

NACTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Registered charity no.1000065
Report to Nacton Parish Council 2018

Officers of the Council for 20018/2019 were:

Chairman: Jos Leeder *Secretary:* Emma Wilson *Treasurer:* Paula Warner

Committee members 2016 - 2017:

Alison Greaves; Robert Warner; Dave Simmonds; Peter Richards; Brian Hunt; Hannah Modder; Mary Liggett; Chris Tattersall

A range of activities and events took place during 2018; these included three quiz nights, an Easter egg hunt, raising of the Commonwealth flag with attendant pop-up café and an additional four pop-up cafes during the summer months. An innovation this year was the monthly Saturday morning book/DVD/jigsaw exchange together with bacon rolls, cakes, tea and coffee. The pop-up cafes and coffee mornings are very popular with residents and provide an excellent opportunity for socialising. Thanks to Emma for her tireless efforts to provide these popular mornings together with her husband Mark who slaves over a hot stove providing bacon and egg rolls. Chris and Mary are the cheery faces serving the food and drinks. The ever popular senior residents' Christmas party took place in December; because a rather large proportion of the committee is now of an age when they should attend the party and not organise it, praise must be given to Paula, Hannah and Christine who bore the burden of providing the food and entertainment. (Whisper it quietly but two of those people also qualify to attend as guests. . . and one isn't Hannah!) Paula also recruited helpers from the village and what sterling service they provided.

Another innovation has seen the start of regular yoga sessions on Monday afternoons in the village hall. A small but dedicated band of residents attends the classes and the classes are proving to be very popular. The classes were started as part of the national 'Fit Villages' initiative. This organisation provides 'pump priming' to establish new fitness related activities and once the funding is used the residents pay to keep it running. This has now happened with the yoga classes and so they are now self-funding.

In July the village held the annual flower show and fun day (Not the Chelsea Flower Show). Entries were understandably down this year due to the drought but the quality of the entries was still excellent. The primary school provided a feast of colour with their multiple entries for the painting competition and Samboomba provided the entertainment. Races, games, competitions, stalls, raffle and tombola were excellently supported and helped raise much-needed funds to enable the Community Council to maintain the sports field for the use of the village residents.

There have been developments on the sports field during the past year. The cricket club incorporated an additional club which means that there are in effect three teams: first, second and Sunday. This has placed extra demand on the wicket. Consequently, in September, the cricket club organised the reseeding and extending of the square. This has improved the quality of the wickets and will ensure that the

club has adequate wickets for the number of games played throughout the season. The field also requires spraying as the weeds flourished during the drought of 2018. The Community Council has purchased a sprayer to fix to the rear of the tractor which will enable us to spray as required both now and in the future. Plans are afoot to decorate the outside of the pavilion during the Spring of 2019. In addition, the white lines of the tennis court will also be repainted.

It is encouraging for the Community Council to see the sports field being used by individuals and small groups for exercise and leisure. Joggers, mothers with small children using the play equipment, workers from Camilla Court enjoying their lunch in the sunshine, games of tennis and informal games of rounders and football, together with the use of the pavilion for pop-up cafes, children's parties, occasional meetings of the Parish Council and meetings of the Nacton WI, are some of the many ways the field is used.

As always, I am very grateful to all the established and newer members of the committee for all their hard work. I am also grateful to the residents of Nacton village for their continued support.

JOS LEEDER (Chairman)