

Worlington Parish Council

Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting (APM) held in the Village Hall at 7pm on Tuesday 9th May 2017

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

In attendance: Cllr. B. Harvey – FHDC & 7 Members of the Public
Cllr. Louis Busuttil - SCC

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 26 May 2016: Resolved 17/05/1

Approved the Minutes of 26th May 2016 Annual Parish Meeting. Signed by Cllr. Nick Foster as a true record.

3 Parish Council Chairman's Annual Report

Cllr. N. Foster updated the meeting with the following;

The past 12 months have been very productive with regards to the various projects and issues surrounding the village. At the beginning of this year, we said goodbye to our previous chairman. A big thank you to Rupert Osborn for all his efforts for the Parish.

Towards the end of last year, the village purchased a selection of shrubs and bulbs to be planted at the three main entrances to the village. These were all planted, with varying results.

To commemorate the Queens 90th birthday, it was agreed that the village would purchase a second picnic bench to be placed at the Hythe. A project which will be completed in the near future.

We were also successful in our application to 'the Big Lottery Awards for All' to cover the cost of having a Defibrillator fitted on the outside wall of the village hall. Again, this should be happening sometime soon.

Just recently, a set of football goal posts were purchased, and will be installed on the recreation ground for the children of the village to enjoy throughout the year.

Which leads me on to the play area, which has needed quite a bit of repair this year. Towards the end of last year, the seats and chains were replaced on the older kids swings, as the seats were cracked and deteriorating. More recently Cllr. Lucas did a fantastic job of painting and replacing the rotten rooftops on the junior play equipment. Also in the last month the cargo net has been replaced due to wear and tear. My thanks go to Cllr. Lucas and Cllr. S. Foster for their help with this.

Villagers again carried out two community litter picks, one in September and one last month.

Whilst speeding unfortunately continues to cause concerns for us all, I am happy to report that at last we seem to be making some progress with traffic calming at the Red Lodge entrance to the village. Cllr. Harvey is doing a great job liaising with the necessary

people and we are heading in the right direction at last. To help gather evidence and deter speeders throughout the village we are also in the process of purchasing a mini SID system for the village. Simply put, a post mounted tablet which flashes up the speed you are going. We have also opted for the additional data recorder as well, so that all information is recorded. We are hoping that this, coupled with data received from our Speed Watch surveys may be enough to potentially help with traffic calming solutions at other areas of the village.

The village hall and Worlie cafe teams continue to do an excellent job raising much needed money for the upkeep and maintenance of the hall, so a big thank you to all of you, both past and present.

I would like to finish by thanking all those that continually attend our parish meetings and show an interest in village life. Your opinions and ideas are always important and welcomed.

4 **District Councillor Report (Cllr. Brian Harvey)**

- Local Plan – 2nd/3rd stage of consultation closes end May 2017.
- FiveWays Roundabout – Highways England have put together proposals and surveys are being undertaken.
- Matt Griss from Highways has discussed detailed proposals and future plans for Traffic Calming in Worlington.
- Community Speed Watch has received good reports back and is being well received by the Police.
- Locality Budget over the last 2 years has gone towards the Worlington Cricket Club for Youth Winter Training, Friends of Mildenhall Library for a Library van, Village Hall enhancements, the Queens 90th Bench and Celebrations, Goal Posts for the Recreation Ground. The Mildenhall Messenger has also received support.
- Police Connect sign up to get the recent police stats and updates <https://www.suffolk.police.uk/services/police-connect>. The next PCC Meeting is on Wednesday 7th June 2017 at 7pm, at St Marys Academy, Mildenhall.

5 **County Councillor Report (Cllr. Louis Busuttil)**

- Appointed as County Cllr. for Worlington, Freckenham, Barton Mills & Mildenhall following Elections on 4th May, for the next 4 years, thanks to those who voted and hopes to work together in the best interest of Worlington.
- Cllr. Colin Noble was re-elected as Leader of SCC.
- Deborah Cadman is the new Chief Executive of SCC.
- Priorities of SCC over the next 4 years are; Closing the Budget gap over the next 4 years, Devolution, Social Care & Health, Housing, Safeguarding, School places provision, low productivity & economic growth.
- Conservative won 52 out of 75 seats in SCC.
- The key 3 priorities will be;
 1. Inclusive growth (new business, skills, infrastructure & environment)
 2. Care, Health & Well-Being over £1 billion over 4 years (Adult Social Care)
 3. Effective & Efficient Public Services
- The Budget was agreed with a 0% increase in council tax for 2017/18.
- The Long Term Blueprint for Suffolk beyond the next 4 years, to include provision for democratic changes, growth in elderly, potential economic growth and demand for services over the next 10 years.

6 **Police Service Report**

Sgt. Mark Shipton sent his apologies and requested that any concerns or issues to be forwarded to him via email. The Clerk advised that people could forward questions via email to her or raise them under the public forum at the end of the meeting.

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

7 **Village Hall Report (Nick Foster)**

The past 12 months have seen the village hall grow in popularity. At the time of writing, the regular activities held at the hall are 2 separate painting classes and 2 yoga classes, which all bring in a steady income on a monthly basis. We are also a very popular venue for children's parties, with many commenting on the spacious, attractive layout and fantastic value for money.

Over the past 12 months, the Friends of Worlington Village Hall have held various fundraising events. We had 2 craft fayres and multiple bingo evenings, with varying degrees of success. Our most popular events are by far our food themed quiz nights. We have held 3 in the last 12 months and each time raised in excess of £500, which is really good for the hall.

Looking forward, we have our second annual picnic and duck race, held down by the river. The event was great fun last year and hopefully will be bigger and better this year.

We will be holding 4 quizzes after the summer break, starting in September and every other month until March, menus to be decided.

We have a few other ideas in the pipeline, but like most things, without a decent show of volunteers we cannot achieve half of what we would like to, so if anyone is interested or knows anyone that may be able to help please get in contact.

I would also like to thank Kenny, and Jim & Jean in their absence, for all their help and hard work for the Village Hall in the past months.

The hall is beginning to show its age and the Parish Council are working to try and improve and modernise in order to make the hall more energy efficient. We have received various funding to help with these projects. These include cavity wall insulation, to decrease heat loss, an upgrade in the lighting system, to decrease energy costs and a revamp of the foyer, to modernise and further decrease heat loss and improve wheelchair access.

All in all, things are looking very positive for the hall heading into the next 12 months.

Statement of Accounts 2016/2017

	Expenditure	£4,197.67
	Income	£4,122.00
	Unpresented Expenditure	0.00
	Unpresented Income	0.00
		£4,686.39
Treasurers A/C	31/03/2017	£4,686.39
Bus Bank Instant	31/03/2017	£2,249.26
Balance carried Fwd.		£6,935.65

8

Worlie Café (Nick Foster)

A date that is prominent in many people's diaries, both from the village and further afield is that of the Worlie Cafe. Held on the first Friday of the month, from October until May. The light lunches on offer have proved very popular and continue to attract a good crowd of people, with numbers ranging from 25 to 35, the cafe regularly creates an income

averaging £150 a month for the village hall.

Jim & Jean Power ran the cafe until April, when they moved away from the area. Thankfully the cooking duties were taken on by Jan Foster and her friend, Sandra Eagle, who will hopefully continue to serve up delicious meals for a long time to come.

Again, thanks go to all those involved in the cafe, I don't want to name names in case I miss anyone, but you all know who you are and you all help to make it the success that it is.

A big thank you also to all those who bake cakes for the cafe, and of course those that come down for a cup of tea, a hot meal, or just a friendly chat.

9

Speed Watch (Nick Foster)

Speeding continues to be an ongoing issue around the village. Martin Morgan and I regularly catch 10 to 20 speeding motorists travelling in excess of 36mph. One Sunday morning we caught two within minutes of each other, travelling at 52 and 53 mph.

As I stated when I took over from Sue Dampier last year, I am not able to carry out surveys everywhere, as I just don't have the time. My hope for the future is that I may be able to find people who would be willing to pair up to carry out surveys all through the village, so I will once again be advertising in the pump for volunteers in the near future.

The additional data we receive from the new mini SID, coupled with the Speed Watch survey results can hopefully be a help in the future, if we ever look to pursue other options regarding traffic calming throughout the village.

10

All Saints Church PCC (Clerk on behalf of Rev'd Sandie Barton)

Worship

The main purpose and duty of any church is to provide the opportunity for worship. Unlike many rural churches we are able to maintain a pattern of weekly worship through the help of a team of lay ministers and retired clergy who support Canon Sandie as parish priest of her four churches. We seek to provide worship in a variety of styles, from traditional choral evensong through to our monthly Messy Church, which takes place in the Village Hall. Our Christmas services this past year were particularly popular, and it was delightful to see the church packed to the rafters.

Building and Repairs

Last year I reported to the Parish Council that we faced the task of repairing our cracked chancel ceiling. At that time monitoring work was being done to assess the extent of repairs needed, and a year on we are at last at the stage of obtaining tenders. We still have to wait for a report on the resident bats, but hope that by Autumn the work, which should take about 6 weeks, will be completed without disturbing any wildlife. The cost is in the region of £25,000 and we will soon be starting fundraising in earnest, partly by seeking a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund. As part of our bid we are also putting together a plan to make the church building more usable by the community, and in the past year have carried out a feasibility study to introduce a loo and kitchen area as phase two of the work. We may also consider a third phase of improvements which will include upgrading our heating. As yet we don't have costings for phases two and three. We hope that this ambitious project will excite the grant making bodies sufficiently that they will bear a large part of the financial burden, but we will also have to raise substantial funds ourselves and so it may take some time to get the full project completed. This is a big ask for a church of only 28 members, so we very much hope and trust that the community will support us in seeking to keep this fabulous mediaeval treasure not just in good repair but a genuine asset for the village.

Wildlife

We continue to see part of our role as providing a haven for wildlife, and last year saw record numbers of swifts nesting in the tower. Around 60 chicks hatched, which is an amazing result. This year we will be holding an event aimed at getting other local churches to put swift nesting boxes into their towers, so that hopefully this success will spread.

Community

The church seeks to be here for those of all faiths and none when there is a need for the community to come together at times of grief. There have been six funerals in church over the past year, many of them for very well-known members of the community. We

are glad to be able to offer our support to grieving families at such times, as well as providing a sacred space for people to gather. We also seek to add to the life of the community through our 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 the community very warmly for supporting these events.

PUBLIC FORUM:

- It was asked whether the last 12 months' stats in reference to fined or prosecuted speeders could be requested from the Police, & whether quarterly reports on this could also be requested going forward. The Clerk advised she would approach Sgt. Shipton regarding this. It was also asked if the Clerk could mention Police Speed Checks at The Meadows.
- A query regarding housing developments being increased in the area and whether there was any regulation on it becoming over developed. Cllr. Harvey responded by explaining that the Local Plan covers this and the consultation involves the Local Community and Development area within the villages. Planning applications are available to view on the Register on FHDC Planning Website.

The Annual Parish Meeting closed at: 7:32pm

Signed: *Nick Foster*

Chair, Worlington Parish Council

Date: 31st May 2018