**Worlington Parish Council**

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

**at 7pm on Thursday 26th May 2016**

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| **Present:** | | | | Cllr. R. Osborn  Cllr. P. Merrick  Cllr. S. Foster  Cllr. N. Foster  Cllr. K. Lucas  Cllr. A. Marshall  Cllr. B. Harvey (Arrived at 7:09pm) | |
| **In attendance**: | | | Vicky Bright, Clerk | 13 Members of the Public |  |
| **Apologies**: | | |  |  |  |
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| **1** |  | **Election of Chairman for the Annual Parish Meeting** | | | | |  |
|  |  | Cllr Rupert Osborn was elected Chairman for the Annual Parish Meeting. | | | | |  |
| **2** |  | **Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of 12 May 2015:** | | | | |  |
|  |  | **Resolved 16/05/1**  To approve the Minutes of 12th May 2015 Annual Parish Meeting. Signed by Cllr. Rupert Osborn as a true record. | | | | |  |
| **3** |  | **Parish Council Chairman’s Annual Report**  Cllr. Osborn updated the meeting with the following;  The previous 12 months has been a relatively busy year. We have said goodbye to our previous Chairman and Vice Chairman and have welcomed on board Councillors Steve Foster and Alan Marshall.  Thanks go to Cllr. Nick Foster for the launch of a new, updated Worlington website and the ongoing maintenance of the children’s play area and parish footpaths.  Thanks also to Cllr. Ken Lucas for sorting out the safety mirror outside the Village Hall and for dealing with various dangerous tree branches that needed attention.  Despite some frustration dealing with Suffolk Highways, we are hopefully getting to grips with the local flooding and general highways maintenance issues that have, and continue to cause inconvenience to our residents.  Suffolk Highways however, remain stubbornly slow in helping us resolve the traffic calming we have been promised. More work is needed to move this issue forward as traffic levels in the village continue to increase with every new housing development granted.  Our Community Speed watch initiative has gone from strength to strength under the stewardship of Sue Dampier - many thanks to her and her team of volunteers.  We had some minor planning development in the village and successfully lobbied Forest Heath Planning Dept. to agree and implement an important condition relating to the anaerobic digester banning all plant-related vehicles carrying feedstuff or agricultural waste from coming through our village or along Golf Links Road to get to the Bay Farm site.  We have also seen progress with the problem of The Walnut Tree parking with the pub now having laid tarmac on the car park with painted spaces.  The West Suffolk Local Plan consultation continues although only very minor changes to our existing village boundary are being proposed.  The Parish undertook two successful litter pick sessions during the year (I personally removed 48 bottles of whisky from the hedgerow along Golf Links Road) and many thanks to those residents that gave their time to help.  We have now been granted a licence by Suffolk Highways to plant various trees and shrubs around the village and this work is being progressed.  Unfortunately, due to changes within Forest Heath, we lost our free brown bin collection from April this year.  Finally, thanks to the Village Hall Committee for all their hard work, thanks to Jim Power - for taking over the running of our Worlie Café and continuing with its undoubted success. And finally, finally, thanks to all residents who make the effort to come to our Parish meetings during the year - it would be lonely without you! | | | | |  |
| **4**  **5**  **6**  **7**  **8**  **9**  **10** |  | **District Councillor Report (Brian Harvey)**   * Devolution will come and will have an effect, updates will soon be available. * Planning – Construction near the old Dairy of 78 homes, this will have additional planning locally and will have a knock on effect. * Barley Homes – Joint venture with FHDC St Edmundsbury BC, on council owned land, proposed 950 houses, to meet the affordable housing need.   **County Councillor Report (James Waters)**  None.  **Police Service Report (PCSO Davy Hill)**  Between 26/2/16 – 26/5/16 there have been a total of 7 investigations recorded for the Worlington Parish broken down as below:   * Burglary Dwelling x 1- no identified suspects. * Threatening Behaviour x 1 – No further police action. * PVP referral x 2 – (Protecting Vulnerable People) directorate. Adult and child safeguarding referrals. * Hare Coursing x 1 – no identified suspects. * Attempt Burglary Other Building x 1 – no identified suspects. * Possession of a Controlled Drug x 1 – male arrested and on police bail pending result of drugs analysis.   The Safety Camera Van has been in the Worlington area on 2 occasions during May, but has planned for 4, and recorded 17 positive enforcement offences for which people will receive contact from the Central ticket Office on how they will be dealt with.  Combined with that numerous checks have been conducted by SNT officers using the handheld speed gun, and hopefully you will have seen them in the village? At the time of the checks people generally adhered to the speed limit with only a few exceeding the limit. Those drivers where stopped and given verbal warnings as it was not deemed a ticket was necessary.  Pcso Donna Miller has taken over the role of CSW administrator from Pcso Tristan Askew and has reported that she is received forms from your scheme. Please continue to send the relevant information to Donna so she can administer the vehicle checks. Email: [Donn.Miller@suffolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Donn.Miller@suffolk.pnn.police.uk)  Overall there are no specific crime trends to make you aware of but please bear in mind that with the weather heating up and brighter nights we are all inclined to let our guard slip around our security measures. Please ensure that if you leave your house that it is left secure and you lock everything up. Don’t allow yourself to become a victim of crime!  Should you need to contact your local SNT in relation to specific issues you can do so via their email account: [Mildenhall.SNT@suffolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Mildenhall.SNT@suffolk.pnn.police.uk)  **Village Hall Report 16 (Chris Hall)**  The Village Hall Committee comprises of five parishioners. They are Michelle Ferris, James Power, Ken Lucas, Nick Foster and Chris Hall.  The key points covering the financial year 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016 were as follows: -   * Monthly Cafe. * First Village Hall Quiz held for the community. * Outside lighting added in parking area. * Risk Assessment undertaken with appropriate actions taken. * Additional funds raised via GRID 100 game. * First Village Hall Bingo night for the community. * Additional shelving added in kitchen store room. * PA system acquired. * Additional advisory signage added to parking area.   News / events for the current fiscal year (1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017): -   * Cafe returns in autumn 2016. * Village Hall Quiz in May was successful. Great to see new people attending. * Extraction installed in kitchen and kitchen store room (courtesy of funding from Cllr Harvey’s locality budget). * Bingo night in June 2016 and additional sessions in planning. * Family picnic & duck race planned in August 2016. * Next Village Hall Quiz planned for September 2016, with additional quizzes thereafter. * Village Hall building maintenance projects under review (some only possible through funding grants and/or volunteers): - * Replacing front entrance (doors and side / top light windows). * Making good the area outside front double doors. * Hand dryer / water heater in Gents toilet. * Replacing existing roof.   **Worlie Café (Jim Powers)**  The Café made a profit of £1,021.61 for the Winter/Spring 2016 season. The café will re-start in October 2016.  **Speed Watch (Nick Foster on behalf of Sue Dampier)**  Since last May, our local team of 11 people has carried out 20+ surveys and recorded a large volume of speeding vehicles. There have been additional surveys by the Traffic and Firearms unit, by our local SNT Police and by other Police Enforcement Officers. Alongside our ‘Community Speed Watch’ signage, hopefully, drivers are beginning to get the message! A special ‘thank you’ goes to Nick Foster and Martin Morgan who do a sterling job on speeding traffic entering the village from Freckenham, usually at weekends. Since they began in January, their checks, over 22 hours in total, have netted 367 speeding vehicles (travelling in excess of 36 mph), of which 104 were going over 40 mph. Two vehicles were clocked over 50 mph, with the record being 51 mph.  Other Speed Watch surveys have been carried out along the Worlington/Red Lodge road and in the future we hope to incorporate more along The Street, as this has been highlighted by many residents as another area of concern. Jane Barry has kindly agreed to carry out a number of speed checks along the Red Lodge Road, to increase the number of surveys carried out, as Sue Dampier is not available for much of the summer.  Over the last year, we have been supported by PCSO Tristan Askew from Mildenhall, however with the Suffolk Police reorganisation in April his duties have been taken over by PCSO Donna Miller and PC Vicky McNamara of the Brandon-based Safer Neighbourhood Team, who are new to the scheme. We are in the process of introducing ourselves. We have donated our second Speedar (speed gun) to Freckenham Village, where the CSW scheme is now ready to start up under the leadership of Anne Scratby, one of their Parish Councillors. Sue Dampier, the Worlington CSW Coordinator, continues to provide training to new scheme applicants from Worlington and other villages. Until February this year, we participated in a Highways scheme whereby a tripod-mounted flashing speed sign was shared on rotation with 5 other local villages. This was moved by us and on a day-to-day basis and operational for up to 12 hours daily. It was generally effective in helping motorists become more aware of their speeds. However, it came to its ‘end of life’ whilst in our care and was sent off to be repaired. Recent discussions with Suffolk Highways suggest that this equipment is unlikely to be deployed again as more villages are interested in purchasing their own ‘mini-SID’ (Speed Indication Device). Worlington Parish Council have agreed in principle to the purchase of a mini-SID which would be mounted on poles within the village and moved around every few weeks. We hope to purchase a data collector too, so that we can analyse traffic movements in greater detail on an ongoing basis. Barton Mills and Freckenham Parish Councils have expressed an interest in co-funding and co-owning such a device. With changes to resourcing and reorganisation of Suffolk Highways, there is recognition of the cumbersome and confusing information and processes in place by which Highways help villages improve road safety. As a result, SCC Highways web pages, advice and guidance are all in the process of being updated. The process through which Parish Councils can apply to purchase and site their own moveable SIDs is being simplified and in the meantime, the villages concerned are identifying suitable sites at which to deploy the SIDs. Once the new application process is up and running, and we have confirmation of costs and availability of funding, we will progress the purchase of a SID to be shared with these villages.  **All Saints Church PCC (Rev’d Sandie Barton)**  Worlington is one of 4 parishes which come under my care, the others being Barton Mills, Freckenham and West Row.  For the last nearly 3 years the churches in these villages have worked together quite closely, and are known informally as the ‘Lark and Lee’ group after the river and brook which flow through them.  All Saints’ continues to offer opportunities to worship on a weekly basis, with an average attendance of around 20, and a membership roll of 28.  However, one of the things about the Church of England is that it doesn’t exist just for its own members, but for the benefit of everyone in the parish should they want it.  We are glad to welcome people at some of the most significant moments of their life.  In the past year we have welcomed 1 couple for the celebration of their marriage, and baptised (christened) two children, as well as, sadly rather more frequently, offering funeral services for grieving families.  There have been five funerals in the past year.  Over the last year we have run a monthly ‘Messy Church’ in the Village Hall with craft activities, story and song, and even bacon rolls on offer! We do encourage you to come along and try this – it is fun for children and adults alike, a way for them to learn and worship together.  It is on the second Sunday of every month at 11am.  We continue to be proud of our role in conservation within the village, and enjoyed a wonderful swift fest last year which was filmed by the BBC.  Parts of the churchyard are also given over to conservation and we are also seeking to attract house martens to nest.  We are really grateful to all those who have supported our coffee mornings and cream teas, quizzes and other fundraising events, which we hope have also contributed something positive to the social life of the village.  The Open Gardens and Art Trail was a particular highlight last year and raised a substantial sum towards the costs of running the church.  Last year these costs amounted to nearly £18,000, almost all of which has to be found by the local congregation through direct giving or fundraising.  (A small proportion is found through fees for weddings and funerals.)  Some people might assume we are funded centrally, but in fact the reverse is true – All Saints’ contributes over £10,000 per year to the central coffers, to help pay for things like clergy stipends.  So we really are grateful for your help!  We do face a particular challenge with our lovely Grade 1 medieval building at the moment: serious cracks have appeared in the chancel ceiling, which have been monitored by our architect over the last year.  We now know that we face a repair bill of around £25,000 in the coming year in addition to our usual running costs.  However, we hope to put together some applications for grants to cover at least some of this, and we are even thinking that we might take the opportunity to introduce some facilities such as a loo and running water, and a little kitchen area.  This will enable us to ensure that the church can continue to be used by our own and future generations.  ***PUBLIC FORUM***   * RAF Mildenhall closure – Affects employment, the housing figures are not included within the affordable housing figures at FHDC. Still uncertain on closure date and how it will close. MALAG meeting dates on FHDC website * Affordable Housing – No sites within Worlington area * Boundary Buffer – FHDC are currently looking into new developments, as there has to be Greenspace. Draft changes but none of any consequence to boundary except Worlington Hall Car Park, and bungalow. * Second consultation released on Local Plan – Members of the public can comment. The timetable has been set back as consultation delayed, report was finished before infrastructure report received. Cllr. Harvey has raised queries (Mildenhall Hub, no traffic infrastructure identified). Highways under pressure to respond. | | | | |  |

The Annual Parish Meeting closed at: 19:50pm