



WALDRINGFIELD ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 9 April 2013

Present: 16+ Residents, Parish Councillors Kay, Matheson, Archer, Videlo, Reid, Elliot, Winship, Rayner and Gold SCC & SCDC Cllr O'Brien, SCDC Cllr Falconer

- 1 Apologies for absence received from PC Paul Smith, PCSO Andi Hillman, Vicky Marsh, John Smith, Margaret and Roy Quantrill
- 2 It was resolved to adopt the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 17 April 2012. Proposed by Cllr Winship, seconded by Sally Hopper and all agreed.
- 3 There were no matters arising from the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 17 April 2012.
- 4 **The Chairman of the Parish Council, Ian Kay**, spoke to a visual power point presentation. His report included an introduction to the Parish Councillors and their responsibilities. Dates of future Parish Council Meetings were given and highlighted that they are open to the public, with an opportunity for residents to give information to the Council and ask questions. He went on to say that all information about the Council can be found by following the 'Parish Council' link on the web site at www.waldringfield.gov.uk.

Cllr. Kay expressed his thanks, on behalf of the Parish Council, to Jean Potter for her work as the Parish Clerk for a number of years and introduced David Lines as the new Clerk and RFO, who took over from Jean in September 2012.

18 Planning applications were received over the year (same as last year), most of which were for domestic properties. Many large public consultation exercises have been dealt with; LDF Core Strategy, Sizewell C, East Anglia One offshore wind farm power cable route, Deben Estuary Partnership, to name but a few. Ian provided a timeline on the LDF Core Strategy from January 2012 to date and the proposed adoption date of July 2013 and reported on various matters from the Inspector's Examination in Public

Village issues included continued funding of verge planting organised by the Village Wildlife Group and a pilot scheme under the Quiet Lanes initiative. A questionnaire is being produced for the Parish Plan. Four newsletters are produced each year.

The full report from the Chairman Ian Kay is published on the web site.

5. **The Responsible Finance Officer of the Parish Council**, David Lines, reported the balance of accounts as at 31 March 2013 stands at a total of £6,859.14 including earmarked reserves amounting to £6,550. A current VAT reclaim would add to overall balances. Some budget lines were overspent and some underspent, but the Parish Council has remained within budget overall.

The precept was increased to £11,880 for FY 2013/14 to reflect cost pressures in such items as grounds maintenance. Uncommitted reserves are maintained within the recommended bands of 50% - 75% of core turnover. The budget and expenditure will again be displayed on the Parish Council pages of the Parish web site and updated monthly.

- 6 **Parish Plan Chairman Janet Elliot** outlined the progress to date and advised that a list of topics were being compiled for the questionnaire. Then to update the 2004 Parish Plan. The aims will be threefold: 1. to better represent the views of the residents - 2. to use the Plan as leverage to improve facilities and services - 3. to identify local character and

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features that need to be preserved. Janet then called for volunteer members to assist in the formulation of the Plan.

- 7 **Suffolk County Council & Suffolk Coastal District Council Cllr Patricia O'Brien** spoke about the pressures on local government, leading to the outsourcing of various SCC functions (libraries, care homes). The focus is on growth in context of savings of £25 - £50 million. Re SCDC, a Boundary Commission review may see a reduction in the number of district councillors
- 8 **Suffolk Coastal District Councillor Veronica Falconer** provided a detailed report and advised of a busy year, with many major developments (including wind and solar farms) being put forward, both inside and outside the Nacton ward. SCDC spending reduced by £1 million and costs (via partnership with Waveney DC) by £7 million. Veronica also touched on Sizewell C, high levels of waste recycling and cleanliness in public conveniences, as well as potential sources of new revenue for the District Council

BREAK FOR TEA AND COFFEE

- 9 **Sailing Club – Vice Commodore David Copp** briefed the meeting about successes in Tasmania, the new changing rooms and the establishing of good relationships with the new owner of the boatyard. The club would be running a similar programme to previous years
- 10 **Church Field Trust – Christine Fisher-Kay, Chair of the Trustees** gave details of the activities which take place on the field. It was the 10th anniversary of the Trust and there will be events in celebration. Thanks to SCDC, the basketball area had been enlarged, encouraging multiple use. A new Entry Level Stewardship agreement has been entered into with the Rural Payments Agency which will run for 5 years
- 11 **Fit Village Representative Janet Elliot** reported that funding had become available to promote both fitness and sociability as beneficial to health. Scottish Country and Line Dancing were two of the subsidised classes and Janet urged more people to join in.
- 12 **Fairway Committee representative Frances Matheson** gave apologies on behalf of Steve Lomas and reported a busy year with the accounts examined and signed off satisfactorily, and Crown Estates being happy with the lease administration. She also advised of the upcoming inspection by Trinity House. The mooring count remains much the same as previous years at 220 and there is good payment compliance. Frances recorded appreciation to John Smith, the Harbourmaster, always visible and helpful, welcomed Mark Barton, the new owner of the boatyard and gave thanks to Andrew Brown for his past services to WFC
13. **Tree Warden Christine Fisher Kay** highlighted the responsibilities of this voluntary post which is appointed by the Parish Council. Ash Tree disease is on the rise and there have been reports of dying elms, a matter currently under investigation.

At the invitation of the Chairman,

- 14 **Head Teacher and School Governors – Sarah Wood** first gave thanks to the community for its continued support and spoke about the School's achievements in the past year. There are 88 children on the roll. She highlighted a vacancy for Community Governor had yet to be filled and reported that accessibility ramps are being built to the school entrances

The Chairman reminded the meeting that full reports of all the organisations, presented at the meeting or otherwise are available on the Waldringfield Web Site.

After a vote of thanks to the Village Hall Committee for the provision of refreshments, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.45 pm.

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