Horning Parish Council
***Council Report – 2019/2021***

**Introduction**

This report covers 2 years due to the 2020 Annual Parish Meeting being postponed under Covid-19 emergency legislation.

The minutes of the 2019 Annual Parish Meeting were reviewed and agreed at the first Parish Council Meeting after the 2019 meeting.

**People**

During the previous 2 years, the following members served on the Parish Council:

Patrina Avellino, Gary Martin, Andrew Darby, Andrew Seddon, Adam Varley, Peter Iddon, Gerrard Mancini-Boyle, Rupert Cavendish and myself

During the period both Andrew Seddon and Gerrard Mancini-Boyle, resigned their seats on the Council**.** There remains four vacancies on the Parish Council

I would like to thank all Councillors for their efforts over the past year and also Jo Beardshaw (Clerk and CFO) for her professional approach at all times.

Ralph Morris continues to do an excellent job with the litter picking around the village, and Carol Gilden undertakes gardening jobs as required. Thank you to both of them

**BA Conservation Area**

Prior to the Covid-19 lockdowns, the council was engaged with the Broads Authority in their review of the conservation area in the village. The PC broadly resisted the proposed changes to the conservation area but this situation has not yet been fully resolved.

**Ferry Road**

The flooding situation in Ferry Road has been very bad over the last 2 winters and as a result a multi-agency working group has been convened to address the issue. Whilst there is no magic solution to the situation that exists, progress is being made on providing a solution that will alleviate much of the issue in the majority of circumstances.

**The Recreation Field**

The Play Area continues to be refreshed as required with new play equipment and additional benches. Maintenance of the area is an ongoing task.

It is good to see the return of a Football Club to the Recreation Field.

**Allotments**

Following the release of a sizeable number of Allotments at Upper Street, the Council has entered into an agreement with Hoveton Parish Council to offer a number of plots to their parishioners. This effort has been successful and we are hopeful of a thriving community being created now that we have rented almost all of the available plots.

**Covid-19**

Much of the last year has been dominated by Covid-19 and reactions to the restrictions imposed. During the first lockdown, a volunteer group of some 20 villagers was created to provide support to villagers who were self-screening or who were having difficulties due to the restrictions imposed. This included jobs ranging from collecting and delivering prescriptions, doing residents shopping and running daily errands, even walking dogs and posting letters and birthday cards at the P.O.! No job was too small or menial for the team.

The Parish Council provided a line of credit to be used for the volunteer group and negotiated arrangements with some local businesses including The galley, The Big Shop at Womack and Roy’s Supermarket. This facility was eventually closed down as people adapted to a non-cash world.

Our Thanks go to David Benbow for stepping up and taking the lead on this activity. His report can be found on the PC website.

**And Finally**

We look forward to the return to some degree of normality over the coming months.

***Ian Davis***

***Parish Council Chairman***

***May 2021***