

## **Castle Acre Parish News – December/January 2020/21**

The Parish Council (PC) held its usual monthly meeting on Thursday 12 November 2020, again by Zoom, with one member of the public in attendance.

### **Supporting young people in the village**

The PC intends a more active role in supporting young people in the village, possibly by forming a youth club which could meet in the village hall, with trips out and other activities. Some residents will recall the successful youth club in the past. The PC is very grateful for the offer of advice and help from a resident who is a Senior Youth Engagement Officer at YMCA Norfolk. The first step is to consult with our young residents to build up a picture of their needs and aspirations before applying for grant funding to employ youth workers rather than relying on the goodwill of village volunteers. Please e-mail your thoughts to the Clerk and encourage your families to do so.

### **Safety at Back Lane/Massingham Road junction.**

Local drivers are aware of the dangers of exiting from Back Lane onto Massingham Road when their visibility is blocked by delivery lorries or parked cars – hence the temporary traffic cones! Ideally, yellow lines round the whole corner are the best deterrent but the traffic order cost is prohibitive in the current economic circumstances. Highways recently painted a bus stop sign on the carriage way which has the same legal force as yellow lines. Please avoid parking over it. As an additional measure, the PC will erect a large traffic safety mirror on the opposite bank to Back Lane to aid drivers to exit safely.

### **Remembrance Sunday and the war memorial garden**

Grants from the Borough and the PC towards the cancelled VE75 events were diverted to re-soiling and re-planting the two memorial beds at the war memorial in time for Remembrance Sunday. Thanks to Horticultural Society volunteers for undertaking the work and to those who donated plants. And a big thanks to Helen Breach for creating and installing the beautiful Remembrance Poppy on Stocks Green.

### **Sow for Future**

Both the PC and Horticultural Society full support ‘Sow for Future’, a village community initiative to save and donate unwanted seeds via a seed bank box, currently outside Marcon House, Bailey Street. The thinking is to encourage local children to use the seeds to plant in their own growing boxes at home or at school. This initiative is linked to a plant poly tunnel donated to the school by the Horticultural Society and backed by the Friends of Castle Acre Primary School. If the concept takes off, the expectation is to encourage other local communities to set up their own seed banks and spread the joy of growing. Further information on this exciting idea can be found at [https://www.instagram.com/sow\\_for\\_future/](https://www.instagram.com/sow_for_future/)

Despite these uncertain times, the PC sends residents its best wishes for Christmas and hopes for a less restricted new year.

To view past Council Minutes and finances, go to [www.castleacre.info/parish\\_news.htm](http://www.castleacre.info/parish_news.htm)  
The next PC meeting, held via Zoom is at 7.30pm on **Thursday 10 December 2020** . Contact the Clerk if you would like to participate.

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