**Worlington Parish Council**

**Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting (APM) held in the Village Hall**

**at 7pm on Thursday 16th May 2019**

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| **Present WPC:** | | | | Cllr. N. Foster  Cllr. S. Foster  Cllr. K. Lucas  Clerk, Vicky Bright | |
| **In attendance**: | | | Cllr. B. Harvey – FHDC & Inspector Mark Shipton – SNT | 8 Members of the Public |  |
| **Apologies**: | | |  |  |  |
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| **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 31st May 2018:** | | | | |  |
|  |  | **Resolved APM19/05/2.01**  Approved the Minutes of 31st May 2018 Annual Parish Meeting. Signed by Cllr. Nick Foster as a true record. | | | | |  |
| **3** |  | **District Councillor FHDC – Annual Report (Cllr. Brian Harvey)**  Firstly, I offer thanks for the support from the Parish Council and residents of Worlington.  The Manor Ward was uncontested in the elections, the ward now comprises the villages, of Worlington, Barton Mills, Freckenham, Tuddenham & Cavenham.  There was much discussion regarding the planning application for holiday lets at Judes Ferry, the decision is still pending on the application, there is currently a ‘pre-dig’ being undertaken before the archaeological team will give any comments.  I have provided grants from my Locality Budget for the following village projects; kitchen refurbishment at the hall, a new village sign.  West Suffolk Council formed on 2nd May, the Chair is to be decided along with the Committee’s and Portfolio holders on 22nd May.  16 members have been selected for the Development Control Committee.  The next decision on the merger will be whether to apply for Borough status.  Financial Regulations are to be reviewed and amended.  Council tax rose in order to equalise with SEBC, this will happen over a gradual 5-year increase. This comes after no Council Tax rise for 7 years.  West Suffolk is now the 7th largest Council in the Country. | | | | |  |
| **4**  **5**  **6**  **7**  **8**  **9**  **10** |  | **County Councillor SCC - Annual Report (Cllr. Louis Busuttil)**  Cllr. Busuttil sent his apologies.  **Parish Council Annual report – (Cllr. Nick Foster)**  Looking back on another productive year in the Parish, we have completed many projects, with plenty more ongoing. In May last year we re-vamped the garden to the rear of the village hall, installing new fencing to enclose it and make it a more useable space. We also created a new screening for the oil tank and re-gravelled the whole area. In our ongoing project to refurbish the village hall, the kitchen windows, back door and toilet windows were all replaced in August, leaving just the sash windows in the main hall and the fire exits to be replaced in the future. The Worlie Cafe continues to be an important source of regular income for the hall so a big thank you to the team for all of their hard work throughout the year. The buffer zone coming in from Red Lodge was finally funded and completed in July, with the SID still being used to record excessive speeding throughout the village. Towards the end of March we held a refresher session for the defibrillator at the village hall, this was well attended by villagers and a few others from the neighbouring area. In April we held a village litter pick, a big thanks to those who attended. We collected around 15 bags of rubbish from all over the village, with around 8 coming from Golf Links Road. Looking forward the project at the Hythe to stop erosion, create better access and encourage nature is ongoing and our new village sign to replace the rotten one is being made. I would like to finish by thanking my fellow councillors, and Vicky for all the hard work you have all put in throughout the year, thank you.  **Police Service Report - (Inspector Mark Shipton)**   * Two crimes recorded in the last 12 months, 1 common assault and 1 fatal RTC (April). * There was an increase in vehicle crime in the area last year, so education and information was circulated throughout Mildenhall and Newmarket. * There has been a spate of burglaries (east Anglia regions), investigations are ongoing. * There was a further review this year after the 2016 review, PCSO’s were reduced by 50%, but PC’s were increased, with 14 in Forest Heath. We have also been allocated more responsibilities. * There has been a drop in Special Constables in the force, with minimal number in Forest Heath, recruiting is taking place with encouragement to cadets to pursue a role as a Special on the force. * The Forest Heath team covers Newmarket, Lakenheath, Brandon, Mildenhall and parishes. * Road Safety in Worlington has seen a Red Zone being declared at Freckenham end, with Worlington seeing good service by the Road Speed camera team, with these assessments creating traffic calming from Red Lodge. It is impossible to completely eradicate speeding, but it is advised to continue with VAS data and Speed Watch. Top end speeds have improved by 10%, however there does not appear too much impact following the Red Lodge improvements. * 5-Ways Roundabout has seen a reduction in RTC’s since the traffic light installation. Speed cameras are due to be installed, which will offer digital feedback 24/7.   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>  **Friends of the Village Hall Report (Nick Foster)**  The hall is in use nearly every day of the week now. We currently have a keep fit class, 2 yoga classes and 2 painting classes, along with messy church once a month and the Worlie Cafe once a month on a seasonal basis. We also have had the occasional party booking, although not as many as previous years and the Church’s fish n chip quiz nights throughout the year. Looking forward we hope to hold more fundraising evenings such as bingo and quizzes.  ***Statement of Accounts 2018/19***   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | Expenditure |  | £6,539.71 | |  | Income |  | £7,976.08 | |  | Hall Hire Income |  | £1810.72 | |  | Grants |  | £6,166.08 | | **Treasurers A/C** | **31/03/2019** |  | **£2,035.11** | | **Bus Bank Instant** | **31/03/2019** |  | **£0.38** | | **Balance carried Fwd.** |  |  | **£2,035.49** |   **Worlie Café Annual Report (Nick Foster)**  Another successful season for the Worlie Cafe, starting in October and running until may the cafe produced just under £750 for the village hall. In June we will be holding an afternoon tea at the hall, more information will be available in the pump or on the posters on the notice board. If successful we hope to carry this on through the summer months when the normal cafe is closed. We would like to thank everyone that has helped us at the cafes throughout the season, and to all of our customers.  **Worlington Cricket Club**  Cllr. Ken Lucas reported The new nets are being well used and are a good asset.  **All Saints Church PCC (Revd. Canon Sandie Barton)**  **Worship**  We continue to hold weekly services in a variety of styles, including Messy Church in the village hall on the second Sunday of every month. In addition, this year we have started to hold a fortnightly home group for study, prayer and friendship. We recognise that many people like to spend time quietly in church, enjoying its beauty, or taking time for prayer and meditation, and we now open the church for a few hours every day. It is a big responsibility to care for a Grade 1 listed medieval treasure like All Saints’ and it takes a bit of nerve to simply leave it open, but we feel that the need to make it accessible to all is the most important thing. So please do use it, and also, please keep an eye on it!  **Ministry Team**  Our team of ministers continues to grow! In addition to parish priest Canon Sandie Barton and curate Rev David Butcher, we will soon have a second curate in the shape of Rev Caroline Butcher, David’s wife, who will be ordained next month. Active retired clergy Rev Gill Anderson, Rev Gordon Anderson (not related to each other) and Ven John Cox continue to bless us with their ministry as do retired Reader David Ball and elder Heath Rosselli. In addition, we commissioned Heath and Shirley Reeder for prayer ministry, so they can offer prayer for healing or other kinds of need on request.  **Building and Repairs**  We now have improved heating in church with the installation of under-pew electric heating, thanks to Robert Lucas’ legacy and other generous donations. A plaque in Robert’s memory has been installed on the organ.  **Wildlife and Eco Church**  We continue to see an important part of our role as caring for God’s creation, and we are working towards a silver Eco Church award. In June we will again be holding a Swift Fest event to mark 10 years since the first nest boxes were installed in the tower. The CEO of the British Trust for Ornithology will be our keynote speaker – quite a coup. Our churchyard is also being used for long-term scientific research into the effect on our native ladybird species of the non-native Harlequin Ladybird. We continue to seek to use the unique opportunity of our ancient church and churchyard to safeguard and enhance the local environment.  **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 and baptisms in the last year. We also seek to add to the life of the community through our coffee mornings, cream teas art shows and quizzes, which of course also help us to keep the church open by going towards the substantial running costs. We do thank those of you who support these events as well as those who organise and run them. In addition, we continue to produce monthly the Worlington Pump newsletter, and welcome items for addition that will be of general interest to the village. 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:***   * Sunnica – Solar Farm proposal;   A public exhibition is to be confirmed (July?). Detailed plans will be presented, with an update on scheduling. Timeframe looks to be possibly 2023. The application is available to view in full on the Planning Portals Consultation page. As this is a National Infrastructure (NI) project it will be determined by Secretary of State (local planning can make representations), a full plan is available to view on the Secretary of State’s website. As the proposal is privately funded and controlled, there may be negotiable perks for villages, available for discussion. The 780 hectares’ size of the proposal is a concern and English Nature and Archaeology is geared to be in objection.   * The last litter pick was good, although due to the event being tied in with the ‘Great British Clean Up’ week, it was rather rushed in its organisation and publication. Another Litter Pick is planned for later in the year. | | | | |  |

The Annual Parish Meeting closed at 8:06pm