



The Annual Parish Meeting of Waldringfield 12 April 2016

AGENDA

1. To receive apologies for absence.
2. To confirm and sign minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 14 April 2015
3. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting
4. To receive a report from the Chairman of the Parish Council, Ian Kay
5. To receive a report from the Responsible Finance Officer of the Parish Council, David Lines.
6. To receive a report from Councillor Janet Elliot on the Parish Plan
7. To receive a report from Patricia O'Brien, Suffolk County Councillor
8. To receive a report from Susan Harvey, Suffolk Coastal District Councillor
9. To receive a report from Suffolk Police

Closure of the formal part of the meeting

TEA AND COFFEE WILL THEN BE SERVED

Community Group 'Market Place'

This is an opportunity for residents and visitors to mingle and chat with representatives of a number of our local community groups. Reports from many of these groups may be available on the night, as well as being published on the website in due course.

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 14 April 2015

Present: 27 Residents, Parish Councillors Kay (Chairman), Matheson, Archer, Videlo, Reid, Elliot, Winship, Rayner and Gold, SCC Cllr O'Brien and the Parish Council Clerk

- 1 Apologies for absence received from Suffolk Police
- 2 It was resolved to adopt the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 8 April 2014. Proposed by Alyson Videlo, seconded by Mr James and all agreed.
- 3 There were no matters arising from the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 8 April 2014.

Waldringfield Parish Council

- 4 **The Chairman of the Parish Council, Ian Kay**, provided a 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 then spoke about the various activities of the Council, including reviewing 19 planning applications, giving of grants and maintaining the playing field and footpaths, etc. He drew attention to the upcoming local elections and expressed his thanks to Bridget Rayner (who was not standing again for election to the Parish Council) for her many years of dedicated service.

The Chairman also thanked SCDC Cllrs O'Brien and Falconer for their years of committed service to the village as district councillors, both of whom would not be standing for re-election (Cllr O'Brien will remain as a County Councillor). He also recorded his thanks to Alyson Videlo for maintaining the Parish Council section of the village website, the Clerk for editing the quarterly newsletter and last, but by no means least, all the volunteers who support and give much to the local community.

The Chairman then discussed the issue of SCDC site allocations and matters arising from them, with some unresolved. Although some legal issues remained, the Judicial Review was now redundant. He then touched briefly on the Flood Defence works (stages 1&2) and the contribution by the Parish Council through political lobbying behind the scenes. The Emergency Plan was well in train and thanked Mssrs Lyon and Smith for their careful supervision of the AED (Defibrillator).

5. **The Responsible Finance Officer of the Parish Council, David Lines**, reported the balance of accounts as at 31 March 2015 stands at a total of £10,482 including earmarked reserves amounting to £1,500. Some budget lines were overspent (the most significant being the cost of tree-felling and play equipment repair) and some underspent, but the Parish Council has remained within budget overall.

The precept was unchanged at £11,999 for FY 2015/16. 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 objectives and evolution of the Plan, then spoke in more detail about the survey and the resulting responses, noting the timelines. Publication was expected in June
- 7 **Suffolk County Council & Suffolk Coastal District Council Cllr Patricia O'Brien** spoke to her report, highlighting the continued pressures on local government, with significant budget shortfalls in the coming three years. Partnership ('blue light') working continues to be important and she highlighted the work of the County Council in treating education and employments as top priorities. As Chair of the Police and Crime Panel, Cllr O'Brien meets regularly with the Commissioner, who now has a strong focus on crimes of domestic violence and child exploitation
- 8 **Suffolk Coastal District Councillor Veronica Falconer** spoke to a detailed report, stating that her final year was one of 'tidying-up' matters. She spoke warmly about her relationships with the parish councils in her ward and with pleasure about the variety and number of matters that have been dealt with over her 12 years of service as a District Councillor
- 9 **Jon Wilkins of the Waldringfield Flood Defence Group** gave a presentation on the work done recently, explaining the objectives surrounding Phases 1 and 2, along with the significant costs entailed. He spoke of a new freshwater habitat (for water voles) and the decline of the saltmarsh, which need stabilisation and then replenishment. Another feature would be a new otter lodge.

The Chairman closed the formal part of the meeting at 8.55 pm