

Parish Report FEBRARY 2016

Councillor

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BUDGET; the county council will agree the level of council tax on 11th February. With a recommendation to have a 2% increase to cover cost of increase in adult social care. This is equal to a rise of £22.50 for a band D. there remains a freeze on general council tax. There is a recommendation for a reduction in funds to libraries of 11% over 2 years and a cut of 31% for culture, heritage and sport services despite the chancellor increasing funds to the national Arts Council. There is to be a public survey on the budget and the library service has implanted a petition to attempt to get the cut to this service revised.

At the cabinet last Tuesday I also raised the issue of BT, s service in providing high speed broadband and phone lines as seen in Look East. Cllr Noble assured me he was committed to providing this across the county.

ROAD CLOSURES; I am concerned that there seems to be a problem with dates for road closures, many changing without notification. I have raised this with highways. I,ve been in email touch with chair of Hissett parish council re; the closures there.

BEYTON SWIMMING POOL; I have contacted Helen Geake and Marc Ralph business manager at Thurston community college to see what progress has been made. The swimming pool group are asked for their business plan before any decision can be made. Email sent to clerk.