

Worlington Parish Council

Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting (APM) held in the Village Hall at 7pm on Thursday 31st May 2018

Present WPC: Cllr. N. Foster
Cllr. P. Merrick
Cllr. S. Foster
Cllr. K. Lucas
Cllr. A. Marshall
Cllr. B. Harvey
Clerk, Vicky Bright

In attendance: Cllr. B. Harvey – FHDC & 7 Members of the Public
Inspector Mark Shipton –
SNT & Revd. Canon
Sandie Barton - Church

Apologies:

1 Election of Chairman for the Annual Parish Meeting

Cllr. Nick Foster was elected Chairman for the Annual Parish Meeting.

2 Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of 9th May 2017: Resolved APM18/05/2.01

Approved the Minutes of 9th May 2017 Annual Parish Meeting. Signed by Cllr. Nick Foster as a true record.

3 District Councillor FHDC – Annual Report (Cllr. Brian Harvey)

Firstly, I would like to say how much I have appreciated the past three years as your DC and the support that both the Parish Council and Residents have given me during this period which is very much appreciated.

- Planning Issues

On a local level we have been able to advise and support various Residents queries and concerns raised during the planning and development process. The FHDC Planning & Development Committee meet on a regular monthly bases and as required the delegation panel also holds regular meetings to review specific planning proposals as required.

- Locality Budget

During the last financial year each DC has an allocation of £2500 to be used in support of Community type projects.

My carry over for the 2018/2019 FY was £48.88

- Mildenhall Girl Guides: World Thinking Day - £250.00
- Freckenham Community Speed watch: Purchase of the new speed gun - £500.00
- Worlington Parish Council (signed by James pecuniary interest:) - £125.00
- Red Lodge Youth Football Club: Coaching and new equipment (joint bid with Red Lodge as some youngsters from Barton Mills, Freckenham and Worlington attend) - £250.00
- Bunbury Rooms: Refurbishment of the hall (joint bid with Mildenhall and Eriswell and Rows as used by community groups with participants from Manor ward) - £500.00
- Barton Mills Remembrance and Peace Community Garden - £500.00
- Freckenham Parish Council - Community Notice Boards - £500.00
- Barton Mills Village Hall - Community Notice Boards - £150.00

If any group has a community type schemes which might be in need of financial support, please let me know soonest

- **West Suffolk District Council**

This joint process is now well underway and as I have been reporting to the Parish council over the past year the joint governance working group setup by St Edmund's Borough Council and Forest Heath District Council has worked well and the progress made has enabled the team to submit its joint application which has been laid before parliament in order to form the new

West Suffolk District Council.

We have received an initial response from the Secretary of State and are currently working towards forming our "Shadow Council"

This first meeting of the "Shadow Council" was last evening at WSH Bury.

I have been appointed as Vice chair for the Shadow Council.

The whole purpose of this Shadow Council is to look at the current operating procedures used by both Councils and jointly produce the new operating framework which will come into force from May 2019.

Items currently under review are: -

- Revised Planning & Development Control – Local Plan and Long Term strategies
- Licensing & Regulation – Which I currently chair is looking at the changes required to bring both sets of Regulation policies into one joint operating document Taxi's, Clubs & Bars, Street traders etc.
- Leadership – To select a new Joint Leader for the new council post May 2019
- Borough vis District status – Mayoral and Civic duties (what are resident's opinions on this are?)
- Financial Regulations – Council tax, Budget setting and Long term financial strategy

- **Boundary Commission Review**

During the current process the Boundary Commission has also been reviewing our current Ward Boundaries with an initial recommendation to regularise the catchment areas for each Ward and to establish an average 2000 +/- 10% Electoral Residents for each ward.

In addition, jointly we currently have a total 72 District / Borough Councillors this number is now to be reduced to 64.

As you can imagine there are a large number of variances with in the new area. We are currently working through this process taken consultation with all interested parties during this process.

It would stress however that it is better for us to be working through this process rather than have a new structure imposed upon us by the boundary commission.

The effect on Manor Ward

Our ward will be effected by these changes.

Manor Ward currently consists of three parishes: - Barton Mills, Freckenham and Worlington

This will be increased in size to include: - Tuddenham and Cavenham – there has also been representation to include Icklingham as well making a 6 parish ward of "2010 Electoral Residents".

No final decision has been taken at this time but this is the likely outcome.

This new proposed ward will come into effect after the next West Suffolk District Council elections being held in May 2019.

If anyone would like to have a look at the variance maps etc. I have these with me this evening.

On a personal note, I have been elected as Chairman for FHDC on the 9th May and am looking forward to a busy year. My particular intention is to ensure that our Rural Community events are included within the civic diary so if there any local events which you would like me to attend please let me know soonest.

I can't promise that I can attend all, but I will try.

4 County Councillor SCC - Annual Report (Cllr. Louis Busuttil)

Cllr. Busuttil sent his apologies. There is a new leader for SCC, Matthew Hicks and Deputy Leader is Mary Evans. The Portfolio is being reorganised on 11th June 2018.

5 Parish Council Annual report – (Cllr. Nick Foster)

Good evening and welcome everyone for being here. It is hard to believe that another 12 months have passed by since I was last sat here discussing with you the various successes and ongoing projects being undertaken by the parish council.

At the beginning of summer last year, a new picnic bench was installed at the Hythe to commemorate the queens 90th birthday. There are also ongoing discussions to see if there is any way of making access to the river a bit easier, as over the years the bank has become eroded and rather steep. Hopefully we will have some news on this in the near future.

One of the goalposts that the Parish council purchased was also erected on the recreation ground and is frequently used by children. The play area has been relatively trouble free this year aside from the large quantity of bark that was needed to top up the levels there. A big thanks to Cllr. Foster and Cllr. Lucas for spreading that for us.

The village hall has had quite a makeover this year, starting in August with the installation of new double glazed doors and windows in the entrance porch. Not only does it look much nicer it also helps considerably with insulating the hall. The following month, in September we also had the cavity wall insulation completed and also new low energy lighting installed, all things that help towards keeping the costs of the village hall at a minimum. That being said, we were unfortunate to have a rather large malfunction with the boiler which meant replacing the whole system. A large and frustrating expense but one that was necessary. If anyone has had a chance to look outside the back, they will notice a rather drastic change. Over the past 4 or 5 months we have been removing all the overgrown vegetation and our future aim is to make this area useable for people who hire the hall, it's always nice to have a safe enclosed outside area.

The defibrillator and cabinet were installed last September and a training session was held in the hall in November which was very well attended by the village. It is reassuring to know that if anything were to happen, the necessary equipment is nearby to help. Speeding is an issue which pops up quite frequently when speaking to residents and last year we were lucky enough to purchase our own SID which I am sure you will all have seen mounted at various points around the village, with the relevant data being publishing every other month in the pump. Cllr. Harvey will be speaking more about the traffic calming later on.

The lease agreement between the cricket club and parish council for use of the recreation ground has finally been agreed and signed, so hopefully now the cricket club will be able to secure funding for their new equipment.

More recently the village adopted another dog waste bin, which is located at the entrance to Badlingham Lane, opposite golf links road, as this is an area frequently used by dog walkers, but with nowhere to deposit their waste. Hopefully this will help with the problem of dog fouling.

So all in all a good year. We have made improvements and bought equipment which will serve the community for many years to come and hopefully help towards making the village a safer and more pleasant place to live.

6 Police Service Report

Inspector Mark Shipton reported that there had been 1 crime between April 2017 – April 2018. Police Connect is a helpful service and there is now a Police Messaging Service that all Parish Clerks have been contacted to sign up to.

There has been investment into improving the 101 system, following a high level of complaints due to lengthy waiting times. There will be a choice of options for Non-Emergency calls to filter non-police related issues.

Walnut Tree Parking issues were discussed and it was confirmed that the SNT are trying to carry out increased patrols to monitor the situation, however parking is not considered a Police priority. The Civil Enforcement Act has been delayed due to Brexit. New laws regarding Parking on Pavements are in motion. However, if vehicles are causing an

obstruction/danger, then please report to 101.

If residents witness a crime or are suspicious please report to 101, or 999 for emergencies.

<https://www.suffolk.police.uk/your-area/snt-newsletters>

7

Friends of the Village Hall Report (Nick Foster)

The village hall continues to be used on a regular basis by various clubs. Currently we have 2 separate Yoga classes (although one is on hold at the moment whilst the instructor has surgery) a Pilates group, a keep fit group and an art class. we also have the Worlie café, church quizzes and birthday parties.

Friends of WVH also raise money through fundraising. We have food themed quizzes, the home cooked food always drawing a good crowd and a good profit.

We hold bingo nights which, whilst they don't bring in large amounts of people, are enjoyed by those that do come along.

We held our 2nd annual picnic & duck race last year which was well supported and are holding it again this year, with flyers being produced as we speak to be distributed in mid-July.

All the money raised and generated through fundraising and hall hire has been put to good use this year, we have managed to make some voluntary, and some forced improvements to the hall. The new porch, roof and wall insulation, the LED lighting and replacement kitchen lighting all helping to make the hall more economical and save us money at the same time. Unfortunately, in the middle of the cold period earlier this year our trusty ancient boiler decided to call it a day, so needed to be replaced. The decision was made to replace the old system with a combi boiler, so now we have instant hot water instead of having to wait 20 years for it to come through hot.

The most recent project at the hall was the revamp of the garden at the rear. It's safe to say that this area had been somewhat neglected in the past few years and the vegetation was starting to take over. All dead, self-set and dangerous trees were removed and a new fence and gate were erected to enclose the rear of the hall. The rotten fence surrounding the oil tank was removed and replaced with a new framework, with bamboo screening attached to hide the oil tank. Allen Newport kindly donated a ton of shingle to help finish off the transformation, which overall cost just over £200. With this area now being a useable space, instead of just an overgrown garden, hopefully with future advertising it could help to attract more people for parties, events etc.

Statement of Accounts 2017/2018

	Expenditure	£14,983.48
	Income	£10,613.83
	Unpresented Expenditure	820.19
	Unpresented Income	0.00
		£1,136.93
Treasurers A/C	31/03/2018	£1,136.93
Bus Bank Instant	31/03/2018	£0.38
Balance carried Fwd.		£1,137.31

8

VAS Data Report (Cllr. Brian Harvey)

Cllr. Harvey confirmed that the SNT had been tasked with more enforcement, due to the data recorded. The Suffolk Covert Recording box sited at Freckenham to Worlington and Worlington to Freckenham had identified a Red Zone, which will have regular enforcement tasked.

The black spot by the Worlington Hotel and the driveways opposite had also had the covert box sited and this had shown it was not continuously a Red Zone.

The 30mph sign from Barton Mills has been moved further out and there is an appeal for the 30mph sign into Worlington to also be pushed out, with an application for a 40mph Buffer Zone between Worlington and Barton Mills being considered.

SID Data**SID Devices Worlington Parish Council****Updated to 25th May 2018**

Date active		Total No of vehicles	Speed MPH					
			0-30	31-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54
Post No 1 Freckenham to Worlington								
28/9/17	13/10/17	17669	6104	4963	3892	9	604	169
					1426	723	109	
11/2/18	24/2/18	26451	2301	1535	7	8	2	18
		in place now						
14/4/18								
Post No 2 Worlington - Freckenham								
			1637					
27/10/17	6/11/17	25267	3	6506	1896	384	77	20
				3400				
24/2/18	10/3/18	37931	2778	4	1062	87	0	0
Post No 3 The Street Worlington - Mildenhall								
			1686					
7/11/17	18/11/17	24488	9	5755	1434	311	82	20
25/5/18		Current Location						
Post No 4 Mildenhall to Worlington hotel								
			3843	2851	1119	190		
18/11/17	16/12/17	106183	0	9	9	0	219	20
			2818	4227				
11/3/18	28/3/18	77886	6	1	7027	399	0	0
			1414		1475			
13/5/18	23/5/18	38743	4	9429	0	381	36	0
Post No 5 Worlington to Red Lodge								

			2706	1457				
13/1/18	27/1/18	41643	8	5	0	0	0	0

Post No 6 Red Lodge to Worlington

			1311		1788	203		
27/1/18	10/2/18	41792	8	8746	9	9	0	0
					2663	515		
28/3/18	13/4/18	44152	3935	7988	4	5	438	0

9 **Worlie Café Annual Report (Nick Foster)**

Our first full season with the new cooks in the kitchen and a very successful one it was too. Attracting a steady flow of regular customers with the odd new face thrown in as well. We held 7 cafes this year, bringing in just over £1200 for the village hall, the highlight being a 3 course meal for Christmas which brought in over £400 alone. We have had extra help this year from quite a few volunteers, both from the village and outside but it is always good to have people on standby just in case we come up short one month so if anyone knows of anyone please encourage them to get in touch. The café will return in October so we look forward to seeing everyone again then.

10 **Worlington Cricket Club Report**

Worlington Cricket Club had an eventful year on and off the pitch. On the pitch the First Team continued to play in Division One of the Two Counties League and although started the season with great promise a relegation battle was the worry at the end of the season. It went down to the final game of the season where rain was the final winner and, in the process, securing a place in Division One for another season. The Second Team had more success securing promotion back up to Division 5. The encouraging element is the inclusion in this squad of at least 5 Under 18s which is the result of the youth cricket that has been running so successfully at Worlington for the last 9 years. The Sunday Academy team which consists of generally 9 youngsters consolidated their place in Division 3 of the Hunts County League. This is an enormous success and again down to the development of the youth cricket.

The Youth Cricket has been going from strength to strength and this season with extra games for all age groups there is rarely a night where you will not find cricket on at the club. It is a real credit to all the coaches, parents and helpers at the club that the playing numbers keep growing and that we now offer cricket to players aged 4 through to our oldest playing member who is 73!!

Off the pitch the social calendar also grows with each side holding their own fundraising event. These are open to anyone – members or non-members and all are welcome to participate. Last year we had BBQ's, Quiz Night, Pasta and Prosecco night and Curry night. These are all valuable events that assist in keeping the club afloat.

The biggest event was our now annual Beer and Band Festival. This is held in aid of developing youth cricket and our facilities but also held in aid of The East Anglian Air Ambulance. Since we started the festival we have been able to donate over 6000 to this very worthy cause. Something we are very proud of. This year we will once again be praying for excellent weather that is so important to any event such as this.

The Club is very pleased that we now have an agreement in place with the Parish Council that secures our future on the recreation ground. This also enables us to apply for grants to help with the purchase of a twin lane practice facility that will enable youth cricket to continue to thrive with practice able to take place at the same time as fixtures are being played. This is a very important step for us as a club and one which has been in our minds for some time.

Any report cannot be complete without recognition of Kenny Lucas and Mal Collen who put so much time into maintaining the recreation ground and keeping it in a fantastic state which all can enjoy.

11 **All Saints Church PCC (Revd. Canon Sandie Barton)**

Worship

We continue to hold weekly services in a variety of styles, and have been delighted to see a small rise in the number of children and adults attending every type of service over the past year, pleasingly bucking the national trend. Particular highlights last year were the very good turn outs for our Harvest, Christmas and Easter services. However, we would love to see even more! So do come and join us – all services are advertised in the Worlington Pump. Messy Church continues to meet in the village hall on the second Sunday of every month, and I would particularly encourage people of all ages to come along and experience a very different kind of church, one which includes coffee and bacon sandwiches, and craft activities. We are tentatively beginning to experiment with leaving the church open at certain times, to enable members of the community to enjoy the peace and beauty of the building at other times than during worship and other events– look out for the ‘Church Open’ sign on the door. There is to be a Messy Picnic in Heath Rosselli’s field on Sun July 8th 12.30am onwards with crafts and games – all very welcome.

Ministry Team

We are in the fortunate position of having built up a wonderful team of ministers – in addition to the Parish Priest Canon Sandie Barton, we will shortly have a curate, Rev David Butcher, due to be ordained at the end of the month, as well as three active retired clergy, the Ven. John Cox, Rev Gill Anderson who lives in the village and Rev Gordon Anderson (no relation!), Lay Readers David Ball and Caroline Butcher and Elder Heath Rosselli. You may meet any or all of these ministers at our services or social events, as we work closely together as a team.

Building and Repairs

At long last we have been able to repair the cracked chancel ceiling at an eye-watering cost of £27,000. We were able to proceed with the work due to a very generous legacy following the sad death of Robert Lucas who was for many years the organist and choirmaster, and who continued to take a keen interest in the church and village after moving away. As I reported to the Parish Council last year, we had hoped to combine this project with a grant application to enable us to put in a loo and servery, however this plan is on hold for the moment. We have decided, after a very cold winter, to prioritise the provision of better heating which we expect to cost in the region of £12,000. The remainder of Robert’s legacy will be used towards this, together with other kind donations and further fundraising – any contributions most welcome! We plan to put up a brass plaque on the organ in memory of Robert. Last but not least the notice board has been repainted, and we hope to renew the gates on Church Lane which are starting to look a bit tired.

Wildlife and Eco Church Award

We continue to see an important part of our role as caring for God’s creation, and last year held a well-attended event to promote the use of church towers across the county for swift nesting boxes. Our own swifts produced around 70 chicks last year and we hear encouraging news of other local churches interested in getting involved. Our owl nesting box is being used for the first time this year too – please do give it a wide berth to avoid disturbing the occupants. All Saints’ is now a registered Eco Church under a scheme run by the environmental charity A Rocha UK, and recently gained a bronze award. We continue to seek to use the unique opportunity of our ancient church and churchyard to safeguard and enhance the local environment and will be working towards our silver award next.

Community

The church seeks to be here for those of all faiths and none in times of celebration and grief, and have held a number of funerals, a wedding and baptisms in the last year. We also seek to add to the life of the community through our coffee mornings, cream teas and quizzes, which of course also help us to keep the church open by going towards the £13,000 per annum running costs. We do thank those of you who support these events as well as those who organise and run them. We absolutely rely on the community to come and join us, whether for worship or social events – so please do come and be a part of it as we work together for the wellbeing of our village.

PUBLIC FORUM:

- Traffic Calming was raised; this item is to be discussed in full under Item 18/05/17 at the Annual Parish Council Meeting tonight; see Minutes APCM May 2018 Item 18/05/17.1.
- The Clerk updated that the street light at Walnut Grove is to be connected by

UKPN within 3 weeks.

- Residents raised complaints that FHDC had not been carrying out the Grass Cutting in the village.
- Flooding in the Village was raised. The Clerk confirmed that this had all been reported to Highways and had now been forwarded to Mark Stevens, Asst. Director of Operational Highways for his attention.
- The issue of the gates on the Hythe track (Ferry Drove) was raised and reported at the March 2017 Parish Council Meeting. The Clerk reiterated that this issue had been raised with the landowner, and it had been confirmed that he owned the land and had Title documents to prove this. As such, he has the right to erect the gates on his land. The Clerk also confirmed that SCC Public Rights of Way is currently investigating the ownership of the whole track, to establish Parish Council responsibility and what if any cation can be taken.

The Annual Parish Meeting closed at 8:31pm

Signed: *Nick Foster*

Date: 16th May 2019