

Annual Report April 2015
The Walpoles Parish Council.

The Parish Council have met each month throughout the year and have debated and acted upon a range of issues. An average of just under 8 councillors attended each meeting. The Borough Councillor attended regularly but the County Councillor representing the Walpoles because of hearing problems has not attended regularly but does get a copy of the minutes of all meetings.

Sadly last Autumn Richard Boden resigned from the Parish Council because of his health. Richard was a very active member of the Council and is greatly missed. In January Annie Treen resigned from the council because she was moving out of the county to be near her family. Although she was only a member of the council for a brief time we thank her for her contribution to the Walpoles.

I hope that following the May Elections the Parish Council will be back up to full strength.

This year has been a difficult year for the Parish Council. It has spent a great deal of time on the strategic Local Development Framework (LDF) for King's Lynn and West Norfolk in particular The Walpoles. We have had several public meetings throughout the year to understand the public views on this subject. We had a meeting with the head of the LDF team at KL&WN Borough Council, Mr Alan Gomm. All these were very well attended by the public. But the Parish Council and the people of the Walpoles failed to get their views included in the published LDF document. We have since taken professional advice and support to help us argue our case and put it to the planning inspector who is independently reviewing the LDF proposed by the Borough Council. We now are awaiting his response.

We have other difficult plans to consider including the Solar Farm at the Lowes, the extension of the Walpole Sub Station and the Offshore Wind Farm at Race Bank

The council have been working with several members of the public to ensure the right of way behind the houses on Townsend Estate be re-instated and see if the Allotment land at the rear of Townsend Estate could be opened up to the public as small garden allotments. Discussions on both these subjects is on going.

The Council are negotiating with the Walpole Foundation & Recreational Trust for the lease of a site for a proposed new Play Park. It hoped to start this work later in the year following applications for grants.

During last month a grant was given to WPC to develop a Trod along Chalk Road. A Trod is a basic footpath. This Trod will be from Wisbech Road to the Cul-de-Sac. This work will be completed later this year.

Earlier in the year we received a grant towards the cost of two speed limit warning signs. These were erected on Mill Road and Market Lane.

The Village Crier, a magazine provided by Walpole Parish Council continues to go from strength to strength under the excellent work of the editor Mrs Janet Luck.

Peter Luck has been maintaining and developing the village website. His work is greatly appreciated by the Parish Council.

The Website address is www.walpolepc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk.

The Council would like to thank all the volunteers and helpers who contribute endless hours of support to the variety of services, charities, clubs and organisations that thrive in the Walpoles.

Thursday 9th April 2015