cars on the already congested A140 between here and Norwich, and in particular the problems of getting out from the Church Road junction. We also have concerns about the effect on existing infrastructure such as doctors or schools, and we will continue to raise all these issues.

Another long-standing problem for Tasburgh residents, the Hempnall Crossroads, may soon be solved, as a new roundabout is promised for 2019/2020.

Projector

A reminder to all that Tasburgh Parish Council now has a projector with sound facility. This is available for use by other village groups, so if you would like to book it please email the clerk.

* * * * *

2018/19 Action Plan

Tasburgh Parish Council will publish an action plan annually in May.

Tasburgh Parish Council will continually review the action plan, and will add any matters as required through the year.

The 2018/19 Action Plan will be agreed at the council's meeting in May. It is expected that the following items will be included within the action plan:

- To continue to contribute to the planning process for the Long Stratton development and bypass and Hempnall Crossroads.
- To maintain appropriate management arrangements for Burrfield Park, and to ensure that the Park and Charity is properly administered and is safe and pleasant for those visiting.
- To continue to ensure good governance of the Parish
- To ensure the safety of our public places.

Meetings

Parish Council meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month at 8pm (refreshments available from 7.30pm).

Planning Meetings, if required, are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 8pm. Both meetings are usually in the Village Hall Committee Room and **agendas** are posted on the village notice boards and the website at least three days beforehand.

Public are welcome to attend all Parish Council meetings; there's an opportunity to speak or ask questions.

Please note if you would like an item to appear on the agenda details must be sent to the Clerk at least eight days before the meeting. The Council is unable to make a decision on anything not included on the agenda but can discuss it and refer it to the next meeting.

Minutes of meetings are posted on the website or are available from the Clerk.

Parish Council Surgeries

Councillors are always willing to discuss any issues with you; their contact details are on page 2. In addition Councillors are available on the evenings of their main council meetings (third Tuesday of the month) between 7.30pm and 8pm for informal discussion during which time refreshments are served. Please do visit us!

Summary of Parish Council Accounts 2017/18

Payments	2016/17 £	Budget 2017/18 £	Actual 2017/18 £	(Over)/ Under Spent £
Reoccurring Expenditure				
Administration	5415.74	4747.82	5561.97	(814.15)
HR	6366.44	7300.00	6666.84	633.41
Maintenance	2030.71	2896.00	2769.93	126.07
Grass Cutting	1837.98	1880.00	1779.94	100.06
Other	541.78	340.00	265.80	74.20
Subtotal	16,192.65	17,163.82	17,044.48	119.59
 Projects				
Lower Tasburgh Sign	1235.00	265.00		265.00
Unallocated Projects		4867.50	0.00	4867.50
RFA Play Equipment		4776.23	4700.00	66.23
Allotment Water (Grant Funded)	604.00	82.20		82.20
Recreational Steps	750.98	3749.02	550.00	3199.02
SAM Machine (PPS)	3339.00			
Bus Shelters (PPS)	12402.50	275.00	190.00	85.00
 Contingency	 0.00	 800.00	 0.00	 0.00
VAT	4005.47		1482.24	
 Subtotal	 18,331.48	 14,804.95	 5440.00	
 Grand Total	 38,529.60	 22,831.32	 23,966.72	

Summary of Parish Council Accounts 2017/18

Receipts	2016/17	2017/18
	£	£
Precept	20,198.32	20,198.32
Shortfall Grant	386.00	301.00
Interest	117.44	9.23
Quarterly Advertising	952.40	1084.52
VAT Refund	0.00	4005.47
Grants & Refunds	11252.20	4836.74
Verge Cutting Contract	1123.55	1152.16
Allotment Tenancy	250.00	250.00
Church News & Yellow Pages Printing	484.00	484.00
Other	144.30	153.80
Total	34,908.21	32,475.24

Reconciliation

Opening Balance @ 31st March 2017 **19,453.31**

Total Income	32,475.24
Total Expenditure	23,966.72

Closing Balance @ 31st March 2018 **27,961.83**

Represented by:

Current Account	13,931.62
Barclays High Interest Account	14,156.21
Less unrepresented cheques	126.00

Total **27,961.83**

VAT Refund yet to be received 1482.24

Thank you for taking the time
to read this document,
if you have any views or comments
please let us know.



Tasburgh Parish Council

17 Alder Close
Poringland
Norfolk
NR14 7LY
01508 494569

tasburghpc@btinternet.com

<https://tasburghpc.wixsite.com/tasburghpc>

Published April 2018