

# **Brundall Annual Parish Meeting**

## **Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 7pm in the St Laurence Centre**

Present: Kevin Wilkins (Chairman Brundall Parish Council), Chris Whitehouse, Joe Warns, Graham Abbott, Julie Mickelburgh, James Howlett (parkrun), Paul Clark (Brundall Men's Shed), Marianne Gibbs (Brundall and Braydeston WI), Eleanor Laming (District Councillor), Andrew Proctor (County Councillor), Libby Morgan (Yare Valley Churches), Jan Barrington (Chairman Brundall Memorial Hall Trustees), and 2 members of the public.

All reports can be found on Brundall Parish Council website.

### **Welcome**

The Chairman of Brundall Parish Council, Kevin Wilkins opened the meeting and explained the format.

It is not a Parish Council meeting but the annual meeting of the parish and is to talk about what has been going on in the village and the plans for village, and all about the community, to celebrate all the good things that go on in Brundall.

It is good to see so many people here, particularly those who have been undergoing recent treatment.

### **1. Brundall Parish Council**

Presented by Kevin Wilkins: the year under review has seen significant progress for the Council with the opening of the 3G sports pitch providing much needed additional recreational facilities in the village. This has been closely followed by the construction of a sports pavilion including a community room which is on schedule for completion in late Spring 2024. These are significant achievements for the Council following a lengthy period of planning, preparation and funding and we are delighted to now be nearing completion of this substantial infrastructure project.

The Parish Council began a new four year term in May 2023 following local elections and has not only continued to deliver its 'business as usual' but has continued to develop projects such as the Sports Hub to enhance local amenities. Reports at this Annual Parish Meeting from community organisations demonstrate the vibrancy of local facilities and community life in Brundall.

The Council has continued to deliver its normal substantial business through the subcommittee and working group structure and I am grateful for all the work that councillors, the clerks, co-opted members and Friends Groups put in as we regularly report at our council meetings. This includes the significant workload associated with managing our existing facilities at the Countryside Park, Church Fen, Cremer's Meadow and the Cemetery.

We have also successfully extended and professionalised our social media management during the course of the year which has created greater engagement with the community and local residents.

We are appreciative of the ongoing work and regular reports from our county and district councillors and support from officers at Broadland District Council and Norfolk County Council.

In addition to 'business as usual' we are continuing to work on the Brundall Village Park project which will be delivered on Land East of the Memorial Hall under a Section 106 agreement with the developers. This work remains in the planning and preparation stage, pending when the land and funding becomes available under the agreement.

This year has seen a significant change for the Council with the previous Clerk, Sharon Smyth, moving to Attleborough Town Council having been clerk at Brundall for 14 years. Following a

recruitment process, I am delighted to report that Claudia Dickson has now become our Parish Clerk and Lolly Dawson has been appointed as Deputy Clerk and Asset Manager. We wish them well as they establish our new clerking team.

We have also recently seen the departure of long standing councillor John Warne, who has served on the Council since 2011 and I would like to pay tribute to John for his long and distinguished service to Brundall both as a councillor and former chairman of the Council. I would also like to make a special mention of Andrew and his team at Brundall Home Hardware who recently won the Broadland 'Retailer of the Year' award at the Broadland Business Awards – well deserved and many congratulations.

We were also pleased to hear on Easter Sunday that the Rev David Hanson has been appointed at the new rector for the parish and we look forward to welcoming him and his family in due course.

As we move into a new business year, the Council's agenda remains busy not only to deliver our normal service but also to focus on priorities such as road safety and the further delivery of recreational projects. I am grateful for everyone who contributes to our mission.

## **2. Parish Council finance report**

Presented the Clerk and RFO Claudia Dickson: The Precept for 2023/24 was set at £149,880. For 2024/25 the Precept will be £162,620. This is an increase of 6.3% (or £0.46 per Band D property per month) and reflects the Council's commitment to continuing provide the facilities and services already in the village. It includes money towards our Safer Journey to School route for children and maintaining and improving the Council's assets (including streetlights, benches, play equipment, Cremer's Meadow, and Church Fen to name but a few).

### **Income**

The Council received the following grants and donations in 2023/24:

- £3,319 from the Norfolk County Council Parish Partnership funds for 50% of the cost of 2 new SAM2 speed sensor machines to monitor vehicle speeds through Brundall
- £1,200 from the Football Foundation for 2 new sets of goals at Brundall Sports Hub
- £353,400 from the Greater Norwich Growth Board to help build the pavilion at Brundall Sports Hub
- £80 donation to Cremer's Meadow

### **Land in Brundall**

Brundall Parish Council owns:

- Church Fen
- Cremer's Meadow
- Cucumber Lane Cemetery
- Meadow View Play Area
- Memorial Hall Play Area play equipment
- Brundall Sports Hub

Brundall Parish Council leases land for:

- Countryside Park
- Allotments

### **Projects for 2024-25**

- Ongoing tree management work at Low Farm Wood
- The opening of the pavilion for Brundall Sports Hub
- Improvement of cycle ways through the village
- Repairs and improvements to the boardwalk at Church Fen

### Further Information

All finance information of the Parish Council can be found on the website. The full accounts will be available in due course once they have been finalised. Details will be published on the website. Parishioners are welcome to inspect the accounts during the notified period.

### 3. John Evans Good Citizen Award

The award is usually presented at the Annual Parish Meeting but unfortunately the recipient this year is away. Three nominations were received by the Parish Council. The runners up were:  
The parkrun Run Director Team  
Broadland Tree Warden Network

The recipient is David Batey who will be presented with the award at the Parish Council meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> April. He has looked after and moved the SAM2 speed sensor devices for 5 years and will be stepping down from the role later in the year.

### 4. Norfolk County Council

Presented by County Councillor Andrew Proctor – available on the Brundall Parish Council website.

### 5. Broadland District Council

Presented by District Councillor Eleanor Laming: this report outlines the activities of the two district councillors for Brundall Ward (Cllr Jan Davis and Cllr Eleanor Laming) over the last year.

We have attended the Main Council meetings at Broadland District Council. On 25 May 2023 a partnership of Liberal Democrat, Labour and Green councillors formed the council administration.

Cllr Davis is a member of the Cabinet and holds the Environment Portfolio which covers a wide remit including waste and recycling, street lighting, gypsies and travellers, community protection and environmental quality, licensing, food safety, burials, public health protection and nutrient neutrality.

Cllr Davis is a BDC representative on the following organisations: Broadland Futures Initiative Elected Members Forum; Community Rail Norfolk; Broads (2006) Internal Drainage Board; Norfolk Strategic Flood Alliance; Norfolk Waste Partnership.

Cllr Laming has a place on the following committees/panels: Planning, Overview and Scrutiny, Communities Housing and Planning, Awards and Standards.

We have attended main parish council meetings for Postwick, Brundall, Strumpshaw and Cantley and cluster group meetings (at which representatives of local parish councils meet to share ideas and current issues). We have raised issues on their behalf and submitted regular update reports.

We corresponded with residents over a wide range of matters such as planning and enforcement issues, light pollution, highways concerns mainly related to pot-holes, road safety and bus service provision, waste collections and fly tipping.

We have commented on several planning applications where appropriate, both in the ward and in neighbouring wards, and called in contentious applications to planning committees on both BDC and the Broads Authority.

We supported a motion to BDC to agree to declare a Climate and Biodiversity Emergency at Main Council on 27 July 2023, to take action accordingly within the limits of its resources and powers and report back annually on progress. We supported a motion to BDC on 14 December 2023 asking the Council to Declare Support for the Climate and Ecology (CE) Bill. (a private members bill before the House of Commons which aims to align current UK environmental policy with the need to halt and reverse nature loss by 2030).

We have responded to consultations on NCC Green Spaces in the Greater Norwich area and the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) for Norfolk.

Cllr Davis took part in a Mental Health First Aid training course for community organisations organised by the BDC Mindful Towns and Villages Team. Both Brundall and Cantley are now Mindful Villages.

Cllr Davis spoke about Local Government to Brundall Guides and Cantley W.I.

We supported the increase of the Member Ward Grant to £1000 per council member (a grant that each district councillor has to spend on projects within their wards) and the creation of a Community Grant Scheme for larger projects.

Cllr Davis used his Member's Ward Grant to fund the purchase of an 8-seater wheelchair accessible round top recycled plastic table for Limpenhoe Village Hall, and Cllr Laming's grant has part funded a new ramp for Snowy's Pre-School and Nursery, Brundall.

We have attended the following events and meetings: Open Day at Blackwater Carr, Brundall Armistice Day and Remembrance Day services, Gridserve Launch Event, Brundall Lions Fete and the BDC Harvest Civic Service.

Cllr Davis has continued to liaise with Anglian Water and the Norfolk County Council Flood and Water Manager re flooding issues in the ward in both Strumpshaw and Cantley. He attended an East of England Water Summit on 8 March 2024.

Cllr Davis and Cllr Laming have raised concerns about the potential loss of the Postwick park and ride service and continue to lobby for it to be retained.

## **6. Acle Safer Neighbourhood Team Police**

A report was submitted and is available on the Brundall Parish Council website. The SNT do expect there to be a slight rise in anti-social behaviour with the summer months looming. They will keep an eye on Church Fen, and might look at water safety for one of the next priorities. They continue to patrol the school parking, and over the last year have issued several fines for people parking on the yellow zig zags on The Dales.

## **7. Yare Valley Churches**

Presented by Libby Morgan: following Peter Leech's departure in April 2022, our Sports Minister Tom Woods and our Curate Matt Luscombe both left us for pastures new in 2023. This reduction in personnel has meant some activities have been curtailed or paused, but we've carried on offering as many of our community activities as possible.

### **Our Cafes**

Our various cafes continue to flourish, helping to combat social isolation and loneliness. Our Tuesday afternoon Forget Me Not Café supports those on the dementia pathway, and parents and pre-school children are welcomed at our Toddler Café on Tuesday mornings during term-time. Our Monday and Thursday Community Cafes were designated as "Warm Spaces" during the winter months, offering a friendly atmosphere, a warm welcome and a free hot drink.

Since Matt's departure we take the Catering Pod to the Park Run twice a month, rather than every week. The atmosphere is always friendly, and it is great to have a presence and be involved in this village event. It is a fruitful relationship, as they have been generous in their support of our Community Pantry with donations of food as well as other items.

All the cafes are staffed by volunteers and any income is reinvested in providing support for the local community.

## Sports Ministry and Youth Work

With Tom Woods and Matt Luscombe no longer with us our Sports Café ministry at The Memorial Hall ended in July last year, and our weekday Youth Cafes have had to be paused for the time being. We are hopeful that we can restart the Youth Cafes in September. Despite smaller numbers in 2023 our children's "Restoration Station" Summer Holiday Club was a great success, and we're hoping to be able to run another Holiday Club week this summer, at the end of August.

## Anna Chaplaincy

Our Anna Chaplaincy team work specifically with the older generation offering support and signposting to relevant support agencies. They lead monthly services in each of the care homes in the village, and organise our annual Bus Pass Holiday Club – a week of activities and trips out for older people in the community.

## Community Pantry

Last year we established a Community Pantry in the extension at St Laurence Church – open every Monday morning from 10am to 1pm, available for anyone in need to come and take foodstuffs / toiletries. There is no need for referrals, anyone can come and help themselves, no questions asked. Donations of either money or foodstuffs are always welcome.

## Church Services

Our current service pattern is:

1st and 3rd Sundays 8.30am – Morning Prayer or Holy Communion at St Laurence, Brundall.

Sundays 10am - Sunday Worship, usually at St Laurence, Brundall we'll be at All Saints, Postwick on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sundays in May and June.

1st Tuesday of the month 2pm - Forget Me Not dementia-friendly service at St Laurence, Brundall.

Thursdays 9.30am - Midweek Worship or Holy Communion at St Laurence, Brundall.

## EcoChurch

In 2022 we were awarded the bronze Eco Church award for the work we are already undertaking to reduce the impact of the church on the environment, and are working towards the silver award.

## Buildings and Churchyards

We seek to make our buildings and churchyards as accessible as possible. These green spaces have become important areas for our community to be able to draw breath, relax and reflect.

Postwick and Brundall churches continue to be open every day, and have automatic door locks fitted. Following some security concerns last autumn Braydeston church has been kept locked over the winter months, with the key available on request. We're hoping that we can open it again over the summer months.

## Partnership

We continue to seek collaborative working when it is possible and in particular in those areas that impact the wider community.

## A New Rector

After a two year vacancy we are pleased to announce that the Revd Dave Hanson, currently Vicar of Preston St Stephen in the Diocese of Blackburn, has accepted the offer to become our next Rector, and will be joining us in the summer.

Until that time, the leadership team of the Yare Valley Churches will continue to hold the fort with key people overseeing areas of church life:

Buildings and Churchyards: Tom Morgan

Partnerships: Libby Morgan

Worship Services: Keith Gerrard

Cafes and Community Support: Patrick Beales

Finance: Gillian Groat

Lisa Taylor continues as our resource manager ([yvc@dioceseofnorwich.org](mailto:yvc@dioceseofnorwich.org))

Janet Moore is our parish administrator ([admin@yarevalleychurches.org.uk](mailto:admin@yarevalleychurches.org.uk), phone 01603 715136) working in the parish office on Monday and Thursday mornings.

## **8. Brundall Memorial Hall**

Presented by Jan Barrington: hiring remains strong with not many time slots available. The hall is used by a wide range of local groups including community groups, sports groups and keep fit groups for all ages from toddlers through to our more senior residents. These groups use the hall for both social and recreational purposes. Details of these groups can be found on our website.

We applied for and were lucky enough to obtain a grant from Broadland District Council to enable us to open a warm spaces community café on a Wednesday morning from 9am to 12pm. The purpose of this café was to provide a safe non-judgemental space for all residents of the village at a time of the week when this is not provided. This café has run from mid-December and would have closed at the end of April as this is when the winter pressures grant money received from Broadland District Council was due to run out, however Brundall Parish Council were in receipt of a warm spaces grant that required allocating before the end of the financial year so donated these funds to us. The Trustees wish to thank the Parish Council for these funds as this money will mean that we can keep the café open until at least September when it is hoped that fresh winger pressures grant money will become available to enable the trustees to continue to run the café throughout the winter.

Our status changed at the beginning of the year, so we are now a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) with a new charity number, and we are currently in the process of moving our assets over to the new charity.

We have had a damp problem in the lounge and the cause has now been found. We have to do repairs to rectify the problem and this will mean inserting brickwork at the base of the walls and replacing the flooring. As we are having to do this work the trustees are looking into removing the post in the centre of the room, replacing the existing patio doors with bi-fold doors, and hard landscaping the area at the front of the hall with a short surrounding fence and planting to screen the road and car park. The idea is to create a south facing seating area with views to Blofield Church. The quotes for the work have come in at £25k. We are currently fundraising and applying for grants. To date we have raised £300 from the tabletop sale in February and have been given a donation by Acle and Brundall Lions. We are currently organising a music bingo for the 18<sup>th</sup> Mary, which we will be advertising shortly. We are continuing to work on our vision for the hall and are currently working on a plan to bring to the Parish Council and we look forward to working with the Parish Council to develop a cohesive plan for the land east of the Memorial Hall and Memorial Hall playing field so it give residents of Brundall a green space they can be proud of.

## **9. Broadland Tree Warden Network**

The Broadland Tree Warden Network Tree Warden for Brundall, Richard Farley, gave a PowerPoint presentation. The file is too large to upload to the Brundall Parish Council website but can be obtained from the Clerk.

## **10. Brundall Allotment Association**

Provided by Chairman of the Allotment Association Sarah Sloan: The Allotments in Brundall provide plots for residents of Brundall. All plot holders are members of the Association. The site is owned by Brundall Parish Council. It is a valuable community resource in Brundall. The original 50+ plots have been subdivided, so our association now has many more plots and plot holders. The Deputy Parish Clerk maintains the waiting list.

Having an allotment contributes to the well-being of all our members as well as producing vegetables and fruit, for members and their families. It is social gardening, and we are proud of

our community.

Following the cost of living crisis, a larger number of members needed to give up their plots during 2023, as they either increased their hours, changed jobs or returned to work. This has involved both the Parish and BAA being involved in what seemed to be a continuous stream of plot re-letting, over and above the norm, during the spring and summer last year.

The work group generally runs on a Monday, thank you as always to them and their expertise.

Thanks to all those volunteers that help in site maintenance or are members of the Committee. Without these members the site would not run as well.

As well as the plots on site, there are Association sheds/storage and a polytunnel with bench spaces available to association members.

From last year's report you will know that in 2022 we had several site invasions and produce was stolen from our members' plots. The Association purchased new gates are being paid for from the Allotment "Reserve" held by Brundall Parish Council. The site is now more secure and the new gates have been welcomed by our members.

The Brundall Parish Council youth shelter was moved to the Allotments, and re – erected by the work group and other volunteers on a new purpose-built base. Works to convert it into a secure storage shed are currently ongoing, and we hope that will be finished in the next few months. Any work relating to additional water standpipes on the eastern edge of the allotment sites is on hold until the youth shelter project is finished.

Thanks as always go to the Parish for supporting us with the site administration and dealing with all the concerns and queries.

## **11. Friends of Cremer's Meadow**

A report was provided by Gill Buckley, lead Parish Councillor for the Friends of Cremer's Meadow: it has again been a very busy year with high water levels causing a number of problems. One of these was an overflow of drainage which led to foul water flowing onto the site. A cleanup operation was required from Anglia Water.

The new sluice is proving very successful, and we have effectively "switched off" water entering or leaving the pond except when water levels are high. We are monitoring the impact of this alongside members of the Biodiversity Working Group (members of the Environment Committee), and we hope to establish a stable pond with more biodiversity in the future.

We continue to receive help from the Tree Wardens to ensure the good health of our trees and this year we have had a group from Aviva who contributed a hard day's work on the site.

The Cut and Clear day in September was again successful with significant help from Bure valley Conservation and BADCOG. The refreshments provided from the Central England Co-op always ensure a good turn out! This year's event will be on 11<sup>th</sup> September and everyone is welcome.

Orchid day in June was well attended and this year we provided cakes and the opportunity for the public to donate financially. This has helped us buy more equipment. We were able to announce a record number of Southern Marsh Orchids at over 7000. This year the event will be on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June when we will also celebrate 10 years of public access.

One disappointment last year was the continued deterioration of the hut on site. We now have the materials to – hopefully – fix this once the weather improves. A lead from Tree Warden Richard will be greatly appreciated.

The Biodiversity Working Group are continuing to provide updated surveys on the site. We carry out our own bird surveys but their expertise is very helpful to us in other areas.

We still await, with some frustration, the installation of a footbridge between Cremer's and Marty's Marsh. The latest information is that this might take place early summer.

Cremer's Meadow would not be the beautiful place it is without the significant work of the Friends group. They provide the steer for the site and are also very "hands on" every Friday morning from 10-12. Come along or contact Gill via the PC office for more information.

A PowerPoint presentation was also shown. This is too large to upload to the Parish Council website but can be obtained from the Parish Clerk.

## 12. Parkrun

Presented by James Howlett, Run Director: Brundall parkrun is a free, timed weekly running and walking event, put on by volunteers each and every week on a Saturday morning. We are delighted to have been part of Brundall's community since July 2015.

2023 became our second full year back after the lengthy enforced COVID break (of 71 weeks). 2023 saw just under five thousand people (4,981 to be precise!) walk, jog or run at Brundall parkrun. This is an increase in participant numbers of just under 7%.

We were pleased to start 2023 with an additional New Year's Day parkrun, and were able to hold an event for 49 Saturdays during the year. That this latter number is *not* 52 does sadly point to the difficult decisions that the Run Directors have to occasionally make, with three events cancelled in 2023 due to adverse weather. The frequent 'named storms' of the Autumn and early Winter brought much rain! At times like these, the Run Directors always have to balance the desire to hold an event with both participant safety in slippery conditions, and the potential impact on the park itself. In this context, the annual increase in participant numbers is pleasing.

Some of the increase in participation has been due to the success of the parkwalk initiative – which we wholeheartedly embrace at Brundall parkrun. The parkwalk initiative promotes the clear message that walkers are very welcome, and reinforces that parkrun is NOT a race. My fellow Run Directors share an ethos that parkrun is inclusive, and whether you run, jog or walk, all participants are very welcome at Brundall parkrun – regardless of age, gender or ability.

We are fortunate to have a vibrant parkrun community at Brundall, but we are keen to stress that this would not be possible without the support of an active volunteer base. It takes a minimum of around 15 people to volunteer each Saturday to make parkrun the safe and fun event that it is. My fellow Run Directors and I are extremely grateful for this support. Through 2023, and into 2024, we have again supported several young people with their Duke of Edinburgh Awards scheme ('DoE'). We are delighted to report that Brundall parkrun have successfully supported young people to achieving numerous Bronze and Silver DoE Awards. At the time of writing, we are supporting 3 young people in their 'Physical' DoE section (using parkrun to achieve physical activity and wellbeing goals), and 5 young people in their 'Volunteering' DoE section (where the young people undertake a range of volunteering roles with us over a 3 or 6 month period).

We continue to enjoy a good relationship with Yare Valley Churches, and are delighted that they have continued to support Brundall parkrun with their 'pod' serving coffee and snacks to both participants and volunteers. We are grateful that the Church volunteers continue to support us as often as possible, despite the Church's own ongoing recruitment issues. As a community, Brundall parkrun was delighted to give something back to the Church, by supporting the Community Pantry with Donation drives in the Summer, and again at Christmas. We were humbled by the generosity of the parkrun community, and were pleased that the Community Pantry could put our donations to good use in Brundall.

At the time of writing, we have just completed the 365<sup>th</sup> Brundall parkrun, and in March 2024, we saw the 40,000<sup>th</sup> finisher of a Brundall parkrun. I am pleased to report that the event continues to thrive, and continues to make such a positive contribution to many people's physical and mental wellbeing, and in turn to that of our community.

I hope this gives you a flavour of what Brundall parkrun is all about. In finishing, I will reiterate that there remains an Open invitation to anyone who is interested in parkrun, to please come and see us. If you want to participate or volunteer, we will be delighted, but you don't have to do either – you are welcome to attend and just see what we do or have a chat. Brundall parkrun is at 9am, every Saturday morning, at the Countryside Park. It is the best way to start your Saturday!

### **13. Brundall Men's Shed**

Presented by Paul Clark, Chair of Brundall Men's Shed: Our current membership is 55 and we were open two days a week. Now it's 3 days. Recently we voted to bring ladies into the shed. The plan is men Tuesday and Wednesday joint day Thursday. Ladies only Friday as there may be some vulnerable ones. Currently 25% of sheds in East Anglia are joint.

Our membership could easily go to 75 with the addition of ladies, perhaps more.

When I was born in 1960 the population was 50 million, now it's 67 million. 23 % are over 60

In this ageing population the over 60s are the most likely to be lonely. Either divorced or more likely widows or widowers.

A typical story. A member had been married for over 40 years and lost his wife, he had retired so had no real contact with others. He said his only way of seeing people was to move his chair so he could see people walking by. He openly admits the shed has given him a new lease of life.

Our big problem is the uncertainty of our facility because it's up for sale. It's a fantastic place but we must plan for the worst. So we are looking at potential properties. But we need help in finding something for the next 20 years to support our ageing and very active over 60s group. We need to help and support this part of the population and the shed does this plus it could help many younger lonely people in the community.

Socialising is good for mental health and the shed provides this

One Community project I'd like to share. A lady came to our door and I thought she was a potential new member but I couldn't have been more wrong. She was looking for somewhere to make a "coffin". Her dad had died a few days previously and he was a very practical man with a shed load of wood. Could we help? How could we refuse? The coffin with assistance was made and delivered for the occasion.

### **14. Brundall and Braydeston WI**

The President of Brundall and Braydeston WI, Marianne Gibbs, gave an update on what they have been doing: we had a variety of speakers last year ranging from a Salvation Army Chaplain, who we did a tin food collection for their food bank, to a talk on cycling from Cairo to Cape Town, and another on mustard, boots and beers.

One of our members puts together the most devilish, tricky quizzes and games for our various parties. A lot of our members are interested in flower arranging and crafts and so do a session instead of a speaker.

We don't meet in August but we do have an outing. Last year our outing was to Brundall Men's Shed, who made us very welcome, and made us cakes. They presented us with 3 bird boxes, one of which we raffled on the day.

This coming year's programme has something for everyone, including a couple of outings in the summer months. In May we have Wally Webb, former radio Norfolk presenter, telling us about his life in radio. In June we have a talk on Pioneering Women of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. In September we have a solicitor who will tell us about his life as a criminal lawyer.

We do allow gentlemen to attend our meetings, with a small charge of £2 to cover the cost of the refreshments. The only meeting they cannot attend is the AGM.

Sadly we lost several of our older members over the winter, so recruiting new members is our priority for the year ahead, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Parish Council for their donation towards our hall hire costs which will secure our immediate future to get us through this year to hopefully grow the membership.

## **15. Open Session**

There were no matters raised by the public in this session.

Kevin Wilkins closed the meeting: it is very interesting to hear the whole range and diversity of activities and what is going on in the village. We are probably all aware of some but not all of the facilities and opportunities for people. There is a whole range of activities and the vibrancy comes through in the reports presented. There is a great sense of community, People put in a lot of time and effort to make all of it available

Thank you to everybody for all you do for Brundall.

Refreshments were served at the end of the meeting.