

Brandon Parva, Coston, Runhall and Welborne Parish Council

State of the Roads

At the Council's recent meeting, several councillors said they had heard from several people who had needed to repair, replace and, even, insure their car tyres. The causes, especially in Coston and Runhall, were silt, stones and hedge cuttings on the roads. Please can all farmers, and anyone else responsible for debris on any road, please sweep the road immediately.

The Council will ask Norfolk County Council for a one-off road sweep of all the roads in our villages.

Village Name Signs

A few months ago, the chair and vice chair took Bob West, our new Norfolk County Council Highways Engineer, on a guided tour of the roads in the parish. He agreed to programme a fairly long list of jobs that need doing. For example, he has already programmed work to repair or replace damaged village name signs and rusting posts. He also promised to renew white lines. Both of these will make a great difference to the overall look of our villages.

Other actions promised include work to deal with flooding on several roads, levelling of passing places, corrected spelling on a 'Welbourne' sign, reinstatement work after the current schemes by Anglian Water, renewed white lines, repair or replacement of damaged road signs.

You can be sure that the Council will try to make sure that all this work is done, as promised.

Noticeboards

Installation of the new noticeboards for Brandon Parva, Coston and Runhall will take place very soon! At the same time, the old noticeboard in Horseshoe Road in Welborne will be removed unless residents want to keep it. Please let Bev know as soon as possible. A new noticeboard is already available outside Welborne Village Hall.

In future, if you have a notice that you would like displayed, please drop them off at Bev Long's. The new Welborne noticeboard, outside the village hall, allows you to add notices direct.

No Cold Calling

We asked in our last newsletter for suggestions about possible Cold Calling Zones in our parish. Bev received no suggestion from residents so the Council will take no further action on this.

Broadband and Mobile Phone Reception

Bev wrote, on behalf of the Parish Council, to Karen O’Kane, the Better Broadband for Norfolk project officer at the County Council. We wanted to find out what improvements are planned for the parish. This is the reply that we have had, included here in full to avoid any ambiguity:

Hello Bev,

I can provide an overview of the position for broadband, mobile is dependent on commercial investment rather than public subsidy, and therefore I can’t provide details on planned mobile coverage.

Brandon Parva:

17 properties served from Barnham Broom cabinet 2 which has already been fibre enabled with access to speeds over 20Mbps. White House Farm has access to speeds of 10-15Mbps

3 properties are served from Mattishall cabinet 4, a fibre solution is planned between October 2018 and March 2019

4 properties are served from Mattishall Exchange Only Lines, two fibre solutions are planned between October 2018 and March 2019 for three of these properties. There is no solution currently planned for Old Rectory

Coston:

A solution is planned for the four properties served from Hingham cabinet 2, implementation planned first half of 2018

Two further solutions are planned for 11 of the 12 properties currently served from Barnham Broom cabinet 2. I expect implementation late 2019 /early 2020. There is no solution currently planned for Coston Hall

Runhall:

A fibre solution is planned for 16 of the 18 properties currently served from Barnham Broom cabinet 2. I expect implementation late 2019 /early 2020. There is no solution currently planned for Low Farm and Low Farm Cottage

A fibre solution is planned for 21 of the 31 properties currently served from Mattishall Exchange Only Lines. I expect implementation between April and September 2018. There is no solution currently planned for 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 East Green, Mill House, The Mordice, Wood Farm and Wood Farm Bungalow.

Welborne:

Four fibre solutions are planned for 70 of the 78 properties currently served from Mattishall Exchange Only Lines. I expect implementation between October 2018 and March 2019. There is no solution currently planned for 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 All Saints Green, Greenacre, Foxleigh, and Old Hall Farm

The order for the rollout will be based on achieving the most efficient deployment possible, this is to ensure access to Superfast broadband for the maximum number of properties possible for the available funding.

One slight caveat, this is subject to survey and there always remains the small chance that this reveals something that would require more work than expected which could cause a delay or, in extreme cases, it is possible that severe technical issues will be discovered that prevent implementation altogether.

To explain why not all properties are covered, the rollout is based on the cost to provide a specific fibre solution, divided by the number of properties that will benefit to provide a per property cost. Funding is then allocated on this basis. The funding available for the BBfN programme is currently only sufficient to provide access for 95% of Norfolk premises.

The County Council considers broadband infrastructure a priority and as further funding becomes available coverage will increase towards an ultimate aim to achieve access for 100% of Norfolk properties.

Any property with access to a broadband speed of less than a minimum of 2 Mbps that will not benefit from a fibre upgrade can access the Government's voucher scheme. This scheme aims to cover the set-up costs for the implementation of alternative technologies such as wireless or satellite. Details and an application form can be found on the Better Broadband for Norfolk website <http://www.betterbroadbandnorfolk.co.uk/better-broadband-subsidy-scheme/>

Regards

Karen

The Council is very concerned about the properties where it is said there is 'no solution currently planned'. We do not understand how this is possible, especially where the properties are on roads where other properties will have connections. Bev will contact Karen O'Kane for an explanation. We will keep you updated on this in future newsletters.

Bev has subsequently been told that a new communications cabinet is to be installed on the grass verge on Church Road near the junction with Horse Shoe Road, Welborne. This will serve residents and businesses in the immediate surrounding area. No date for installation is currently available.

Phone box in Runhall

Following a request from Jane Brown, the Parish Council applied to South Norfolk Council for a grant of £100 towards the upkeep and use of the redundant phone box in Runhall. The application was successful.

Jane and other Runhall residents have looked at the phone box at Honingham, which has been done up really well and has a share section. It also has some clever flip files showing local history. Mary and Terry Miller have generously said they will share all the archive material they have gathered on Runhall.

In the meantime, there has been some work on clearing the undergrowth and Clare Miller and her family have been busy with sandpaper.

Meet and Make

The groups meets every first Thursday of the month, with the next meeting being on 5th October, 7.00pm - 9.00pm at Welborne Village Hall. If crafting isn't your thing, come for a chat and coffee or glass of wine. For further information, please contact Jane on 01362 858598.

Meet and Chat

You are invited to Welborne Village Hall on the third Thursday of every month between 2.00pm and 3.30pm for a cup of tea/coffee and the chance to meet up with friends for a chat by the fire in the village hall. Optional book/puzzle exchange and, players permitting, a game of chess or two.

Footpaths

We are still looking for volunteers to take on the role of footpath wardens in Brandon Parva, Coston and Welborne, either as individuals or with a friend, partner or another dog walker. If you would be interested in taking on the role in your village, please contact Bev Long.

Parish Council 2017 meeting dates

The remaining Parish Council meeting in 2017 will be on 29 November.

All meetings are in Welborne Village Hall and start at 7.30 pm. The council may have to hold additional meetings, particularly when we have to consider planning applications at short notice, and these will be advertised on village noticeboards and on our website. All residents are encouraged and welcome to come to meetings of the Council.

Parish responsibilities and contacts

Parish Clerk	Bev Long	01362 850162 but best contact is clerk@bpcrwparishcouncil.info
Chairman	Mike Webb	01362 850327
Vice Chairman	Simon Guest	07543 645351
Councillor	Carolyn Bailey	01603 757644
Councillor	Trevor Curson	01362 858184
Councillor	Andrew Egerton Smith	01362 850979
Councillor	Clare Kay	01603 757860
Councillor	Peter Wood	01362 850405
Fuel scheme co-ordinator	Jill Craig	01362 850113
Brandon Parva Litter Warden	Coralie Meadows	coralie.m@hotmail.co.uk
Coston + Runhall Litter Warden	Mark Gill and family	01603 759555
Welborne Litter Wardens	Brian and Margot Hancock	01362 858104
Runhall Footpath Warden	Jane Brown	01362 858598
County Councillor	Margaret Dewsbury	01603 759693
District Councillor	Michael Edney	01953 851342