

Chairmans End of year report- Stibbard Parish Council

Dear residents of Stibbard,

As we approach the end of another fruitful year, I am pleased to present the annual report of the Stibbard Parish Council. It has been a year of progress and community engagement, and I am proud of the achievements we have made together.

1. **Stibbard Playground Maintenance:** This year, we prioritized the maintenance of the playground apparatus in Stibbard. With the support of our funding, necessary repairs and upgrades were undertaken to ensure the safety and enjoyment of our children. I am pleased to report that the playground continues to be used and is appreciated by families in the village.
2. **Bus Stop Shelter:** The recently installed bus stop shelter has quickly become an essential asset for our village. It is lovely to see it being used regularly by those villagers wishing to travel to Fakenham town.
3. **Flood Management Efforts:** Addressing concerns regarding flooding has been a priority for the council. We have actively engaged with highways (Nea replace with correct name) authorities to address this issue, resulting in the clearing of ditches and other measures to mitigate flooding risks. Whilst challenges still persist, we remain dedicated to safeguarding our community against such natural threats.
4. **Improved Grass Cutting Services:** One of the notable improvements this year has been the quality of our grass cutting services. Our new contractors have demonstrated a commendable level of diligence and care in maintaining our playing fields. Their efforts ensure that our recreational space is not just neatly trimmed but also safe and enjoyable for all.
5. **Funding for Speed Gates:** I am pleased to announce that we have secured part funding for the installation of speed gates in the village (well done Nea Horsford our clerk for getting this actioned). Once the necessary fundings are in place, we will proceed to place an order with the aim of implementing this initiative by spring 2025. These speed gates will be strategically placed at all four entry points into the village. Clear signage will accompany them, reminding drivers to slow down, respect speed limits, and be vigilant of pedestrians, particularly on the walk to the bus stops along Fakenham Road. I strongly believe that this measure will significantly enhance road safety in our community.
6. **New Village Sign:** Shortly, we will be unveiling our new village sign, which was designed by the pupils of our village. We are planning to make an event of this occasion and will invite notable individuals to join us for the unveiling, including pupils from our village school. It's a momentous occasion that celebrates the spirit and unity of Stibbard.
7. **Councillor Vacancy:** It is with regret that we still have a vacancy for a councillor on the Parish Council. We extend an open invitation to any residents who are passionate about serving their community to consider joining us. Your participation would be invaluable in shaping the future of Stibbard.
8. **Appreciation and Acknowledgments:** Lastly, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my fellow councillors for their unwavering dedication and voluntary

contributions throughout the year. Their hard work and commitment have been instrumental in driving forward the initiatives of the Parish Council and improving the quality of life for our residents.

In conclusion, I am excited about the future of Stibbard village and the continued progress we will achieve together. As we look ahead, let us remain united in our efforts to build a thriving and inclusive community.

Thank you

Warm Regards

Bill Aldridge: Chairman, Stibbard Parish Council