

Introduction to the 3 Year Strategy

This year the Parish Council have given a lot of thought to bring a more formal planning process into our affairs.

This has been caused by a number of reasons ranging from a change in the chair and clerk through to the need to ensure transparency in everything we do.

Our financial affairs must be demonstrably planned and subject to scrutiny and the legal requirements within which we operate must be met.

The doubling in size of the village, the flooding and effluent issues and the Village Hall are all major live issues and of course in recent times we have to manage the Turbine application and we also need to be vigilant of plans which may be developed by Sustrans which may impact security and access.

We must also do our best with planning applications and ensure they confirm to the village design statement and are in keeping with our environment.

On reflection we also concluded that our previous precept applications have lacked detail and did not take into account the future needs of the community in a proper planned way.

To address all of this, it was decided earlier in the year that we needed to look carefully at each area of our needs and produce a longer term strategy.

This process has now been completed and the final draft was agreed at the last Parish Council meeting in September 2017. Whilst the members of the Parish Council do all they can to ensure they represent the views of the majority it is essential to seek comment and input from our community. This was done in December 2017.

I attach a copy of our 3 year strategy which covers all aspects of our affairs and includes a budget to meet the cost of these matters from the number of times we cut the grass to flood protection.

The budget was agreed at the Parish Council meeting on 18th January 2018 along with the Parish Precept charge which ends up on all our Council Tax demands.

We have endeavoured to keep the cost per household relatively stable although our total budget will increase due to the number of households.

Regards

Newton Kyme cum Toulston Parish Council

30th January 2018