



# Ringstead Parish Council Action Plan

2024/25 Financial Year with medium and longer term,  
strategic projects identified

## 1. Introduction

- 4.1 Ringstead is a small rural village located in Norfolk, just inland of the coastal resort of Hunstanton. The parish forms part of the Le Strange Estate. It covers an area of 11.13km<sup>2</sup> (4.30 sq. mi) and had a population of 290 in the 2021 Census. For the purposes of local government, it falls within the district of King's Lynn & West Norfolk.
- 4.2 Ringstead Parish Council is the first tier of local government, and its main purpose is to serve the local community. Meetings of the Council are normally [held on the second Monday of the month](#) at 7.00pm in the Village Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend and there is always an agenda item enabling you to raise any concerns or make suggestions.

## 2. Aims

- 2.1 Our vision is based on a desire to achieve organic growth that will be sustainable and will protect and enhance Ringstead's special characteristics by achieving a balance between social, environmental, and economic factors:
  - **Social:** The community will be strengthened by achieving a good balance in the housing stock to include people of a diverse range of incomes, ages, and circumstances to complement one another and encouraging well-being from the benefits of the environment.
  - **Environment:** The character of the natural and built environment will be conserved and improved appropriately to reflect the parish's location within an National Landscape and designation as a Conservation Area, and to enhance the local economy.
  - **Economic:** The local economy will be sustained for the future by enhancing the natural and social capital of the parish and encouraging opportunities for local employment to ensure future prosperity.

## 3. Objectives

- 3.1 The longer-term vision for the village gives rise to the strategic themes set out below. These are derived from meetings of the Parish Council and community consultations.
  - **Community:** The Parish Council's primary objective is to serve the local community by maintaining the village's vitality, including the local amenities and businesses, promoting the well-being of the residents, and supporting voluntary groups, increasing public involvement in the community by ensuring the parish council is open, transparent and accountable to parishioners.
  - **Natural Environment and Playing Field:** To conserve and enhance the natural environment and the Village Playing Field. Striving to reverse the decline, reduce pollution, and promoting biodiversity including habitats of ecological significance for protected and threatened species, of nearby sites with special environmental designations, the surrounding countryside and associated biodiversity networks characterised by trees and hedgerows, ponds, and ditches.
  - **Transport:** To ensure that the village is as safe as possible for all pedestrians and road users, to reduce traffic conflict and to prevent unnecessary growth in vehicle traffic, congestion, emissions and on-street car parking which tends to damage the fabric of the village and contributes to the degradation of the natural and residential environment.
  - **Heritage:** To respect our predecessors' contributions to the village by identifying, conserving and where possible enhancing our heritage assets for the benefit of the residents, visitors and future generations.

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- **Built environment:** To conserve and enhance the traditional form and character of the village and to encourage sustainable infill development in accordance with Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plan (if adopted) policy ensuring that the scale of both new and replacement buildings respects the character of their context and the community's needs.

3.2 This project plan is a 'live' document and is updated on a regular basis (at least annually), enabling the council to track and monitor progress against objectives and timescales.

## 4. Sources of Income

- 4.1 Funding for Ringstead Parish Council comes exclusively from a specific power to raise a precept. This levy is collected through the local council tax system. For the financial year 2024/25 Ringstead Parish Council has set a precept of £19,000, representing an annual cost of £110.40 for a Council Tax Band D property, or just £2.12/week.
- 4.2 In addition, funding has also been obtained from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). When the Borough Council receive money raised from the CIL, it distributes it as follows:
- 15% to the parish/town council where the development is located. This rises to 25% in areas with an adopted neighbourhood plan;
  - 5% for CIL administration costs;
  - Any remaining money goes to the CIL infrastructure fund to support infrastructure projects.
- 4.3 The Parish Council has previously obtained CIL funds to contribute towards play area improvements and most recently the Village Hall charity obtained a grant of £8,650 towards refurbishment of the hall.
- 4.4 During the financial year 2023/24 the Parish Council received £9,912.65 from the Chapel Lane development. These funds are ringfenced to be spent on infrastructure projects to support the village. A list of the types of projects CIL can fund is appended to this Action Plan.
- 4.5 Each year local councils are invited to submit bids for highway improvement schemes as part of Norfolk County Council's Parish Partnership Scheme. For 2023/24 the fund was £345,000 with Norfolk County Council funding 50% of the cost of successful bids. Projects include provision of gateway signage, speed awareness message (SAM2) signs, provision of trods and other highway improvements.
- 4.6 Other funds are derived from specific grants, the Neighbourhood Planning process was funded by Locality, whilst the grants towards community events such as the King's Coronation held in the Chalk Pit were funded by Norfolk Community Foundation.

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**S – Short Term (within 12 months)    M – Medium Term (within 1 - 2 years)    L – Long Term (within 3 –5 years)    O – Ongoing (no end)**

**Link to Strategic Aim (S – Social; En – Environmental; Ec – Economic)**

Those marked RED are considered a PRIORITY Those marked GREEN are COMPLETE.

ITEM	TITLE & LINK TO STRATEGIC AIM	TIME-SCALE	DETAIL	FUNDING SOURCE(S)	APPROXIMATE COST	ACTION REQUIRED	WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE
<b>COMMUNITY OBJECTIVE</b>							
C1.	Parish Council Meetings (S)	O	Monthly meetings held in the Village Hall	Parish Council	£20.00 hire of the Hall	Clerk to administer	Public attend and participate
C2.	Parish Meeting (S)	O	To be held in May 2025	Parish Council	£20.00 hire of the Hall	Clerk to invite representatives from all local groups	Public attend and participate.
C3.	Annual Litter Pick (S)	O	To be held in April 2025	Parish Council		Posters promoting event to be prepared.	Residents get involved
C4.	Complete Neighbourhood Plan following Regulation 16 consultation (S,En,Ec)	S	Receive feedback on Regulation 16 consultation. Under independent examination and review inspector's report. Undertake referendum.	Referendum paid by Borough Council		Review consultation results Reg 16. Review and appoint independent examiner. Consider examiner's report. BCKLWN undertake referendum.	Approved Neighbourhood Plan.
C5.	Consider General	S	As Clerk is CiLCA	N/A	N/A	Council to review if it	Council has 'the power to



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	General Power of Competence (GPoC) (S, En, Ec)		qualified Council to approve General Power of Competence under Localism Act 2011			wants GPoC and if so take formal resolution.	do anything that individuals generally may do'. It's a 'power of first resort'.
<b>NATURAL ENVIRONMENT &amp; PLAYING FIELD OBJECTIVE</b>							
NE1.	To be prepare a Biodiversity Action Plan (En)	S	A requirement of The Environment Act 2021.	Parish Council	Need to cost up some of the proposed actions.	Clerk to prepare a draft Strategy by spring of 2025.	Biodiversity Strategy developed with input from the local community.
NE2.	Chalk Pit (En)	O	Continue to support the Ringstead Woodland Gardens and Walks Group	Grants	tbc	Ongoing works to manage the ecology and habitats of rare chalk grasslands.	Species rich wildflower meadows supporting biodiversity.
NE3.	Grass cutting on Playing Field (En)	S	Pilot a project to relax mowing of the margins of the playing field to encourage diversity of habitats for species	Parish Council	tbc	Discuss an annual late summer cut and collect of longer grass areas by HHA Grounds Maintenance Ltd	Improved habitats with wildflowers and longer grass, possibly with paths cut through to facilitate access.
NE4.	To replace toddler item of play equipment (En)	L	Replacement of equipment required as	CIL/Grants	£10,000	Community consultation on what equipment should be installed.	Increased use of play equipment by young children.



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NE5.	Investigate options to improve quality of pond South Peddars Way (En)	L	Assess any potential improvements if site can be assessed by specialist in pond management.	Grants	tbc	Pond owned by Le Strange Estate, work in partnership to seek measures enhancing quality of pond for wildlife.	Pond is rejuvenated and supports wider diversity of species.
<b>TRANSPORT</b>							
H1.	Gateway Signage (S, En)	S	Install new gateway sign at entrance to village Hunstanton Road at cost of £5,000.	Parish Partnership Fund (PPF) opens July 2024	£2,500 split 50% between Norfolk County Council and Parish Council, together with contribution of £1250 Cllr Jamieson	Await outcome of PPF application.	New gateway sign installed on Hunstanton Road at entrance to village and helps reduce vehicle speeds.
H2.	Gateway Signage (S, En)	M	Install new gateway sign at entrance to village Thornham Road	Parish Partnership Fund opens June 2025	£3,000 split 50% between Norfolk County Council and Parish Council.	Clerk to obtain quotations from Highways Engineer and present to Council	New gateway sign installed on Hunstanton Road at entrance to village and helps reduce vehicle speeds.
H3.	Clearance of 'grups'. (En)	O	Location of grups recorded and visits by Highway staff quarterly.	Norfolk County Council	Nil	Information given to Clerk on grups/ditches that need clearing.	Surface water is channelled into grups reducing erosion and potential flooding.



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H4.	Replace SAM2 sign and install new post in High Street (S, EN)	M	Replace the oldest SAM2 sign. Obtain quotation from County Council to install new post on High Street	PPS	£3,000 split 50% between Norfolk County Council PPS and Parish Council.	Obtain quotation Wescotec and liaise with Highway Engineer. To be funded 2025/26.	SAM2 sign helps improve safety of residents by reducing vehicle speeds.
H5.	Investigate opportunity for Coastliner bus service to visit the village	L	Ascertain if the Coastliner bus service can accommodate a detour to Holme Road.	TBC	Unknown at this stage.	Ascertain from Lynx and County Council feasibility of rerouting bus through village.	Coastliner bus service available to residents at Holme Road.
<b>HERITAGE</b>							
H1.	Village Hall (S, Ec)	S & L	Support the Village Hall Charity by way of annual grant and consider improving facilities at the Hall to support events/activities.	CIL	£600.00	Support a plan for the ongoing maintenance and improvement of facilities at the Village Hall, including provision of broadband, use of old library area and solar panels.	Village Hall is hub of community, hosting events and activities to support local community.
H2.	St Andrew's Churchyard (En)	S	Give a grant to support maintenance of the churchyard.	Parish Council	£600.00	Seek Council approval to the grant in October 2024.	Churchyard is maintained.





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H3.	Former bus stop Holme Road	M	Consider scheme to open up view to south and create seating area within former bus stop.	Parish Council	tbc	Clerk to obtain quotations from local builders. Consider if planning permission required.	New seating area created looking south over view of Ringstead.
H4.	Village Stocks	M	Village stocks restored and installed within Gin Trap Inn.	Gin Trap Inn	tbc	Gin Trap proprietor to undertake restoration of Village Stocks.	Village Stocks restored and a heritage feature at the Gin Trap Inn.
<b>BUILT ENVIRONMENT</b>							
BE1.	Planning Applications (S, En, EC)	O	The Parish Council considers planning applications as they arise make representations where appropriate.	Parish Council	Nil	Clerk monitors planning applications and includes any new ones on agenda for the Parish Council meetings.	Where objections are raised material planning considerations are used to object to the proposed development which are supported by the local planning authority.
BE2.	Social Housing (S, En, EC)	L	Develop the proposal for a small unit of affordable homes off Peddars Way North	Private finance	tbc	If Neighbourhood Plan approved approach housing providers.	Younger families living in village and working locally.



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Appendix A –Examples of Infrastructure items which can be provided or  
maintained by Parish Councils (not exhaustive)

<b>Infrastructure Type</b>	<b>CIL Uses</b>
Allotments	Provision of allotments
Burial Grounds; cemeteries and crematoria	Maintain monuments and memorials
Bins	Provision of litter bins
Bus Shelters	Provision of bus shelters
Clock	Provide public clock
Commons and Common Pastures	Inclosure, regulation and management and provision of common pasture
Conference Facilities	Provision of conference facilities
Community Centres	Provide and equip building for use of clubs (sport/social/educational);  Acquire, provide and furnish community building
Crime Prevention	Spend money on crime prevention
Drainage	Deal with ponds and ditches
Highways	Repair and maintain public footpaths and bridleways Lighting for roads and public places Provide parking places for vehicles, bikes, and motorbikes Provide roadside seats and shelters Provide certain traffic signs and other notices Plant trees and maintain roadside verges Traffic calming – powers to contribute financially to such schemes
Open Space	Acquire and maintain land for open spaces
Public Buildings and Village Hall	Acquire and provide buildings for public meetings and assemblies
Public Toilets	Provide public toilets (does not include employee wages)

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Recreation	Acquire land for recreation grounds; public walks; pleasure grounds, manage and control them. Provision of boating pools
War Memorials	Maintain, repair, protect and adopt war memorials