

GREAT MASSINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

JULY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The Parish Council meeting began at 7.30pm on Monday 21st July, with seven Parish Councillors in attendance, seven members of the public along with Borough Councillor Alistair Beales.

VE Day Beacon Lighting in Great Massingham

Great Massingham will mark the 80th Anniversary of VJ Day by

lighting the beacon on **Friday 15th August at 8.00pm**. The beacon will be lit as part of a nationwide chain of beacons across the UK. These events will commemorate the end of World War II and the Allied victory over Japan

You are all invited to come along to share this special occasion.

Carp Pox Identified at Scotsman's Pit – Advice for Anglers

The Parish Council wishes to inform residents and visitors that **Carp Pox** has recently been observed in Scotsman's Pit. While this condition can appear concerning, **it is not harmful to humans or other wildlife** and does not pose a wider environmental risk.

Carp Pox is a **non-notifiable disease**, meaning there is no statutory requirement to report or treat it. The condition often **improves naturally**, especially as **water temperatures rise** and fish experience **less stress**.

To help manage the situation and protect fish health, we kindly ask all those who fish at Scotsman's Pit to follow these simple biosecurity measures:

- **Disinfect all nets and equipment** before using them at other fishing locations
- **Thoroughly dry all gear in sunlight** after disinfection
- **Avoid overfishing** and be mindful of overcrowding or other conditions that could cause stress to fish

We thank you for your cooperation in keeping Scotsman's Pit a safe and healthy environment for everyone to enjoy.

Playground Redevelopment Plans Receive Overwhelming Community Support

Thank you to everyone who has supported the exciting plans to redevelop the village children's playground — and to those who took the time to complete the recent survey. Your feedback has been invaluable, and it's clear that enthusiasm for the project continues to grow across the community.

In June 2025, the Parish Council carried out a dedicated playground survey aimed at gathering input from families, carers, and local residents. The response was fantastic, and the results speak for themselves:

- 97% of respondents supported the proposed redevelopment
- 74% agreed that there should be improved inclusive provision
- Over one third of respondents regularly use the play area with children under 5

This clearly highlights the need for a revitalised and inclusive space, particularly one that meets the developmental needs of our youngest residents.

Local organisations have also expressed their support, including Ducklings Preschool, which has welcomed the under 5s focus and recognises the value it will bring to early childhood development.

The Parish Council is now using the feedback to shape the next stages of the project and looks forward to sharing further updates in due course. Once again, thank you for helping to move this important project forward — together, we're creating a space that the whole village can enjoy for years to come.

Play Area Deep Cleaning and Ongoing Improvements

The Parish Council is pleased to share that all play area equipment is now being deep cleaned ahead of each school holiday. This regular cleaning helps to remove accumulated debris and tackle the persistent issue of bird droppings, which have caused concern for families using the space.

As part of the wider redevelopment plans for the play area, the Council is also actively considering a range of bird deterrent measures.

Parish Council Meeting Conduct Protocol

The Parish Council has adopted a Meeting Conduct Protocol Policy to ensure that all meetings are run in a lawful, respectful, and inclusive manner.

This policy supports good governance by aligning with legal requirements and Standing Orders, while also promoting respectful behaviour among councillors, members of the public, and invited guests. It helps maintain a positive atmosphere, encourages public engagement in a structured way, and protects the integrity of Council meetings.

The policy also outlines the roles and responsibilities of the Chair and all participants, ensuring everyone understands their part in maintaining an orderly and productive meeting.

The full policy is available to view on the Parish Council website.

Parish Council Supports Village Hall Car Park Project

The Parish Council is pleased to announce that it has awarded £1,000 to the Village Hall Committee as financial assistance towards the car park resurfacing project.

This funding has been granted in line with the Council's Grant Awarding Policy, which supports local initiatives that benefit the wider community.

Next Meeting: The next Parish Council meeting will be held in the Village Hall on 18th August at 7.30pm. Members of the public are very welcome to attend the meeting and there is an opportunity to make comments or ask questions of the Council during the first part of the meeting.

Please note that the Parish Council will not respond to posts on social media and would ask that any comments, complaints or compliments be directed to the Clerk via the contact details provided.

To contact the Clerk, Sarah Harvey you can telephone 01328 823391, email gmparishclerk@gmail.com or write to Byanoak, Leicester Road, South Creak, NR21 9PW.