

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting
held in the Community Hub, Blenheim Grange, on 12 April 2022**

Present: Cllrs G Redfern (Chair), J Borrett, P Sampher, M Wormald. In attendance: N Hartley (Parish Clerk) Cllr H Crane (Breckland Council). Cllr C Bowes (Norfolk County Council). Four members of the public.

1 Apologies for absence

Cllrs Long, Mawby and Tinson.

2 Minutes

The meeting confirmed and the Chair signed the minutes of the meeting held on 8 April 2019

3 Parish Affairs

None.

4 Chair's Report

Cllr Redfern read Cllr Tinson's Chair's report.

This year has been a busy year for the Parish Council. Over the course of the year it has seen the resignations of councillors Coppen, Colley and Defew and has in recent months welcomed councillor Mawby. The Parish Council are continuing to seek a further appointment.

Meetings at the start of the year were remotely, face to face meetings returning in September. In January the Parish Council took control of the new Community Hub built for us by the local developer. This has formed the most significant of the projects for the current financial year. The Parish Council is currently rotating its meetings between the Village Hall and the new Community Hub to ensure availability to both parts of the Parish.

The building is managed and maintained by a Management Committee comprised of parish councillors and volunteers. A Manager/Caretaker has been appointed to support the day to day running.

The formal opening will be on May 20. Lady Dannatt, the Lord Lieutenant, will be present to open the building and plans are being made for this.

The Parish Council has continued to welcome applications from the wider Parish and village organisations. One application was received this year, from the Millennium Green Trust. The Council awarded the Trust a grant of £1,500.

Other matters that have been addressed by the Parish Council this year include:

- a. Regular attempts at improving the challenging litter on the play area. This has been improved with the help of volunteers and more regular bin emptying.
- b. Placing the speed sign in different locations across the Parish to address the issue of speed, particularly around the school site. In conjunction with Norfolk Council Council the Parish Council also installed two solar powered flashing speed signs outside the school.
- c. The Council continues to provide a Christmas tree for the front of the church each year and is now providing a tree for the Community Hub.
- d. The Council maintains the Village Hall car park and is considering the installation of solar lights to make the area safer at night. We are also looking to re-shingle the car park.

5 County Councillor's report

Norfolk County Council highlights for 2021/22

- 70% of Norfolk streetlights converted, or work underway to convert to LED
- 96.7% of highways inspections completed within timescale
- 99.6% of dangerous highway defects dealt with within timescales set out in the Transport Asset Management Plan
- 94% of Looked after Children (LAC) with an up-to-date Personal Education Plan
- Completed 51,000 Adult Social Care Assessments for 20,700 people.

[The 2022/23 Budget](#)

A **£464 million** net revenue budget, a **£25m increase** from last year, with increased spending across key service areas and capital programmes, along with a 2.99 per cent Council Tax rise has been agreed to enable Norfolk to build back better after the pandemic.

Adult Social Services will see an additional **£35.4m** of investment, against savings of £10.5m, **Children's Services** will receive **£23.2m** of further investment, with a **further £10m** this year for the **SEND School Programme**, with £12m against planned savings and **Community and Environmental Services** will see an additional **£11.2m**, against savings of £3.5m.

Within Community and Environmental Services there will be the **£10m pothole fund** to draw upon, **new recycling centres** across the County, **£5m on library upkeep** and extension of services and **£12m on the Better Broadband project**.

These commitments are in keeping with the Conservative Groups 2021 Manifesto pledges to deliver a better future for Norfolk through:

- Protecting valued services
- Investing in care services
- Strengthening community resilience
- Leading on economic development
- Supporting families and young people
- Caring for our environment

Protecting Valued Services

Love Norfolk, Hate Litter – boost for pickers as litter can now be accepted at recycling centres

As the national Great British Spring Clean launched on 28th May 2021, there was good news for litter pickers as the county council announces that it was able to accept litter at any of Norfolk's recycling centres. From the 28th, anyone who picked a small amount of litter in the county was (and is still able to) bring up to three bags of the waste to a recycling centre for disposal. People looking to organise a group litter pick are still urged to contact their district council who can help provide bags, grabbers and arrange for collection of the waste collected.

£29m 'pothole prevention' work now well underway across Norfolk

Pavements, cycleways and roads all benefited from the county's £29m maintenance programme taking place right across Norfolk this year. The crucial upkeep work is a key part of the £42 million budget for roads and infrastructure that was agreed in February 2021. This year £4.5m is being spent on maintaining pavements and paths.

Fire and Rescue staff presented with awards

The achievements of staff across Norfolk Fire & Rescue Service have been recognised through employee awards. A ceremony to present the awards was cancelled due to the pandemic, so senior leaders have visited some of the recipients of the 2021 awards individually and will

continue to do so when Covid-19 restrictions allow. As well as honouring staff with long service awards, categories also included fundraiser of the year, making a difference awards and leadership accolades.

Council wins national award for its work with the armed forces

Norfolk County Council has been recognised for its outstanding support of the armed forces community in Norfolk, following an announcement from the Ministry of Defence. The local authority has been given the Gold Award, the highest honour handed out through the Defence Employer Recognition Scheme. The award is given to organisations that employ and support those who serve in the armed forces, service leavers, veterans and their families, with the Gold Award also acknowledging the Council's partnership working through the Norfolk Armed Forces Covenant Board. This includes successfully addressing a significant gap in the dental service provision in the West of the County. It negotiated with the Ministry of Defence and NHS England, to ensure the opening of a new dental practice for serving and civilian families at RAF Marham and the surrounding area.

Investing in care Services

Plan to tackle adult social care's winter pressures

Plans to support Adult Social Services with the expected "winter pressures" have been unveiled. A report was heard by Norfolk County Council's Cabinet in December saying that Adult Social Services across the country are facing unprecedented challenges. However, here in Norfolk practical solutions are being put in place.

Action being taken by the Council includes:

- Expanding action to support people at home or, where appropriate, in short term residential settings
- Stepping up the council's care recruitment campaign, to tackle staff shortages
- Providing wrap-around support for care settings
- Providing assistive technology, with 100 video phones sent out to homes
- Improving capacity in the Norfolk First Response service
- Supporting mental health services, with three new step down services

Norfolk to take a step closer to new integrated approach to health and care

Norfolk County Council has agreed their support for new local Health and Wellbeing Partnerships, putting local communities at the heart of health and care in their area. Under the Health and Care Bill, Integrated care systems (ICSs) are being established in all areas of the country to drive changes that are intended to lead to better, more joined-up care for the population. Much of the activity to deliver integrated health and care and improve the population's health will happen more locally in the places where people live and work,

meaning the new Health and Wellbeing Partnerships will play a key role in driving forward this activity.

Strengthening community Resilience

A new single point of contact for flooding in Norfolk has been launched, allowing residents to report any sort of flooding quickly and efficiently

In the event of flooding residents can call 0344 800 8013 to report it. Alternatively, residents can continue to report flooding online via [our flooding pages](#). The new number gives residents a single point of contact and allows reports to be made swiftly.

Different agencies respond to different types of flooding, which has historically made reporting a flood by telephone more complicated when and where it is not possible to ascertain the source of floodwaters. The new number provides a single point of contact making the reporting of flooding quicker and easier.

Where there is a potential risk to life from flooding people should still call 999 immediately.

Flood Reserve Fund spending agreed

Norfolk's Cabinet considered the allocation of the council's £1.5m Flood Reserve Fund to support urgent works, repairs and to enable recommendations from flood investigation reports.

The Reserve Fund was set up in the annual budget for 2021/22 agreed by the County Council in their budget meeting in February. The Cabinet meeting, held on 6th September, discussed the proposed allocation of the funding, including £695k for additional highway and ditch maintenance and £365k for drainage asset improvements. This funding will be used for work on the 285,864 metres of drainage grips and 31,037 metres of kerb drains on Norfolk's highways, as well as operations to clear some of the county's 145,305 gullies that help drain rain water.

Norfolk Strategic Flood Alliance formally adopts Strategy

The Norfolk Strategic Flooding Alliance (NSFA) has formally adopted an overall Strategy, designed to enable county wide responses to flooding across all agencies involved. The Strategy, which lays out the NSFA's vision, objectives, approach and structure, is a major milestone in the development of the Alliance, which was founded earlier this year to bring together all agencies and partners involved in planning for and responding to flooding in Norfolk.

£1million awarded to community groups across Norfolk

Community and voluntary organisations across Norfolk were set for a major cash boost as the recipients of the [Norfolk Social Infrastructure Fund](#) were announced. Norfolk County Council has handed out £1.02 million to 25 different organisations, with grants ranging £3,400 all the way up to £250,000. In total, the fund saw 64 applications with funding requests that

totalled almost £5million. This was more than double the number of applications received last year.

Leading on Economic Development

Ground-breaking partnership to provide Covid-19 recovery support for Norfolk

Norfolk County Council and New Anglia LEP were part of an ambitious cross-border project which helped to deliver a unique package of Covid-19 recovery support for local businesses and people. The C-CARE (Covid Channel Area Response Exchange) initiative has allocated €2.2m for C-CARE in Norfolk, reaching businesses and people that were hit hardest in the pandemic. Drawing on a range of expertise from local government, enterprise and tourism in the UK and France, the project supported people at risk of exclusion from the labour market and businesses at risk of closure. C-CARE aims to reach 4,500 people and almost 2,000 businesses through its pilot initiatives which include skills training to help individuals find new routes into employment or starting a business, and advice and grants aimed at helping companies reset their business models in response to the pandemic. In Norfolk the project will work to support over 600 people into employment or self-employment and provide support for up to 800 businesses.

Norfolk to get faster broadband thanks to new Government funding

Hard to reach premises in Norfolk are to receive between £115m and £195m of funding as part of the Government's Project Gigabit to provide 1GB per second broadband to up to 119,000 premises. Contracts will be awarded from February 2022. Rural homes and businesses across Norfolk and Suffolk will get next-generation gigabit broadband brought to them under a £5 billion plan to level up internet access across the UK. It means families no longer having to battle over bandwidth and will give people in rural areas the freedom to live and work more flexibly, with the speed and reliability needed to start and run businesses.

Supporting families and young people

Vulnerable young people in Norfolk have chance to take New Roads with launch of dedicated support service

A new service to support some of Norfolk's most vulnerable young people to live within families and achieve their full potential launched on 1st June 2021. New Roads was set up by Norfolk County Council with significant investment to give young people access to a dedicated support team that sticks with them, understands them, and helps them to achieve and succeed. Based out of two hubs, in Dereham and Norwich, the service provides young people with education, life coaching and speech and language therapy, as well as access to short term residential beds and foster care placements to help meet their needs.

The aim is to give young people stability, reduce risk-taking behaviour and help to avoid the need for long-term residential care, as well as longer term costs to themselves, the wider system and communities.

Free online business summer school for 16-25-year-olds in Norfolk

Started in August 2021, the Business & IP Centre (BIPC) Norfolk, managed by Norfolk County Council's Library and Information Service, ran a free online Summer School for 16-25-year-olds to help them decide whether starting their own business might be right for them.

Plans for thousands of new school places in Norfolk

More than a dozen new primary schools could be needed in Norfolk in the next decade, to cater for growing pupil numbers in areas of development. A report to Norfolk County Council's Cabinet highlighted the scale of school development that is likely to be needed to support Norfolk's growing communities. It addresses both demographic changes and population growth from new housing. The report, discussed by members on 31st January, provided a snapshot of the council's plans to ensure there are sufficient school places for Norfolk children aged four to 16. Alongside district councils, the County Council expects to secure nearly £100m in developer contributions for the proposed new and extended schools but if all of the places are needed, a further £191m would need to be found. Some of this will be met by Community Infrastructure Levy and government grant contributions.

Inspectors praise support for children in care in Norfolk

Most children in care in Norfolk are well looked after and receive good support for their emotional and mental health and education, Ofsted inspectors have found. A team of Her Majesty's Inspectors visited Norfolk County Council in October for a two-day focused visit of the council's services for children in its care. In a letter detailing their findings, inspectors said that social workers know their children well, listen to them and help them to understand their experiences. Ofsted's visit follows a [similar focused visit in 2019](#), which looked at how the council responds to child safeguarding calls and referrals. Following that visit, inspectors described the quality of decision making as "consistently strong".

Caring for our environment

Carbon cutting commitment central to new county transport plan

A plan set to drive the county's transport policy for the next 15 years was discussed by County Councillors in August. The ambitious Local Transport Plan has at its heart the aim to support a growing economy, strengthen communities and reduce our impact on the environment.

A carbon cutting commitment is central to the transport plan which supports the county council's pledge to achieve net zero carbon by 2030, which Councillors adopted as part of the authority's Environmental Policy in November 2019.

Buzz created as pollinator paradises set for Norfolk roadsides

Tripling the number of Roadside Nature Reserves in Norfolk were among a range of green measures considered by County Councillors last July. Fewer cuts for rural roadsides, a pollinator action plan, and 188 more roadside nature reserves are all on the cards as part of

plans to boost biodiversity along roads and paths across the county. Also on the agenda were plans to help boost cycling and walking across the county, and development of a new verge management policy which will include information for parish and town councils wishing to take on responsibility for verge cutting in their local area. The aim is to help involve local communities more in decisions about verge management near them.

Claire Bowes

County Councillor, Watton Division

claire.bowes@norfolk.gov.uk

6 Breckland Councillor's report

Annual report for Saham Toney Ward 2022 -Carbrooke Parish Council

Our Future Breckland-ensuring success of our district and Market towns. The 5 market towns are all benefitting from a £300k improvement fund along with a £700k further support for heritage schemes.

£50 million distributed to our towns and businesses over the last 2 years during covid.

Grants-Ensuring money is available for community groups across the district. Breckland Council has provided hundreds of thousands of pounds for local groups for items such as defibrillators, food banks, village hall improvements and play park upgrades.

Making Breckland Sustainable-A commitment to our environment to make Breckland Net zero by 2035 and we are on track. Over £1.2 million to support climate and environmental activities. We are upgrading all Breckland Council owned footway lights to LED's, expanding the network of electric charging points and creating new community funding for groups to get involved and get greener.

Investment in over £1million to support and help those in need. We are having a positive impact on those affected by domestic abuse. Creating a network of mental health support volunteers. We are reducing social isolation and continued with the Silver Social throughout lockdown on line and we continue to fund this scheme. We have created Norfolk's first community shop and rural community food bus. We have built a new housing team to support our most vulnerable residents find safe homes and make adaptations to allow others to remain in their homes. A new building, The Elms in Thetford is complete and will be a safe and secure place for individuals and families who find themselves homeless. Here they will find wrap around care to help them find a permanent home of their own.

We have dedicated staff to deal with anti-social behaviour, animal welfare, illegal dwellings.

Reducing fly tipping and litter, we have a dedicated team who investigate and prosecute more fly-tippers than any other area in Norfolk, reducing incidents by more than 25%. We continue to support community groups with litter picking equipment.

Breckland Council remains the lowest district council tax in the country. That means that most households will pay less than £100 a year for Breckland services.

Cllr Helen Crane

7 Millennium Green Trust's report

Carbrooke Millennium Green 10 acres of green space

One of 200 new greens set up to mark the Millennium

Comprises areas of Woodland Wildflowers Wildlife pond

Open grass areas for play Walks and trails

Playground for small children

Exercise equipment for older children and adults

Maze Amphitheater Walks and trails

Used by Residents of the village, the wider parish, Watton and surrounding villages.

Primary school use 2 days per week for outdoor lessons and sports

Site for village events eg fete, jubilee picnic this year

Management

The Green is a registered Charity Managed by 8 trustees

Meet on quarterly basis

Minutes published electronically via Carbrooke online and Facebook

Maintenance all done by unpaid trustees and volunteers

We had regular manual help from the Community Payback scheme bi monthly but Covid has prevented this since early 2020

Maintenance tasks include; Grass cutting, Emptying dog waste bins, pruning, signage and general maintenance

2020/21 great difficulty was created by the pandemic but we managed to keep the green open and maintained and the value of the green for exercise and mental wellbeing was greatly appreciated by parishioners.

Funding

All income is found from fundraising activities, individual donations and grant applications

Fundraising was very difficult during pandemic.

Regular income

Breckland lottery currently £850pa School £500pa Parish Council £1500 to help cover insurance, not taken for granted and much appreciated.

Irregular income; Sponsored bird boxes raised £250 in 2019 plus increased our stock of boxes on the green Sponsorship from advertising on the green from local businesses

Random donations from individuals

Grants

Two successful bids in last 3 years from Tesco bags of help one for the restoration of the orchard raised £1500 and we are awaiting the results of our latest bid for the pond improvements. We are always searching for income from Community and Green grants but success rate low as every organisation is after money particularly with pandemic shortfalls in income.

Events

2019 Fete and Xmas Bazaar raised about £1500 for the green 2020/21 pandemic events not possible 2022 planned village picnic also a coffee/bacon roll event in planning.

Major expenses

Public liability insurance for the green and liability insurance for the trustees currently £1700pa Petrol for mowers £600 (£30/40 per cut around 12 cuts pa) Servicing machinery £300 pa

Challenges

Need more and younger volunteers More income from fundraising More Grant and donation money Keep the support of Parish Council and school Need income of £3500 pa to balance the books. Inflation likely to increase our outgoings by 10% fuel costs particularly a concern On positive note vandalism, ASB and litter thankfully at low level

Jerry Darby
Secretary to the Millennium Green Trust

8 Carbrooke Heritage Group's report

In March 2020, the Heritage Group, had a number of events planned. As many of our members were in the at risk group, we had to cancel our imminent event about the village signs of Norfolk. Little did we realise that this would last for almost two years.

As things begin to return to normal, our meetings started up again last November. We still haven't managed to get back to pre covid numbers due to some of our members continuing concerns, but we have a number of events and activities planned.

During lockdown, the website has been updated twice, and is now more interactive, and easier to navigate, although still being edited and added to. We have also received several enquiries to the website, and discovered photos.

We are now holding bi monthly meetings in the village hall on the last Monday every other month at 1pm. Our next meeting and AGM will be Monday 30th May at 1pm.

Our most exciting news is that the village hall committee have agreed that we can set up a heritage centre in the portacabin behind the village hall, and that Ed Buscall volunteered to apply for a HLF grant on our behalf. We would like to thank him for this. We also hope the Parish Council will support us in this venture.

The current situation we hope is likely to be a positive reason to win this grant, as we look to get over covid as a community. We have lots of new residents, who are not aware of Carbrooke Heritage, and would be interested in discovering more and lots of older residents who would like to impart their memories.

Being self contained, centrally located in the village, with toilets, and kitchen facilities, heating and utilities installed, it is perfect. The outside area will also prove useful. Although it is small, this will make it easier for us to manage. We eventually envisage being open to visitors several times a week, depending upon our volunteer manning capacity.

We look on this as a long term solution, and feel that it is important that both the 'Village Hall Committee' and 'Heritage Group Committee' are in agreement as to set up and use, and that we discuss requirements fully before we start on this project.

We anticipate this will be a repository for various items, and photos we have collected since 2012. At present, they are lodged with various group members and in the church (which is cold and damp).

We plan on having permanent displays on the walls, and in cabinets and shelves.

A place that visitors, such as family and local historians can visit and research. The school is also excited to be involved, and it will be a great resource for them to use. We would also like to invest in a computer, scanner and printer, for visitors to use in their research, and to take copies of items. Also a projector/ screen which can be used for presentations or film shows.

Up coming events

Tea & Memories on Friday 20th May, 2 - 4pm in Carbrooke Village Hall

Afternoon Tea as our part to celebrate the Queens Jubilee. We invite all, to come along, chat and reminisce over tea and refreshments about Carbrooke in days gone by. We would love to see any photos or memorabilia you may like to bring along.

We will have photos and articles on display, and invite visitors to take a peak at our plans for the new Heritage Centre.

Everyone welcome. Local transport can be arranged if necessary.

Friday 24th June 7pm

Carbrooke Village Hall

Midsummer History Quiz for anyone interested in history.

Pit your historical wits

£5 per entrant/ Bar/ Raffle/ Table nibbles

Quiz master Mark Ward.

We also plan to hold the Signs of Norfolk Summer presentation in the autumn.

April 6th 2022

Angela Weatherill

Sec. Carbrooke Heritage Group

9 Carbrooke PCC's report

Since the last annual meeting in 2019, we have (outside of lockdowns) successfully maintained a weekly act of worship at the church. This is at a time when it is increasingly common for parish churches to operate only once or twice a month. This is largely thanks to our small congregation, from whose ranks have emerged a team of talented and committed service leaders. You are welcome to attend our services, which are held every Sunday at 10.30am.

Our rector, Revd Jane Atkins, retired last summer and since then we have relied on the goodwill of visiting and retired clergy to take our services. We are engaged in a lengthy process to decide how we can work closer together with other churches to share clergy in the future.

We once again need to draw the attention of the village to the perilous state of the church building. Professional advice has suggested that in excess of £400,000 is required to save this beautiful and historic structure. Unfortunately, two bids for Lottery

funding have been unsuccessful, although a grant from Historic England has been received for some of the most essential repairs.

Our opportunities for fund raising have been limited recently, of course, but we have resumed our popular Quiz Nights at the village hall.

The parish council have helped us to maintain our churchyard, which is the only available burial ground in the parish. They provided a lawn mower for use by community service workers. Unfortunately, Covid stopped this arrangement from taking off and there is no reasonable prospect of it happening. That is why we request that the parish council resumes its grants to help us pay for professional grass cutting.

Mark Ward
Hon Treasurer
Carbrooke Parochial Church Council

10 Carbrooke Fuel Allotment Charity's report

Because of covid restrictions the last A G M was held at Derek Watts in December 2020 .

Business opened with announcing sadly John Rogers (trustee) passing on Sept 28th 2020 was recorded and a minutes silence was observed in respect for all services that John Rogers had given to Carbrooke so freely .

Paul Kerrison ,Meadow View, Broadmoor Rd was proposed and seconded as a Trustee to C F A Trust ,so was duly welcomed and recorded as a Trustee .

Also recorded that when i Jo Borrett step down as Secretary and Treasurer ,that i will remain as a Trustee and if elected remain as Parish council Representative .

As a trust we had in 2019 appointed Valerie Delf , Conha , Shipdham Rd , Carbrooke as future secretary/treasurer when vacancy arises.

Annual Accounts and returns were distributed agreed and recorded as Income £5,896-63 , Expenditure £5,896-63 Bank statements distributed Community A/c £1,871-70 Business Saver £2,549-63 , as required as a registered charity all accounts annually are reported to The Charity Commission.

A G M closed .

I will now give you an account of Grants Distributed December 2021 ,standard grants 39 @ £35-00 each and 4 Disability Grant @ £30 -00 each .

Plus bank statements at April 1st 2022 Business Current Account £2,581-33 and Business Savings Account £2,550-23

11 Blenheim Grange Residents Association report

Mike Wormald (Chair of the Residents Association) noted that a safe road crossing had now been installed at Norwich Road. He said that issues remain regarding parking on the estate, which will hopefully be resolved when the roads are adopted. He noted a reduction in litter on the estate as a result of volunteers picking it up. The greatest improvement to the estate, he said, was the handing over of the Community Hub. He hoped this would provide a better future for the estate.

12 Village Hall Trust's report

No report was made this year.

13 Carbrooke Academy's report

Carbrooke Primary (St Peter & St Paul Carbrooke Church of England Primary Academy and Nursery) has come a long way on its educational journey. With the changes and challenges faced in recent times, we have seen highs and lows. During the first Covid lockdown we were open to key worker children only, as a childcare resource. This was resourced with various staff. We provided food hampers to those families who were eligible for free school meals every week. During the second Covid lockdown we were able to open to extended numbers of pupils, up to and including 50% of each cohort.

School took more control of who attended school, depending on whether we felt they would be able to manage home learning, whether they were safe and other factors. During this time, we had to close classes where a Covid positive person may have had contact. Since September 2021 we have had an escalation of the number of pupils and staff who have tested positive – some for a second or third time. Half of the children within the school have now had Covid, and over 80% of the staff.

Nursery officially joined our school on 1st October 2019, despite having been using our site for some time. From September 2020 we have had a nursery manager in place who worked with us in Early Years, and understands the difference of priorities between a pre-school and a nursery. Growing numbers and a desire for the provision to be excellent has seen us move the provision from the old mobile and into a classroom within the building. This has been an excellent move and the children are fully involved in school life, meaning the transition from nursery to school will be smooth. The nursery are also able to access the meals and extended provision we offer to those on our registers, so the offer is from 7:30am until 6pm all day, during term time. This has been very popular with working families.

We work with Magic Breakfasts and a local sponsor who will financially support us providing bagels, porridge and cereal to every child every day. This is a phenomenal good deed, but so incredibly welcomed by our children, parents and staff. This initial

has been running since January 2018, and is now sustainable for the coming years too.

Pupil numbers have increased over time also. Our capacity in main school is 210, and the nursery has up to 22 full time spaces. We have 199 on roll at school and 37 children who access some nursery provision. In 2018 we had around 130 pupils on roll. Clearly this is a huge increase in a short amount of time, and we are attracting families both within and outside of our catchment.

Presently, we are just into the start of the Summer Term, where we are looking forward to sharing the third term of learning with the children. Each class has a set text or texts for the half term and this will be the first year we have been able to teach the full year, due to the previous two years of disruption.

The links between the texts and the topics are closely matched, enabling the children to cross-match their learning – reading and writing in English with perhaps history, geography, science and so on. One example of this is the current year 4 group who are learning about the Tudors, and are practising talking about them in French, as well as English.

As we look to the rest of the term we are hoping to take more opportunities for educational visits off site, as well as enabling visitors to come into school. With less restrictions we want to return to working closely with the school and local community. We are holding some Jubilee Celebrations at the end of May, and are very thankful for the donation of a Jubilee Mug for each child. School are providing a specially minted coin as a keepsake. There will be ‘dancing through the decades’ as well as murals, afternoon tea and bespoke projects within each class.

Our final change is the planned build for replacing the old school mobile. The existing building has been removed from site now, and the final stages of altered planning permission are being consulted. The build will hopefully begin before the Summer, and that the schedule won't slip too much. The funding has come mostly from the school directly, and is being support by the Academy Trust (DNEAT). The building will allow Year 6 to have some independence and enable all the classes to have the full capacity needed (max 30 pupils) as the present Year 4 room is small.

The excitement of having the Blenheim Grange Community Hub is a big improvement for the ‘Watton end’ of Carbrooke. I hope to consider the site as an area for us to access in the future, particularly as a meeting point, and a ‘park and stride’ option, or walking bus.

Warm wishes, Mrs H Wheeler.

The meeting was closed at 7.05pm.