

Costessey Centre Opening Day on 31st May a Resounding Success



More than 2000 people enjoyed what turned out to be an exceptional occasion in Costessey's recent history. The official opening of the Costessey Centre was marked by a village summer fayre, a fairground, disco and a firework display. The first truly Costessey Parish celebration for more than two decades was a huge success prompting many to request that it becomes an annual event.

Leaden early morning skies threatened, but in true stoic manner, organisers pressed on and were rewarded when in the early afternoon, the sun broke through.

Spirits soared as an endless stream of cars filled the bottom half of Longwater Recreation Ground.

Fairground rides sprang into life, stalls blossomed, burger smells filled the air and the beer tent opened. More than 50 organisations showed the varied range of activities in Costessey.

A flight of doves opened proceedings and more Costessey groups provided an afternoon of entertainment: dancers, singers, musicians and martial arts groups. Later that afternoon, a specially written fanfare accompanied a countdown as children from the parish released 500 balloons to mark the event.

A cool but windless evening rocked to the sound of the disco and then at 10pm, a 15 minute firework display spectacularly rounded off a very satisfying day.

Recycling Banks In Costessey

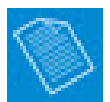


Parishioners have asked when the re-cycling centre will return to Longwater Lane

Recreation Ground. The Council has yet to make a final decision if and when this will happen, but is well aware that this is a popular site and has been missed.



There are problems though - the main one being that the brick weave car park is not designed to withstand the heavy lorries turning. A solution, if there is one, has yet to be found.



There are however, other recycling facilities close by. Listed below are the re-cycling units in and around Costessey.

In Costessey

Scout Hut, Gunton Lane: glass
St Walstans Church - paper
Crown PH, Norwich Road: glass
Bush PH, The Street: glass
Costessey Park and Ride: glass ,
textiles & clothing,
Sainsburys Supermarket: glass,
textile & clothing, paper, shoes,
envelopes & shredded paper
Breckland Park: shoes, textile &
clothing

In Taverham

Village Hall, Sandy Lane: glass

In Drayton

Budgens Supermarket - cans,
clothing, shoes, paper, glass

In Bowthorpe

Roys Supermarket: glass & cans

Speedwatch

The Parish Council would like to re-establish the speedwatch team in Costessey.

Funded by the South Norfolk Crime Reduction Partnership the Bowthorpe/Costessey area has a 'speed gun' to monitor traffic speeds. Once again, local volunteers who are willing to be trained to use the speed gun are urgently needed.

Once trained the volunteers would monitor traffic speeds in the Costessey area noting the registration numbers of any vehicles exceeding the speed limit. The owners would be identified and a letter would be sent from the police warning them that they had been recorded exceeding the speed limit. Eight or more volunteers are needed to make the scheme work.

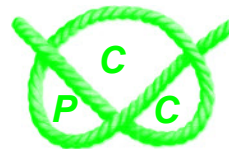
Anyone interested should contact the Parish Clerk, Rachel Jackson, at the Costessey Centre, Longwater Lane, Costessey, NR8 5AH (tel: 01603 742958).

Traffic Calming in The Street on schedule

The footway and traffic calming scheme along the Street is still on course despite biting cutbacks in County Council spending.

Following the allocation of adequate funds and the purchase of one section of land, the County Council is confident the scheme can be completed this financial year.

Queens Hill Parish Notice Board Removed



Unfortunately, the Parish notice board on Poethlyn Drive, Queens Hill has had to be removed.

After weeks trying to identify a suitable site, a developer politely but firmly asked the council to take it down. The council is seeking a replacement site.

New Community Centre Plans rejected

Plans submitted by developers to build a new community centre at Queens Hill have been rejected as wholly unsuitable. Lack of changing rooms and toilets were two major concerns. A meeting is to be arranged with the developers, South Norfolk planners and the Parish Council to try and forward future proposals.

The threat of injunctions against future house building has been temporarily lifted as developers have been given 2 months to produce a timetable to deliver appropriate community facilities. These include an improved community centre, a play area this year, a country park by next spring and highways suitable for adoption. South Norfolk Council have set aside £20000 in case an injunction is still needed.

Junior Playground on its way

Younger parishioners (and their parents) will be delighted to know that building the replacement play area on Longwater Lane is starting on the 14th July and should be completed by early August. Designed by local firm Adventure Playgrounds, it will be fenced, have modern safety features and be built close to the existing play equipment.

New Activities in Costessey Centre

The number and variety of activities in the Centre continues to grow. Starting in September there is a Cuban Salsa Fit class and a Pilates & Yoga Class

If you are interested there are **free come and try sessions** on Tuesday 7th September:



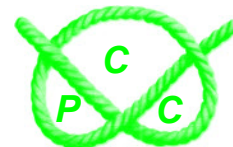
Pilates, Yoga : 7pm-8pm

Salsa Fit: 8pm -9pm

Contact Ann Godfrey on 01603 898867 for more information



Report by William Dinneen, Chairman of Costessey Parish Council, to the Annual Parish Assembly held on 4th May 2010



It's here at last – **Costessey Centre**. After years of reporting about providing a new facility and two previous failed attempts I can now tell you the building is up and open – the fact this meeting is taking place in it is proof for those who may not believe it! The Parish Council met in it for the first time last week and there are a few bookings in this week but the functions start in earnest from Monday next week. The hall is already fully booked every weekday evening and many of the weekday afternoons. Some of the hirers are those who have moved from the Parish Rooms or Youth Centre which are closing but there are quite a number of new events including a Bridge Club which is to meet in the meeting room two afternoons a week.

It is likely the total bill will be in the region of £1.5million including the fitting out. Both the architects and contractors have said that it was built at the optimum time – the recession meaning it benefited from the lowest build costs as well as the lowest borrowing rates. Both feel that if it were to be priced today it would cost at least a quarter more and perhaps as much as a third.

Whilst the building is now coming into use it is to be officially opened on 31st May 2010 when a large opening event is being organized. The plan is to have the event started by a flight of doves and there will then be a variety of side shows and displays by local people in the afternoon along with a small fair with a variety of rides. The afternoon's events will conclude with children officially opening the facility by releasing multicoloured helium balloons. In the evening there will be a disco for all ages which will conclude with a fireworks display. Most of the participants are from Costessey. It is hoped the weather will be kind and that lots of local people will come along, view the facility and enjoy the day.

As everyone will be aware the new facility will not only replace the old Sports Pavilion on Long water Lane but also the Parish Rooms – which is to close on 28th May 2010 – and the Costessey Youth and Community Centre which is to close on 2nd October 2010. The Council has already obtained a change of use permission to convert the Parish Rooms to one dwelling and is currently seeking outline permission for 4 dwellings on the Youth Centre site. Once these buildings are closed the Parish Council intends to auction both buildings off.

Of course the work is not yet done – aside of projects on some of Councils other sites the Parish Councils office staff are now working on the replacement of both the small and older children play areas on Longwater Lane Recreation Ground and exploring the potential for the old tennis courts.

The face of Longwater Lane is changing with not only Costessey Centre imposing itself on the landscape of the northern end but also the new **Costessey Surgery** rapidly being built at the southern end. This will significantly improve the look of one of the high profile entrances into Costessey as well as provide a state of the art health service for the people of Costessey. I believe the doctors hope this will be open in October of this year. Incidentally the new road on this development is to be named after Dr Torrens who was a partner in the Longwater Lane practice for many years and a very well respected and loved physician locally. Dr Torrens retired last year and the Parish Council felt this was a fitting tribute to his service to Costessey to name the road after him.

With regard to the **Breckland Hall** facility the Parish Council is looking to make some minor alterations to it to make it usable by some of the groups who will be displaced because of the closure of the Youth Centre. The play areas on the field are also due to be updated in the next year or two.

You will have read in the local press that the Government has agreed Norwich City Council can become a unitary authority on its current boundaries although the Conservatives have said they will rescind this if they are elected on Thursday. The

remainder of the County is to remain three tier system. The Parish Council recommended the current system did not change as it felt none of the options presented were right for Norfolk although it is not against unitary *per se*.

The Parish Council is set for significant changes to its **staff** this year. The Parish Clerk, Rachel Jackson, who has worked for the Parish Council since January 1989 is to retire at the end of September this year. The Parish Council is currently seeking a successor for her post. Also in the last few days one of the Assistant Clerks, Amy Starkings has also said she is leaving us to have a career change. Lastly the Council has in the last two weeks engaged Alyson Clarke part-time for the summer to care for the Cemetery on Longwater Lane and assist the Grounds men as and when required.

As always I would like to end my report with my sincere thanks to my fellow Councillors and the Council staff for all their hard work and support during the year.

William Dinneen - Chairman of Costessey Parish Council

Parish Clerks report to the Annual Parish Assembly to be held on Tuesday 4th May 2009

Finance Report for 2009/10

Owing to staff sickness and the move into new premises the end of year figures are not as yet completed. However, this has of course been the highest spend year that this Council has ever experienced with the building of Costessey Centre almost completely within it – only two of the monthly accounts being in the present financial year. Whilst I am unable to give exact figures I anticipate that the overall balances will be healthy and reasonably within budget.

Arrangements have been made for the accounts to be completed and these should be available by the end of May. They will of course as usual be subject to both internal and external audit.

Finance Report for 2010/11

The budget for 2010/11 is as attached. The precept set is £423,343 which although £24,405 more than the 2009/10 keeps the average Band D equivalent at £99.61 as last year so there is effectively no increase to individual householders.

The Parish Council has just learnt that the Section 106 monies from the Lodge Farm development amounting to £476,148 have been paid to South Norfolk Council and a claim has been lodged for the money to be paid over to the Parish Council. We are expecting this to happen in the next few weeks. Council will than be in a position to pay back some of the £1million loan it took out to fund the Costessey Centre if it chooses. However, there are other projects which need to be progressed – modernizing the play areas at both Longwater and Breckland Hall Recreation Grounds, revamping the tennis courts and possibly converting them to multi-use hard surface play being two examples so, as the loans were taken out at such a low rate of interest, Council may choose to try to renegotiate the purpose of the loan and use it to fund these schemes. In addition the Parish Council is likely to sell both the Youth Centre and the Parish Rooms in this financial year but this money can only be used on capital schemes. It would seem therefore by the end of this year the Council will once again have a healthy capital reserve to use to continue to provide modern facilities for residents to enjoy.

Rachel Jackson - Clerk to Costessey Parish Council

PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS ARE CHANGING

The Parish Office will be open at the COSTESSEY CENTRE during the following hours:

10am - 4pm Mon - Thurs
10am - 1pm Friday

Usually, parish officers can be contacted by telephone between these hours. The Parish Clerk is available at other times. Please ring the Parish Office to make an appointment.

CONTACT US - Please note change of address from 4th May

Costessey Parish Council
Costessey Centre
Longwater Lane
Old Costessey
Norwich NR8 5AH

Tel/Fax: 01603 742958

E-mail: info@costesseypc.org

Web Site: www.costessey.org.uk

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings are scheduled for:

August - No Scheduled Meetings
7 September - Costessey Centre
28 September - Costessey Centre
19 October - Costessey Centre
9 November - Costessey Centre
30 November - Costessey Centre
14 December - Costessey Centre

All meetings begin at 7pm.

The agendas for these and any other meetings arranged will be advertised on the Parish notice boards and web site a few days before the meeting takes place.

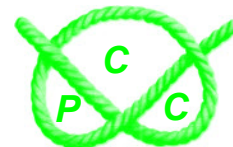
PARISH NOTICE BOARDS

Parish Notice boards can be found at the following locations:

- St Augustine's School
- Opposite cafe in Longwater Lane
- Breckland Hall
- Costessey Infants School - Beaumont Rd
- Opposite Crown Public House - Norwich Rd
- Olive Rd - near Valley Rd junction
- The Bakery - Oval Rd
- Corner of Bawburgh Lane & Dereham Rd
- Outside Parish Rooms - Townhouse Rd

Comments about 'Contact'? Well.... Please contact us!

Costessey Parish Council is here to serve YOU



The Parish Council owns and manages the Costessey Centre, Breckland Hall, the Owen Barnes Room, the Youth Centre, Breckland Recreation Ground, Longwater Recreation Ground, Gunton Lane Recreation Ground, Bunkers Hill Woodland, Greenhills Wood, the Parish Cemetery and the Roundwell Monument. It maintains St Edmund's Churchyard, the allotments and various other smaller areas such as the green on which the Village sign stands. It is also the Trustee of the Old Cricket Ground; considers every planning application submitted in Costessey; is consulted on a huge range of local and national issues; lobbies and liaises; and much, much more.

Why not come to a meeting—you might find it interesting!

COUNCILLORS FOR COSTESSEY

John Amis	96 Olive Road Costessey NR5 0AW (Parish Council Vice-Chairman)	746665
Diana Bates	55 Longwater Lane, Costessey, NR5 0TE	746757
Allan Bedford	2 Valley View Crescent, Costessey, NR5 0HU	743380
Vivienne Bell	8 Parklands, Costessey, NR8 5AL (Also District Councillor)	744952
John Denby	11 Hillvue Close, Costessey, NR5 0NQ (Also District Councillor)	744276
Bill Dinneen	108 West End, Costessey, NR8 5AJ (Parish Council Chairman)	742324
Tim East	7 St Walstans Close, Costessey, NR5 0TW (Also District & County Councillor)	743241
Libby Glover	78 Middleton Crescent, Costessey, NR5 0PX	748374
Brian Mackie	46, Parklands Ave, Shipdham, Thetford, IP25 7PZ	01362 821497
Reg Piesse	1 Longwater Lane, Costessey, NR8 5AH	744233
Dick Smith	64 The Street, Costessey, NR8 5DD	740006
Alex Todd	Sarum Hall, Hinshalwood Way, Costessey, NR8 5BN	748400
Dean Toms	10 Cleves Way, Old Costessey, NR8 5EN	740497
Gerard Watt	Busy Bee Cottage, Folgate Lane, Costessey, NR8 5DH (Also District Councillor)	749590
Diana Yorke	26A The Street, Old Costessey NR8 5DB	742098

Parish Clerk - Mrs Rachel Jackson Deputy Clerk - Mr Richard Rymarz
Clerk's Assistants - Mr Phil Leach & Mrs Margaret Vozza

FOR YOUR COMMENTS

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