

Hello Docking Residents,

As the leaves fall and the air turns crisp, we gathered for our October Parish Council meeting, 16th October, and we're excited to share some key updates with you! Grab a cozy cup of tea and read on...

Toad Watch Public Meeting

We're thrilled to invite you to our annual Toad Watch public meeting on **November 4th at 6:30 PM at Ripper Hall**. This heartwarming community effort helps protect our toad friends as they migrate across busy roads. Come along, learn more about this beautiful initiative, and find out how you can get involved! (Tea and Biscuits too!)

Remembrance Sunday

We'll be laying a wreath in honor of our fallen heroes this **Remembrance Sunday**. It would be wonderful to see you there—it's always a special moment to come together and remember.

Sedgeford Fayre

Looking for a fun day out? Mark your calendars for **November 24th** and pop to our neighbours at the **Sedgeford Fayre**—a perfect opportunity to enjoy a festive day out.

Speed Watch Initiative

We're pleased to share that a **Speed Awareness Monitor (SAM2)** has been installed in Docking! This exciting new addition is here to promote safer driving in our village, particularly around children and our more vulnerable residents.

We know there have been concerns about speeding tractors and the speed watch team have been working with neighbouring teams and the police to address this—please do report any incidents to the police using the national non-emergency number, 101.

Borough Councillor Report Highlights

We're grateful to **Cllr. Sam Sandell** for sharing some important updates from the Borough Council, including:

 **2nd Home Additional Council Tax Letters:** Homeowners can expect letters soon, with more updates in December and March regarding discussions around the extra tax.

 **Local Plan Task Group Update:** The new housing target is set at 1,042 homes per year, a big increase from the previous 554 homes.

 **Community Action Norfolk:** They're discussing affordable housing in rural communities.

 **Budget Round:** Big decisions are on the horizon as budget cuts of around £4 million are under discussion for next year.

 **Go Green Grants:** Up to £8,000 in energy efficiency grants are available—great news for sustainability projects! We're reseraching applying for funding to support a defibrillator and tablets.

 **Public Consultation:** Keep an eye out for a consultation coming your way—we really want your input on important services in our area, s please do fill it out and have your say in our community!

 **Careline Advice:** Watch out for scammers, especially targeting Careline users. Also, make sure those on Careline services are up to date with BT's internet-based transition plan, which may require backup during power cuts for vulnerable residents – please do let BT know of your status if you are vulnerable so they can be sure to provide appropriate support.

Full draft minutes from the October meeting are already available on our website. If you have any questions or ideas—or want to get involved with any of our lovely community projects—please don't hesitate to reach out. We'd love to hear from you!

Stay warm and cozy this autumn! 🍁

Best wishes,

Annalisa Dovey

Clerk to Docking Parish Council