

## Chairmans Report 2018 – Lingwood & Burlingham Parish Council

### Annual Parish Meeting, April 24<sup>th</sup> 2018

The Annual Parish Meeting is the chance to reflect on what has happened in the past year.

I took on the role of Chairman in February this year having been a councillor for 3 years prior to this. Since becoming chair there have been some issues which has raised a challenge and not been easy to deal with but I have done my best with the information I have had available to me at the time. The council is not one person and in my short time as Chair I have always had support of fellow councillors and would like to thank them and the Clerk – Sonya Dickinson wholeheartedly for their support, hard work and dedication. The number of councillors is a worry as there are only 8 of 12 positions currently filled, with Mike Bredbere, Ben Bethell and Tony Gould stepping down during 2017. On behalf of the council I would like to relay to them my greatest thanks for their hard work and diligence in their roles and wish them all the best for the future. At this point I would like to ask anyone who thinks they could give up a small amount of their spare time if they would be willing to join the council, we don't bite, and you never know you may actually enjoy it! It would be great to have more experience on the council to add to the debates and decisions we take.

This Year:-

The Peters' Wood Sundial was completed in 2017 with 50% grant from Broadland and a 50% donation from a Parishioner.

The Pear Tree was replaced again on the orchard by Ernest Hoyos, luckily the supplier sent it free of charge.

There are on-going items such as:-

- The dualling of the A47 through the parish, which now looks like it is definitely going to happen.
- The appeal for a speed reduction on South Walsham Road, North Burlingham.

- The Post Office
- The planned changes and safety issues associated with both railway crossings in the parish
- The erection of a further bus shelter on Post Office Road
- Planning; there have been 27 planning applications in the year

Money is always an important consideration for the Council. The precept increase has been well considered and we are always most careful about how this money is spent.

BADCOG continue to help with the pond and maintenance of several footpaths for which we are grateful.

Unfortunately after 6-7 years of running the Parish Website, Tony Grosvenor is retiring, many thanks to him for not only designing the original website 9 years ago but for the new one that is now up and running. Sonya will take back the reins.

Thanks to all of the people who give up their time to make the Parish a better place.

Thank you, Simon Stevens