

## **Clerk's Report – Warham Parish Council – 20 January 2022**

Regarding the cost of timers for the lights (to switch them off from midnight to 5.00am) these would be £70 each plus VAT (x14 = £980). The total cost of street lighting is unlikely to be above £500 this year, and the suggestion is that this could double for a couple of years without government intervention. Except for the middle of the summer, it is likely that the electricity bills would still be high even with the timers. The cost of fitting a baffle to shade houses from a light is likely to be around £35. (Payable by the householder).

Currently Flagship have withdrawn the offer to provide a children's playground in exchange for the Parish paying for the future grass cutting. They would like to transfer the land to the Parish and have offered a £5000 donation to a playground. Unfortunately, there does not appear to be any planning condition requiring them to provide playground equipment. One member of the public has suggested to me that they are acting like any other house developer and asks can we be sure that the "trod" will still be provided? It is my understanding that the person who sold the land (at a low rate to enable the affordable housing) did so with the express condition that a playground/recreational area be provided.

I have the Covid Plaque which has been issued to communities throughout Norfolk. We need to decide where it should be displayed.

I circulated an apology email from County Councillor Michael Dalby which was sent to all his Parishes, basically saying that he had been very busy in his job because of Covid and apologising for the lack of attention that he had given to Parishes. He promises to do better in 2022. I also received a Christmas Card from him addressed to all at Warham Parish Council. It should be noted that County (and District) Councillors have no obligation to attend Parish Council Meetings, although most of them do. However, whoever took the job in the Wells Division was going to find Marie Strong a hard act to follow.

At present the Government is adamant that all Parish Council meetings (as well as those of other Councils) are held "live".

Keith Leesmith 13 January 2022