

YOUR RACKHEATH



Your Parish Council Newsletter No.6

FEBRUARY 2018

Chairman's Comment

The Parish Council has been busy since our last Newsletter in October and we are looking forward to developing our plans and projects in the year ahead. We were pleased to welcome new member Chris Yates, who joined the Parish Council in January and for the first time since we were elected in 2015 we now have full membership.

I would like to commend the members of our Parks and Leisure Committee who did us proud again by putting on a fantastic firework event on the Stracey Sports Park in November. Over 1700 adults and children attended and a profit of over £4,000 was made. Thank you to everyone who helped at the event and special thanks to Tracy and Brian for leading the organisation of this highly successful event. We look forward to another spectacular display on 2 November 2018!



Following on from the adoption of the Rackheath Neighbourhood Plan last summer, we set up a new advisory group of councillors and other residents to oversee the planning policies and community projects identified in the Plan as a result of public consultation with residents. We are very pleased to be starting work on one of these projects, the development of Newman Woods as a community facility.

Broadland District Council has offered advice and funding towards the Newman Woods project but we need your ideas and help to get this off the ground. We hope to raise as much holding a Rackheath community meeting in the evening of Wednesday 25 April 2018 and will have a display of what is in the woods now and ask your views on what we can do to improve them. Please mark the date in your calendar and come along for a coffee and a chat.

As you will see in the following pages Rackheath is on the brink of major growth and the Parish Council wants to help bring the community together to face the future. We want to work with other local organisations, clubs and groups to welcome residents old and new. To help achieve this the Parish Council is developing a new Community Website providing a one-stop information shop for anyone interested in finding out what is going on in the village. If your group wants to be part of Rackheath Community website just get in touch with the Parish Clerk.

Emma

Parish Council Chairman

Housing Development in Rackheath

Progress of Local Planning Applications

The application for 322 homes by Norfolk Homes on land off Green Lane West received in September 2017 is still under consideration by the District Council but we expect an outcome within the next few months.

In January an outline planning application for 205 homes was made by Taylor Wimpey on a site adjacent to Mahoney Green. Our Planning Committee and Neighbourhood Plan Group raised some concerns about existing flooding problems in the area, site access and footway provision on Green Lane West. The level of on-site play space was questioned although the plan included an area of open space heathland the other side of the Norwich Distributor Route, which would be accessed by a path to the south of the site leading to the new pedestrian bridge.

Depending on the outcome of both these planning applications, we understand that building is unlikely to start until late 2019 or early 2020.

An application for the masterplan for 3,000+ homes in North Rackheath has still not been made but we are advised that an amended plan is due to be presented to Broadland District Council in March with an outline application for planning permission to be submitted later this year. The Parish Council will keep residents informed of progress with these planning applications and you are welcome to attend our monthly Planning Committee meetings. Details of planning applications are available on the Broadland District Council website at www.broadland.gov.uk/plans.

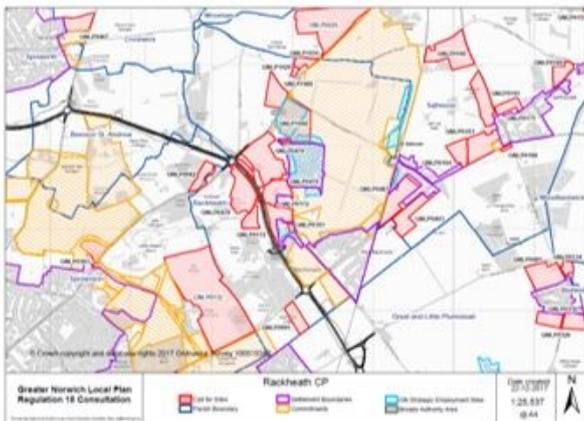


Greater Norwich Local Plan– Have your Say!

Take the opportunity to comment on the Greater Norwich Local Plan, which is currently out for public consultation.

The GNLP identifies areas for development to 2036 and this map shows the Rackheath area. Land already identified in the Local Plan for development is in orange and additional land in red submitted to Broadland District Council by land owners for potential future development.

The Parish Council feels this is excessive and encourages residents to give your views on the Greater Norwich Local Plan online at www.gnlp.org.uk or ring 01603 306603 to get a response booklet. The consultation ends on 15 March 2018.

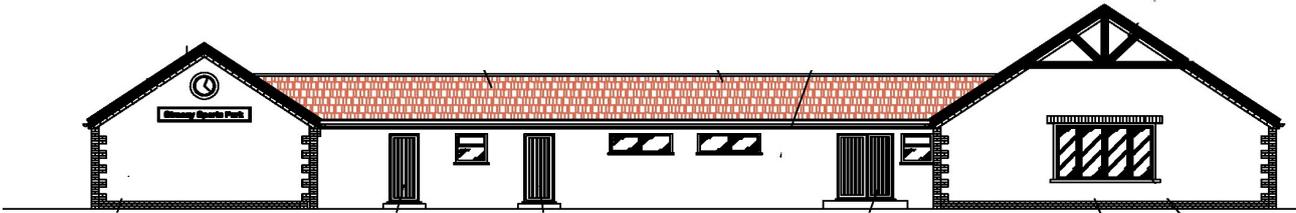


Parish Council Budget & Precept 2018/19

The Parish Council Budget and Precept for 2018/19 was approved in December. The expenditure budget for next year is £63,425, which pays for the cost of running the Parish Council, administration and staff costs, grass cutting, maintenance of land and buildings and the Pavilion development etc. The expenditure will be met by the Parish Council's reserve funds, anticipated income and a Precept of £38,000, increased by 15.15% from 2017/18. This means that from April 2018 an average Band D taxpayer will pay £55.72 per year towards the Parish Council running costs, an increase of £5.57 per year or 11p per week. A breakdown of the Parish Council budget can be obtained from the Parish Clerk or on the website- www.rackheathparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk.



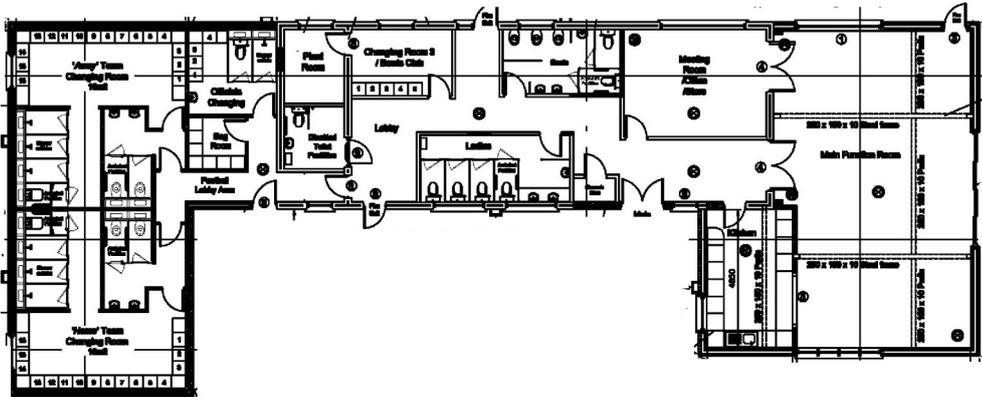
Rackheath Pavilion Final Plan



Proposed Front Elevation - North

The Parish Council has had to make some revisions to the original plans for the Pavilion renovation to save on cost but we are still planning to transform the current cramped and outdated facility to create a smart new venue offering a variety of activities and social events for all ages.

The floorplan below shows the two new extensions at each end providing new showers and changing areas, a new locker room for football and other sports users. There will be a small meeting room/office and a larger new function room which will have a seating capacity of around 70 or 110 standing. A new fitted kitchen will be provided with a serving counter to the function area and an external serving hatch to the car park. The existing facilities will be much improved with new toilets including disabled and ambient facilities.



Outside improvements include a large resurfaced car park with new lighting and improved security. There will be a picnic and play area with equipment for children, a trim trail and exercise equipment for adults.

The Parish Council want to attract interest from residents in taking part in both traditional and new fitness activities. The function room will provide

a light spacious area for social, exercise or business activities. The Parish Council will work with other community groups that hire out their facilities to ensure we co-ordinate local provision.

Funding for the project will come from loans (against future income from housing development) and grants from organisations such as the Football Association and Sport England. In order to be awarded the grants and to build a sustainable facility we need to provide a variety of activities that people want to come to. Please complete our short survey overleaf to tell us what you would like.

Football Taster Sessions

Wroxham FC (@The_Yachtsmen) in partnership with Rackheath Parish Council supported by Norfolk FA are running **FREE** football taster sessions with a view to setting up Wroxham FC teams based in Rackheath.

The sessions are for boys and girls of all abilities, in years 1, 2 & 3. They will take place from 10.00am until 11.30. at Rackheath Stracey Sports Park (Opp Ind Est.)

- ⚽ Saturday 17th February
- ⚽ Saturday 24th February
- ⚽ Saturday 3rd March

Wear warm clothing. Bring a drink, shin pads and boots!

Sessions are run by qualified coaches from Wroxham FC and its Academy. **No need to book or pre-register. Just turn up at 9.30 and be ready join in the fun.** Teas, Coffees and snacks will be available.

for info call Chris 07508 219072

WROXHAM F.C. FOUNDED 1892

Youth Football Scheme

Adult football has been played on the playing field at Green Lane West for many years but the Parish Council would like to see more local youngsters using the facilities so we are working on the development of a youth football scheme with the help of Wroxham Football Club, volunteers and the support of Norfolk Football Association.

The first taster sessions for under 10's are being held this month and depending on how it goes, we will develop regular training sessions and teams with a tournament in the summer. Come along and support us.

Rackheath Pavilion Survey

The Parish Council are planning to upgrade the pavilion at Stracey Playing Field on Green Lane West to provide a new function room and changing facilities and we would like your views on what activities you would like to be held there. Please provide your contact details if you would like us to keep you up to date with progress

Name **Email address**

Address

Male/Female **Age:** under 16 16 – 25 26 - 35 35 – 49 50 – 65 65+

1. Do you currently use the Stracey Playing Field or Pavilion for any activities?

Yes- What activity?

No - Why not?.....

2. What kind of activities would you like to see offered at the pavilion and playing field:- *Please tick*

Football Tennis Netball Basketball Aerobics Bounce-aerobics Seated aerobics

Boxercise Yoga Pilates Zumba Bootcamp Circuit training Walking Football

Martial arts Tai Chi Table Tennis Tea dances Bowls Bridge club Short mat bowls

Outdoor Gym Fun & Fit classes

Other - Please specify

Do you currently do any of these activities elsewhere? No/Yes - which ones?

3. How often do you think you would take part in such activity?

Once a week More than once a week Once a month More than once a month

Once every two or three months Once or twice a year

Preferred time of day:- Morning Afternoon Evening

4. How would you get to the Stracey Playing Field :- Walk, Cycle, Car, shared transport.

Would you need help to get to the site?

5. What would you be prepared to pay to do the activity?

6. Would you be prepared to volunteer to help deliver any of the activities, if so which ones?

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Thank you for completing this form.

Please drop it off at Louise Hair Salon or at the Cabin next to the Church, Salhouse Rd

To contact the Parish Council

You can contact our Parish Clerk, Diana Dring on 01603 758249

Email: clerk@rackheathparishcouncil.org.uk

Come to our monthly public meetings at the Pavilion, Stracey Playing Field, Green Lane West

See Website for more details:- www.rackheathparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk

Village Noticeboards or Facebook: search - Rackheath Parish Council

Email Parish Councillors directly by using their full name... [@rackheathparishcouncil.org.uk](https://www.facebook.com/rackheathparishcouncil)

Emma Whymark (Chair), Paula Lowe, Simon Hunt, Tracy Buckley, Rebekah Hughes, Fran Whymark,

Brian Gardner, Julie Hunt, Pippa Nurse, Sam Youngs and Chris Yates