

Great Bricett Parish Council Chair's Report 2021-2022

It has been quite a busy year with Zoom Meetings being replaced by the normal Village Hall gatherings. Nice to see everyone in person and not on a screen!

In November David Payne, a long-standing member of the Parish Council and Tree Warden, decided it was time he retired having fought long and hard against the plans to site 70+ Park Homes on the old Great Bricett Business Park. The Planning Department refused the Planning Application and we wait to see what will happen next.

We have welcome two new Parish Councillors, Michelle and Andrew, we value their input on Village matters.

During the year we have been asked by a new resident in the village to remove our much-loved telephone box from his land and Andrew, our newest Councillor has taken on the task of organising this move. The telephone box will be sited outside the Village Hall.

This year the Parish Council took on a new project to create a woodland area. The local landowner has allowed us to lease a piece of land and during the year this has taken shape with many villagers purchasing trees in memory of loved ones. These are now planted with a wildflower area. A pond has been created and paid for with the help of Dan Pratt, our District Councillor. Derek Weston and Barry and Sally Abbott have been unstinting in their efforts to keep this project on track. Local resident Colin Carter has been a great help cutting the footpaths that run across the field.

The Parish Council have decided that it was time to put the Village Green on a more formal footing and have started the process of getting it included on the Land Registry.

Another project which saw a large number of Villagers come up trumps was the improvement of a local footpath which became extremely muddy and dangerous. The volunteers laid a quantity of Type 1 Granite which has really improved the situation. This was done with the approval and consent of Mid Suffolk Footpaths Department.

The Red Lion public house situation is still in limbo with the building being boarded up and on the market, with little prospect at the moment of it reopening. The Planning Application for change of use has been refused but an appeal is in the offing.

The added revenue from the CiL money we have received due to local house building has really assisted in these projects.

The Parish Council thank Jennie Blackburn our Clerk for all her help and advice during the last year, what would we do without you!!!