

# YAXHAM PARISH COUNCIL

## VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2021

### WE'VE DONE IT!!! YAXHAM PARISH COUNCIL PLAY SPACE REFURBISHMENT PROJECT

THURSDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER  
11:00am GRAND OPENING  
FUNDED BY



Parish Council  
Parish Charity



Inspiring  
communities



PLUS  
10:00am – 1pm  
COMMUNITY CAFÉ  
COFFEE, SCONES,  
CAKE & LOTS MORE!



CONTACT  
YAXHAMPARISHCLERK@GMAIL.COM

**Great News! The refurbished Yaxham Play Space is almost complete. The swings have been painted new chains and seats fitted and a new climbing frame with slide installed – and in the Canaries' colours too. The safety matting has been brought up to current safety standards. Two new multi-coloured picnic benches will be in place so that both parents and children can enjoy the space together and talk with friends and family.**



To celebrate the completion of the refurbishment project the official opening ceremony is on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September at 11am, so if you can, please come along and see it for yourself.

Parish Cllrs Chris Couves and Bob Gust have led this project, supported by volunteers and the Yaxham Village Amenity Association (YVAA) trustees. It has been funded by: Yaxham Parish Charity, Yaxham Parish Council and Breckland Council's Inspiring Communities fund.

***A very big thank you to all involved – Yaxham at its best!***

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

Published by Yaxham Parish Council, C/O Yaxham House, Norwich Road, Yaxham NR19 1RH

Printed by Harlequin Colour Print, Breckland Business Centre, St Withburga Lane, Dereham NR19 1FD

## Ben Conway – our new Parish Councillor



A big welcome to Ben Conway who has volunteered to join the Parish Council. Ben, who lives with his family in Cutthroat Lane has been a parish councillor in his previous village has now stepped up to bring his

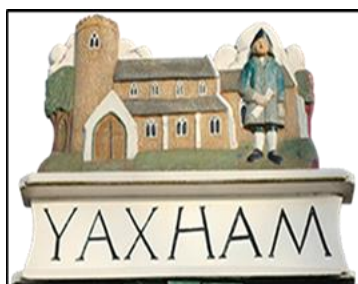
experience to Yaxham Parish Council. Ben was formally co-opted onto the Parish Council at its 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2021 meeting.

*Welcome Ben!*

### **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATE CHANGE**

Please note the September 2021 Parish Council meeting is now on **Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September starting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**. The agenda will be published on the website and notice boards. For more information please email [yaxhamparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:yaxhamparishclerk@gmail.com).

### **New Parish Clerk Needed**



Sadly, Heidi, our current Parish Clerk has tendered her resignation due to elderly family responsibilities. We are therefore

advertising for a new Clerk to the Council. This is a paid role providing administrative support and advice to the Parish Council and is also its Responsible Financial Officer. Training will be provided. The role is for 8 hours a week, plus 10-12 meetings each year. Closing date is 17<sup>th</sup> September and interviews planned for 23<sup>rd</sup> September from 6pm. Starting work in October. If you think you might be interested then please email [yaxhamparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:yaxhamparishclerk@gmail.com) with your details and we will be in touch.

## **Planning, Sewage & Flooding**

There are two planning applications outstanding where these issues go hand in hand. The Parish Council continues to work on these with Breckland, developers, Anglian Water and others to seek the best solution for Yaxham and its residents. Both developments – Flagship behind Elm Close, and Badger Building off Norwich Road – have planning permission, but require Breckland Council to agree their sewage and surface water flood management plans. In addition with the Flagship development there are off-site Highways requirements affecting Norwich Road and Church Lane. Cllr Maggie Oechsle is leading on this, as Chairman of NP4Yaxham.

Slowly, progress appears to be being made on the Flagship plan 3PL/2021/0629/F. There have been site meetings concerning **surface water plans** which Flagship proposed to route direct to the river Tudd primarily via existing ditches. Flagship proposes to reinstate the relevant ditches and widen the culvert under Cutthroat Lane. This avoids the problems of the previous proposal which would have brought the water to the existing flooding area by the Whinburgh Road/Norwich Road junction. There is intended to be an agreement covering the long term maintenance of the ditches.

**On sewage**, Anglian Water has been working to identify surface water sources that are going into the mains sewer and overwhelming the system, even before the new housing is built. As part of the two new developments each is to have its own sewage pumping station. The existing Norwich Road and St Peter's Close sewage pumping stations have been refurbished and an electronic system installed to co-ordinate when each one pumps into the system. It is proposed that the two new pumping stations, at Elm Close and off Norwich Road, will have the same so that all four work together to stop the system being overwhelmed – and to maximise the removal of sewage. We await to see the details.

*Cont...*

**Highways works:** the Elm Close planning permissions included two pedestrian traffic refuges (traffic islands to you and me), and a narrowing (reducing the radii) of the entrance to Church Lane. When we consulted residents on this, views were split on the need for the traffic islands, whilst there was almost unanimous opposition by residents and users of Church Lane, on the basis that the current entrance works. We met Highways and Flagship on site to discuss these points. The upshot is that there is proposed now to be one traffic refuge (unlit) on Norwich Road, and build-out the pavement on one side of the Church Lane entrance by 1, Corner House, to improve pedestrians' line of sight of traffic coming down Church Lane.

We will keep you updated on these matters as they progress.

### **Dog waste on the Playing Field**

This was an issue before lockdown, but in the past 18 months has got worse. The Yaxham Village Amenities Association (YVAA) trustees, who own the playing field, are exploring ways that might help reduce this problem. The Parish Council has put up four bins, as well as signs, around the playing field that can take dog waste – but this does mean dog owners/walkers have to take responsibility for their pets and clear up after them. The problem is that the playing field is the only open green space in the parish and is traversed by a footpath.

The YVAA asked the Parish Council to make a byelaw requiring all dogs to be kept on a lead on the playing field – but, because the Parish Council does not own it the Parish Council cannot pass such a byelaw. We have however committed to work with the YVAA to tackle this issue.

We all, as residents, can play our part too. First, clearing up after our own dogs, including keeping an eye on them when they are off lead, so you see when they relieve themselves. Second, is reporting anyone you see ignoring their dog's poo – you can do this via [www.breckland.gov.uk/reportit/](http://www.breckland.gov.uk/reportit/) using the "Litter and Dog Fouling" option. Thank you.



**YAXHAM CARES**

**07765 263389**

**HERE FOR YOU, HERE FOR US ALL**

[yaxhamcares@gmail.com](mailto:yaxhamcares@gmail.com)

We have a limited number of Yaxham Cares Fridge Magnets as a reminder if you or a neighbour or friend who are elderly, lonely or feeling vulnerable of how to contact us if you need help. Ring or email Yaxham Cares on 07765 263389 [yaxhamcares@gmail.com](mailto:yaxhamcares@gmail.com).

### **Yaxham Community Café**

**2nd & 4th Thursdays every month**

**Open from 10am to 1pm**

We offer a selection of mostly homemade cakes, sausage rolls, scones and sandwiches. Served in your local village hall by our friendly volunteers. Come and join us for a chat or just catchup with friends. We have inside & outside seating, place your order and take a seat we will then bring your order to your table. We also have the facility to offer a takeaway service, so call in on your dog walk to grab a bite to take home too.

#### **Future Dates:**

September 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> \* October 14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>

November 11<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> \* December 9<sup>th</sup>.



### **Norwich/Whinburgh B1135 Junction**

The new signs and road markings are now all in place – which is good news. However, this is still a dangerous junction. Highways, thanks to our lobbying, will be carrying out a full Safety Audit of the junction to see if there are any other measures that might reduce the safety concerns.



## Notice of Yaxham Village Amenities Association (YVAA) AGM

Somewhat later than usual, the YVAA AGM (covering 2020) will take place at **19.00hrs on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021** in the Community Room at the Village Hall.

For anybody who isn't aware, YVAA is the organisation that runs the village hall and is a registered charity.

The Trustees would be delighted to welcome Yaxham residents to this meeting, so please make a note of the date and join us to see what's been going on; the bar will be open!

We're always looking for folk to join us to help keep our wonderful village hall running for the benefit of the community. It's not a big commitment, and we're a friendly bunch, so do come along and grab the opportunity to get involved.

The following documents will be made available on the village hall website ([www.yaxhamvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.yaxhamvillagehall.co.uk)) at the beginning of September. Some copies will be available at the meeting.

Minutes of the previous AGM  
2020 Accounts  
2021 AGM Agenda