

Clerk's Report – Warham Parish Council – 18 November 2021

Polly has suggested that we apply for free trees from Norfolk County Council to provide a hedge at the back of the Reading Room. This has been placed on the agenda.

Until 1 September this year we were paying 22.10p per unit for the electricity for the street lighting. This was increased to 25.4p on 1 September (a normal periodic increase). I have now been advised that from 1 December prices will rise to 33.8p per unit. This will increase our annual electricity costs by approximately 50%. However, there is nothing that we can do about this other than turn the lights off.

I recently signed the *Memorandum of Understanding* (on behalf of Warham PC) between NNDC, Warham PC, and Flagship Housing in respect of the new affordable housing development. This basically says that Homes for Wells will allocate places from people living in Warham, Stiffkey, Binham, Wighton or Wells (Warham plus the adjacent Parishes) and only in the event of them not being able to suggest someone (I would imagine a very unlikely scenario!) will the right to allocate be passed to the NNDC housing department.

At the end of October, I attended an NNDC Zoom meeting of Parishes where affordable housing has been or is about to be built. I cannot say that it was terribly enlightening except for an instance in a Parish on the other side of the district. A lady had grown up in a village (where affordable housing has now been built) and as an adult had moved away to a Parish one beyond the adjacent one. In our instance think of Hindringham or Morston. She now wanted to move back to her original village but was not entitled to be considered for affordable housing, even though she was only a few miles from her original home.

KL 10.11.21