

**PARISH OF RINGSTEAD**  
**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**  
**12 MAY 2025 – 6.30PM - RINGSTEAD VILLAGE HALL**

Chair - Cllr W Jacob – Chair of Ringstead Parish Council

Taking Minutes – Simon Lee (Clerk)

Also in attendance:

Cllr J. Barnett, Cllr B Crowfoot, Cllr V Everitt, Cllr S Little, Cllr D Rice & Cllr N Shelley  
Two guest speakers Mr and Mrs Lendrum.

The Chair welcomed and thanked all those present for attending the meeting.

**Apologies** of absence had been received from Cllr T. de Winton.

1. The minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on 13 May 2024 were agreed and signed as a correct record by the Chair.

2. **Reports from:**

**County Council** – The Clerk advised the meeting of a report sent by Cllr Jameison setting out some of the achievements of the County Council over the previous 12 months. A copy of the report is attached to the minutes.

3. **Reports from Groups:**

a) **Friends of St Andrew's Church:** report attached (submitted by Chair of The Friends).

b) **Village Hall Management Committee** – report attached (submitted by Chair of Village Hall Committee).

c) **Trustees of the Great Ringstead Allotment Charity** – report attached (submitted by the Secretary).

d) **Parochial Church Council** - report attached (submitted by the Secretary)

e) **Carpet Bowls Club** – report attached (submitted by Mrs Cavell).

f) **Parish Council** – report attached (submitted by Chair of Parish Council).

g) **Pensioners Lunch** – report attached (submitted by Secretary of the club)

4. **Guest Speakers**

The Chair welcomed Mr and Mrs Lendrum founding members of the Footpath Committee established in 2015, who had undertaken considerable work on behalf of the Parish Council to progress the registration of two additional footpaths in the parish. Copies of maps showing the two proposed footpaths were circulated:

- i. Neat's Ling to Docking Road
- ii. Foundry Lane to Thornham Road

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Chair

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mr Lendrum advised that a meeting convened in Diss in 2016 by a national footpath committee had been very helpful in understanding what was required in terms of gathering together a large dossier of evidence including witness statements, maps and archive information to support the case for establishing both routes as public footpaths.

Mr Lendrum advised that 25 separate detailed Witness Statements had been taken from local people to support the proposed modification of the Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way.

Mr Lendrum advised of two objections received to the draft Modification Order and that as a result a Local Hearing would take place organised through the Secretary of State for DEFRA to determine whether or not to approve the Modification Order. The Hearing was scheduled for two-days in Thornham Village Hall, commencing on the 22 July 2025, at 10.00am. It was confirmed that the public could attend the Hearing.

Mrs Lendrum thanked the Council for its support and the members of the Footpath Committee who had worked hard assisting with the submission of the evidence to the County Council.

Mr Lendrum advised that the County Council were taking a neutral stance in terms of the outcome of the Hearing, but would have an officer in attendance to support the legal aspects of the application.

There were concerns expressed about the use of the proposed footpath to Neat's Ling by very large heavy goods vehicles and whether it was still appropriate for the route to be designated a public footpath. Mr Lendrum defended the route and noted that large vehicles used other public footpaths in the area.

The background to the establishment of the Footpath Committee was clarified.

The Chair thanked Mrs and Mrs Lendrum for all their hard work in supporting the Parish Council's application for the Modification Order.

The meeting closed at 18:55hrs.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Chair

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **Reports from Local Groups/Clubs for Annual Parish Meeting 2025**

### **Ringstead Parish Council**

#### **Chair's Report to the Annual Parish Meeting 2025**

The Council met eleven times in the course of the past year.

In Ringstead the Parish Council represents the interests of residents primarily in providing and managing local amenities, monitoring highways, commenting on planning applications monitoring matters of wider concern to the community, and managing its finances and procedures.

#### **Neighbourhood Plan**

Probably the most important item for the Village's future was the completion of the Council's work on the Neighbourhood Plan, and its adoption following a referendum of the village's voters. This now provides policies and guidance for all planning applications in the village. We are grateful to the many people who have contributed to the success of this long-term project.

**Amenities** The Council provides for regularly mowing the Playing Field, and areas around the village sign, and the verge along Docking Road. In the past year the handrail and the steps to the Churchyard and the slide have been renovated and minor repairs undertaken on the playing field equipment. Provision of seating has been reviewed, and a generous donation of a seat in memory of Mrs Gwendolen Gyton, and very long-standing resident accepted for the Playing Field. Grants have been given for the maintenance of the Churchyard and the Village Hall. The provision of a bus service through the village was raised with the local transport authority.

**Highways** The Council monitors and reports defects in the village's roads to the County Council and monitors the 'Sam signs' which record traffic speeds through the village. It also monitors public footpaths and provides the 'Gateway' signs at the entrances to the village, and organises an annual 'Litter Pick'. A Gateway sign is to be purchased for the Hunstanton Road, after which every road into the village will have a sign.

**Planning** The Council is consulted by the Borough Planning Authority about planning applications for sites and buildings in the village, and comments on them.

**Budget** The Council sets and annual budget and benefits from a precept from the Borough Council, funded from an element in the Council Tax for properties in the village. Since the introduction of double Council Tax for second homes a proportion of the Tax received is allocated to the Parish Council's precept resulting in a reduced charge on the Council Tax on properties in the village.

**Collaboration with neighbouring Councils** Representatives of Councils on the 'Saxon Shore' meet quarterly to consult on matters of common interest, currently in relation to proposals for Local Government Reorganisation and proposals for a Wash barrage.

**Regulation** The Council reviews its policies and action plan annually and its accounts are audited annually internally and externally to ensure that Councils are accountable to residents.

Bill Jacob.

May 2025.

## **Ringstead Village Hall Report May 2025**

The hall sit continues to receive positive feedback following the refurbishment at the start of 2024.

We have recently undertaken an audit into rebuilding costs and have upgraded the insurance cover. Annual H&S and Risk Assessments have taken place, and a new H&S folder is in place.

The Electric meter has been switched off, and as a result the hire prices of the hall have increase slightly to include heating during the winter months. We will continue to review this as whilst we need to remain competitive in hire charges, we need to recoup the annual cost of electricity (£830)

A Race Night was held in November and raised a record £1,358, this is always well attended and enjoyed by those attending so we will be doing another one in October / November 2025.

Lunches and Teas were served for the annual Open Gardens in June. The Table Tennis and Carpet Bowls groups continue to meet on a weekly basis, although Table Tennis did take a break during the summer period.

There are also a couple of weekly private hires, and other groups (Yoga etc) hiring regularly throughout the year. In September we hosted a walking group and served Tea and Cake (thanks to all those that made the cakes!) and they have already expressed an interest in returning again this year.

We held a "Winter Warmer" event in February, which was well attended by residents so we will hold a similar event on Friday 23rd May and we hope this will be equally well attended and an excellent opportunity to meet up with others and hopefully new friendships are formed.

## **The Friends of St Andrew's Ringstead**

The Friends of St Andrew's Ringstead are delighted to have received continued support from Parishioners and wider friends and again from the very successful Bridge Afternoon in January. The Friends have supported works to the Church Clock and Bell and have committed to support works to the roof and guttering which are proposed by the PCC. The Church is a well recognised monument in our community and we are hugely grateful for all donations however small or infrequent.

## **Ringstead Carpet Bowls Club**

Last year was another successful one for the club. Members attended regularly and the extension to the summer months proved to be worthwhile as many members wanted to continue throughout the summer months, thus providing more funds to the Village Hall.

We held our annual Christmas party which was great fun and involved many whacky and entertaining games as well as delicious food and drink provided by the talented members.

The club is a very sociable weekly event which has members mainly from Ringstead but also some from Hunstanton. We are competitive but in a friendly way, holding weekly competitions between two randomly selected teams.

We recently had to increase the price from £2 to £2.50 per session to take account of inflation and the price of electricity, but it is still good value as it includes the price of a hot drink and biscuit. We have also recently increased the number of members which helps with the increased cost of the hire of the hall.

### **Ringstead History Group 2025**

Ringstead History Group is a small group of people who undertake research into all aspects of the village's past

Over time we have created an extensive digital archive of original documents relating to the history and development of the village, including the Church; maps; landholding; burials in the Churchyard; village charities; the school; buildings; the village during World War 2; activities, including the Women's Institute, Cricket Club, celebrations of national events.

We have displays about research in progress, at the annual Ringstead Open Gardens, at village events and, usually, at the annual Docking History Fair.

We organise occasional conducted walks, for example in Hunstanton Park, and viewing (from the street) the exteriors of Ringstead's houses and buildings many of which reveal evidence of building and alteration from the seventeen to the twenty-first centuries.

We also attend meetings of other local village history groups.

For more information contact Bill Jacob [wmjacob20@gmail.com](mailto:wmjacob20@gmail.com)

### **St Andrew's Church, Ringstead Parochial Church Council**

#### **Report 2024-25**

1. Meetings The PCC met four times during the course of the year.

2. Membership of PCC The sudden death of John Crofts the Churchwarden in July 2024 was noted with deep regret, and appreciation for all his work for the church and village was expressed. Cherry Green was co-opted to membership of the PCC in December 2024.

3. Services and Congregation Regular services are maintained with the assistance of retired clergy and congregation numbers remain steady

#### **4 Finance**

i) Open Gardens Appreciation was expressed for the support received from a large number of people for Open Gardens Sunday, and for the record sum raised, Without the funds from Garden Sunday the parish would incur a significant deficit and the future of the church would be in doubt.

ii) Parish Share The apportionment of the contributions of parishes in the benefice was renegotiated and the benefice's contribution was reduced while only one priest is allocated for the benefice.

5 Vacancy for a Priest in the Benefice Regular reports were received on the recruitment process. Two rounds of advertising have failed to result in an appointment.

6 Fabric The church bell has been repaired at a cost of £5,829, by Matthew Higby, Bell Founders, for which a grant was received from the Paul Cattermole Trust. The bell is now safe to be rung. The church clock has also been repaired, with an electronic winding system, at a cost of £5,033-90 with assistance from the Friends of St Andrew's. It now strikes the hours. Both projects received grants from the Listed Places of Worship Grants Scheme to cover costs of VAT. The project to repair the rainwater disposal system, so that the water from the roofs is discharged away from the foundations, to alleviate the internal damp problems has received a Faculty and the contract has been

awarded to Robsons at a cost of £23.584+VAT, towards which grants have been received from the Norfolk Churches Trust, the Benefact Trust, the Geoffrey Watling Trust and results of further applications are awaited. Donations have also been received from parishioners. Further grant applications are being made.

7 Churchyard Routine maintenance of the Churchyard continues, towards which the Parish Council have made a grant of £800 for the current year. Additional work has been undertaken to level the ground at the eastern end of the Churchyard and remove spiked railings to make it a safer area to maintain and walk in. The Churchyard wall has also been repaired

8 Cleaning A small but dedicated group of volunteers regularly clean the church.

Kate Bulmer, Churchwarden cwingstead@saxonshorebenefice.co.uk

# **Great Ringstead Allotment Charity (Charity Number 1103778)**

ringsteadallotmentcharity@gmail.com

Great Ringstead Allotment Charity was formed in 2014 following the merger of 3 smaller village charities. The Charity income is derived from the small endowments from those charities combined with the rents recieved from the Fuel Allotment at Ringstead Common (rented to Courtyard Farm at Agricultural Rates) and the Chalk Pit (leased to Ringstead Parish Council at a peppercorn rent. A small Wayleave oayment is recieved for power equipment at The Common.

The aim of The Charity is to apply the income from these endowments for charitable purposes for the general benefit of the permanent residents of Ringstead, including the prevention or relief of poverty. Also for other charitable purposes including individuals and organisations. The Charity has 4 Trustees, all permanent residents in the Village.

An invitation for Applications to the Charity is placed in The Village Newsletter in September. This year 1 new application was received, bringing the total number of awards made this year to 13. There was a reduction in the value of each individual award, bringing the amount back in line with amounts made prior to the Covid pandemic, when an increase was made to the amount awarded.

At the end of 2024 total funds stood at £7092.53

# OUR DELIVERY OVER THE PAST YEAR, IN NUMBERS

## Over the past year we have:

### Provided

**19** Recycling centres.  
**14** reuse shops with over  
**1 million visits** in total per year.



**Recycling  
centre**

### We have processed

**66,000 tonnes** of recycling, with  
**74%** diverted from landfill.

**94%** of the remaining  
waste was sent to  
create energy.



Estate  
emissions  
fell a further  
**9%**

compared to the  
previous year and  
they are now

**61%**  
lower

than they were against the 2016/17 baseline.

We deliver a variety of services across  
**47 libraries**, with over

**2.2 million visits a year**  
& nearly **4.8m items loaned**.



Nearly **500,000** residents in Norfolk have had an improvement  
in their bus service over the last 12 months.



Satisfaction with bus services has increased from **78% to 87%**.



**84%** of bus stops in Norfolk are now fully accessible for people  
with disabilities.



Delivered  
**60 additional EV  
chargepoints**.


There are now  
around **800** publicly  
available chargepoints  
across Norfolk



We have seen  
consistent growth in  
bus patronage year on  
year of between **5-16%**

Completed our **Better Broadband** for Norfolk programme,  
with gigabit broadband now delivered to **7,800** premises  
across Norfolk. Average download speed across  
Norfolk increased **55.14%** over the last year.





Upgraded **99.8%** of streetlights to more energy efficient LEDs ahead of schedule, saving a total of **£16.5m** and **88.75 million kWhs** in energy, reducing CO2 emissions by **26,000 tonnes**.

The Beryl micromobility scheme in Norwich has **93,000** users and there have been **1.8million zero emission journeys** made by bike, e-bike and e-scooter, travelling **3.1million miles**.



**61%**

of Beryl users have replaced a car, van or taxi journey, saving carbon emissions.

## Adults

**Spent over £1.8m per day, meeting the needs of residents:**



Received requests for social care from **38,699** individuals



Carried out **71,690 assessments** for care



Delivered **2,753,672 hours** of home support



Delivered **451,537 hours** of daytime care



All while delivering over **£100m** in savings to ensure long-term sustainability of finances.

## Childrens



Kept more families together and reduced the number of children in our care by **5%**



Supported vulnerable asylum-seeking children with over **120** in our care at any point in time



Helped over **6,400** children through our new teams supporting schools with prevention, early help and inclusion



Our Start for Life and Family Hubs have had over **60,000** contacts with families and over **1,000,000** hits on the Family Hubs website



Reached over **60,000** young people, including **11,000** from disadvantaged communities, through the Norfolk Music Service

## Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service



**16,358**  
calls



delivering **8789** fires  
safety visits to homes



and attending  
**8708** incidents



## **RINGSTEAD PENSIONERS CHRISTMAS LUNCH and GET TOGETHER**

In December last year 28 pensioners who live full time in the village were generously provided with a fantastic meal and warm friendly hospitality at the Gin Trap. In the past the funds to pay for the meal and first drink were raised by the organisers and a group of helpers throughout the year.

The event was started by Mr Hipkin and then for many years organised by Roger and Elaine. In recent years David Lamyman has kindly provided the Christmas Lunch. There has been no fund raising in the village for the Christmas Lunch in the past 3 years,

The Accounts submitted to the Parish council show that the cost of providing the free drink before the meal is steadily reducing the funds handed on to us by Roger and Elaine.

Great Ringstead Allotment Charity and the Parish Council have been made aware of the situation and asked to consider making provision and giving assistance to ensure that this Community Building Event continues.

Brian and Janet Woodford

Coordinators. May 2025

# RINGSTEAD PENSIONERS CHISTMAS LUNCH 2024

Money held over from earlier years fund raising **£847.15**  
[ see 2023 details ]

Christmas Meals provided by  
The Chestnut Hospitality Group **£0.00**  
Money raised by Raffle at the Lunch **£76.00**

Total Funds	<b>£923.15</b>
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Expenditure  
Bill for the First Drink at the Gin Trap **£145.49**  
[ See attached Gin Trap Bar Bill ]  
Paid at the Bar on 5th December **£145.49** **£145.49**

**£777.66**



\* DRAFT RECEIPT #1 \*

The Gin Trap Inn  
iPadmain/670389-Connor A795731.58  
Statement N795731.12555 05/12/2024, 14

Bar, Table 80

7	37. Merlot, T/ Antica		
	125ml	6.00	40
3	35. Rosé Provence		
	125ml	8.00	24
	1/2 Pint Abbot Ale		3
6	14. Sauv Blanc 'T/ Bay'		
	125ml	8.90	53
	Apple Juice		3
	Soda & Lime large		2
	Coke Large		3
2	8. Chardonnay, Pouthie		
	125ml	6.50	13
	Coke Zero Btl		3
	Fever Tree Light		2
	San Miguel 0%		4
	Lime small		1

SUB-TOTAL 161  
Locals 18% 16

Amount due **£ 145.**

No payment received

VAT 20% on 121.24: £ 24.25 (145.49)

\*\*\*\*\*  
Please be advised gratuity is discretio

y

Suggestive Gratuity 10%

\*\*\*\*\*

VAT:5335809603

We hope that you have enjoyed yourself  
t The Gin Trap today. We would apprecia  
any feedback...

PE36 5JU Hunstanton

Lightspeed (K) 24.46.1.23348

## **Ringstead Bowls Club May 2025**

We experienced a difficult winter for the bowls green as we not only had a very wet winter, but we also experienced a huge amount of worm casts over the whole of the green. Even after we carried out our normal preseason scarify and preparation the green has been a problem. Add to that the spring season has produced high temperatures and no rain so we are still trying to improve the surface, but it is a problem.

I would like to thank all the local companies that have continued to support the bowls club financially. With out their help we would really struggle to survive. This year we had a big spend on our mower service when a couple of the major components came to the end of their service life.

The club has started it's 2025 league season. We came third in division two last year, which for the size of club is a very reasonable result.

We held our end of season presentation at Berni Beans, and a great time was had by all. At our recent AGM the Club captain was chosen and Richard Hendricks will again direct the troops.

We are still looking for new players. It would be good if these new players lived in the village. If you are interested in having a go at bowling, we will be holding a practice day on Garden Sunday so come along and have a go. You can also contact me direct, and we can see what we can set up for you to have a try.

Roger Pincott

RBC secretary