

Parish Report September 2019

Norfolk County Councillor for Clavering Division
Margaret Stone



Parish or Urban areas within the Division: **Aldeby, Broome, Burgh St Peter with Wheatacre, Denton, Ditchingham, Earsham, Ellingham, Geldeston, Gillingham, Haddiscoe, Hales, Heckingham, Hedenham, Kirby Cane, Norton Subcourse, Raveningham, Stockton, Thurlton, Thwaite St Mary, Toft Monks, Topcroft, Wortwell, Alburgh**

Schools set to extend nurseries under new early childhood and family service

Four more schools are to grow their nursery and childcare places as part of the move to Norfolk's new early childhood and family service.

The new service will be targeted at families that need extra support and provide services in local community venues and people's homes, reducing the need for stand-alone buildings.

Norfolk County Council has been working with schools, childcare providers and other community groups to find alternative uses for the buildings that will no longer be needed as children's centres.

The council has already revealed its proposals for 16 buildings, which include new nurseries across the county and a child friendly café, in Holt.

A further four are to be used by the county's primary schools:

Dussindale – currently operates out of Woodside Community Hub, in Witard Road. This building is also used by the County Council's Early Years team, who will now take on the space to support their work with nursery and pre-school providers.

Task and Finish committee looking at Rural transport

We are convening a committee tasked with reviewing all transport in rural and urban areas. We continue to subsidise some routes and also subsidise the Border Hopper.

The voluntary car scheme is a great initiative by Alburgh to support their community and people who do not drive

40 libraries across county now open for longer (ie Poringland Loddon)

The scheme is called Open Library, and it gives customers, partners and community groups access even when a library is unstaffed. It was rolled out in June 2018, with 30 libraries initially and 10 new libraries, this year

To sign up for Open Library, people just need to talk to a member of staff who can add the access to their library card and give them a PIN number. The library user presenting their card at the scanner, and entering their PIN number on the keypad, and they will be able to enter. They can then use the computers and borrow and return books using self-service machines as they would if staff were present.

Please let me know of any issues where I may help you as your County Council:

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