Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 3rd May 2017 at 7.00pm in the Coronation Hall, Wilby

Parish Councillors (Cllrs) present: | Williamson, D Holliday & | Taylor

In attendance: District Cllr J Flatman, Clerk J Collett and 11 members of the public.

Apologies for absence: Cllr S Lee, County Cllr Guy McGregor & Mrs M Pipe (Secretary of the PCC).

- 1. Introduction and welcome by Chair of the Parish Council The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- To approve the minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on 4th May 2016 The minutes of the meeting, having previously been published on the parish notice board and the website, were approved and signed. Proposed and seconded by Cllr Taylor & Cllr Holliday respectively, and agreed unanimously.
- 3. To discuss any matters arising from the minutes Concern was still expressed regarding the path from the pond to the road. Chair of the Village Hall Committee, Alison Taylor, agreed to look into this.
- 4. To receive a report from the Parish Council Cllr. Williamson presented a report: see Appendix A

Cllr Holliday expressed his thanks to Cllr Ian Williamson for his work as Chair.

- 5. Reports received from:
 - 5.1 Wilby School Roisin Wiseman, Headteacher, presented the report: see Appendix B
 - 5.2 Wilby WI Nancy Morton, Vice-President, presented the report: see Appendix C
 - 5.3 Wilby PCC The Secretary of the PCC, Mrs Pipe's report was read by Cllr Ian Williamson: see Appendix D
 - 5.4 Coronation Hall The Chair of the Village Hall, Mrs Taylor presented the report: see Appendix E.
 - 5.5 District Councillor. Cllr. Flatman presented the report: see Appendix F
 - 5.6 County Councillor. Cllr Ian Williamson read this report in the absence of Cllr. McGregor: see Appendix G
 - 5.7 Mid Suffolk North Safer Neighbourhood Team. Cllr Ian Williamson read this the report: see Appendix H

Open Forum

Residents were encouraged to ask questions relating to the reports.

Discussions took place regarding the varying level of broadband available in different parts of the village. Residents were encouraged to contact BT for an update relating to their postcode.

A resident thanked the clerk for the emails reminding people of various events. Email forms will be left in Coronation Hall for anyone else wishing to sign up.

The VETS system was discussed and any volunteers were encouraged to email the clerk with their contact details. The Head of the school stated she would be willing to give details to the parents and friends of the school. Clerk to forward details. Three residents from the meeting were willing to sign up.

The meeting closed at 8-40pm.

APPENDIX A

Report from Chairman Wilby Parish Council

Since the last Annual Parish Meeting the Parish Council has continued to meet every other month with additional meetings called as necessary to consider planning applications falling out with the normal schedule of meetings. The agenda and minutes of our meetings are displayed on the Parish noticeboard and are also available on the website. In addition, an informal résumé of our activities is published in the Parish newsletter.

Given that much time at our meetings is taken up with routine business I am very pleased to report real progress on two projects that should provide direct benefit for the community. We now have a defibrillator installed in the former telephone box and the Community Heartbeat Trust held an open evening in the village hall to familiarise us all with its use. It is clearly important that as many of us as possible are aware of how to use the defibrillator. We have the opportunity to set up a network of village volunteers linked to a telephone system but so far there has been a very disappointing response to the request for volunteers.

The second project concerns traffic speeding, an issue of concern raised in the Village Survey. In response, the Parish Council has purchased a Speed Indicator Device which will be used on the approach from Stradbroke by Church Close and also on the Horham Road. The device will show the speed of an approaching vehicle and evidence shows that such a display has the effect of causing speeding drivers to slow down. We hope to have the system up and running later this month.

Financially the precept, that is the amount paid in council tax for the Parish Council, has remained unchanged. Our expenses are principally payment for the services of our Clerk and donations and grants made to local charities such as CAB, East Anglia Air Ambulance etc. This past year we have also paid some £3500 for the SID. The council retains an appropriate level of reserves as required by our auditors.

This year our representation has been further depleted with the resignation of Todd Strehlow upon his move away from Wilby. We are grateful to Todd for his service on the council where he took the lead on planning matters and also served as the Footpath Warden. We are allowed up to seven councillors and are currently operating with just four. We have to have at least three councillors present to be quorate for our meetings so we are very vulnerable should individuals be unwell or have other commitments. We therefore remain very keen to recruit more people to join the council. If our numbers fall below the absolute minimum then the District Council would appoint new members and effectively control of the Parish Council would pass to Endeavour House in Ipswich. I am sure this is a situation we would all wish to avoid.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow councillors for their commitment to the council, their contributions to our discussions and decision making and in particular for their support to me as chairman. I would also like to thank our Clerk Julie Collett for the excellent service she provides to the council in administering our affairs and providing valuable guidance drawing on her own extensive experience of council activity. I am grateful to County Councillor Guy McGregor and District Councillor Julie Flatman for their regular attendance at our meetings. Recently they have both been very helpful in providing grants for Wilby. My thanks go also to Julian Roughton who

has kindly stepped into the vacant post of Tree Warden. We are still looking for a Footpath Warden by the way!

If you have any questions arising from this report or on any other issue relating to the Parish Council I will be very happy to try and answer them.

Ian Williamson Chairman Wilby Parish Council

APPENDIX B Report from Wilby School

Wilby CEVC Primary School Parish Council Annual Report 3rd May 2017

There have been lots of changes at Wilby School this year-not least of which was the appointment of myself, Mrs Roisin Wiseman as Headteacher in October. After saying goodbye to Mrs Philippa Coleman in July, I then served as Interim Headteacher from September 2016, until being formally appointed Headteacher just before Autumn half term. No stranger to the school, I am delighted to have the opportunity to lead in this small primary school, for which I have great passion and dedication, into the future.

The year began well with the news that the school had been placed in the top 1% of all schools in the country for achievement in the KS2 SATs and was also one of only 14 schools nationwide to achieve Expected level and above in all subjects.

In the Autumn term a new school motto and set of Vision Statements were created by children in each class in school. The school council was involved in the final selection of the statements that they felt best reflected our vision for Wilby School. The motto, which was written by Mya Clancy (Y6), was unanimously voted for by both pupils and staff. The motto

'Dream big, work hard' is underpinned by the following Bible reading:

'Whatever you do, work at it with all of your heart. In all the work you are doing, work the best you can.' (Colossians 3 v23)

The School vision statements are also written in the children's own words: At Wilby School we have the highest expectations of ourselves and of each other Our Christian values guide our behaviour We learn from our mistakes and encourage each other We are happy and feel safe in our school We care for each other Learning here is fun

Reflecting the spirit of this final vision statement, the Autumn term whole school topic 'The Victorians' provided many opportunities for rich and exciting whole school teaching and learning. Children were engaged in a wide variety of learning in many curriculum area and all took part in dressing up for Victorian days at the Gressenhall Museum or Museum of East

Anglian Life and then back in school were we invited the press in for a whole morning of Victorian style learning, including play-ground games.

The Spring term began with a whole school 'Healthy Me' topic. We invited a number of professionals into school including a dietitian and a fitness trainers to tell us how to exercise and eat well, and we visited Morrisons in Diss and the Co-op in Framlingham to research marketing techniques and to buy the ingredients for an enterprise project to create, market and sell a healthy lunch box snack. This was followed by a whole school topic on Africa and school trip to Colchester zoo which helped us to launch our new global link with Mogonjet Primary school in Kenya. This link has been organized through the Handinhand Charity based in Essex. The children have already exchanged letters with the children in Mogonjet and in the Summer term will begin fund-raising for the Handinhand charity to buy equipment for the school there.

During the course of the year the children have accomplished a wide variety of achievements including:

In the Autumn term:

Ava Wilkinson won a competition organised by Wilby and Brundish churches to find the best illustration for a Christmas card. She was presented with a £25 book token for herself and one for the school. Four of our pupils were

highly commended in the Suffolk Young Poets Competition. Two of these pupils are now at secondary school but both Mya Clancy and Robert Handley (current Y6) attended the free poetry workshop and the Poetry Awards Evening as part of their prize.

A number of sporting successes were recorded in football, netball and at the Inter Schools cross Country Competition where six of our pupils came in the top ten for their age-group. The school also gained the Gold Sports Mark Award.

The school continues to provide Brass lessons for all children from Year 4 to Year 6 and children at Year 3 receive recorder lessons. Children are also offered the opportunity to receive peripatetic cello lessons. Children are given the option to take grades in all instruments and we were delighted to hear in the Spring term that Josie Palmer (Y6) gained a Distinction in her Grade 3 Horn exam and that Jerome Lane (year 5) gained a merit in his Grade 2 Cornet exam.

Children from Owl Class worked with the poet David Mason and some of them performed their own work at a poetry evening, organised by Mrs Wiseman, featuring the poet and children from Bedfield, Fressingfield and Wilby Primary Schools and Stradbroke High School. Children from all three key stages performed in a brass and singing ensemble at the Pyramid Carol Service. The school held its own Christmas Music Morning which

featured all children either playing an instrument or singing. This event was well attended by parents.

Wren class performed their Christmas play 'A little Bird told me' to a packed audience during the afternoon and evening of December 15th. This term KS2 will be putting on a performance of Roald Dahl's Jack and the Beanstalk.

A wide range of community outreach/ charity events were organised/ attended by children from KS1 and 2 during the Autumn term:

Collecting for EACH (Brass players and singers at the CO op – Framlingham Brass players and singers visited Foxearth Nursing Home

Spots and teddies day to raise money for Children in Need

• Children took part in the Everlasting Light a project organised to raise funds for Tearfund. The children attended a day in Ipswich when a cd was produced to raise funds and then a

big celebration concert in Lowestoft, the proceeds of which were also donated to Tearfund.

- Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children
- Harvey Foreman (Y6) organised a sponsored swim to raise money for Beatcancer

A number of charity/ fund raising events were also held this term including:

- February 22nd: Bags for School-raised £104
- March 1st: FOWSA Spring Disco-raised £65
- March 13^{th:} The school 'Sing your Heart Out' event was very well attended by both the school and local community. Staff, pupils, governors, ex pupils and members of local choir Hoxne Village Voices all took part in this wonderful charity event which raised £404 for the Royal Voluntary service.
- March 17th: Crazy Hair Day-the children brought in chocolate to be sold at the FOWSA Easter tombola. This event which when combined with the proceeds from the FOWSA film night on March 25th, raised £145.
- March 24th: Red Nose-Red Clothes Day which raised £55.

The school has also applied for the Gold Arts-mark Award status-if successful in gaining this Nationally recognised award this it should be achieved early in 2018.

School developments:

Largely due to the generosity of parents (past and present) and friends of Wilby school and two successful charity bids for funding, a number of school improvements have taken place since September including: Clearing up the appearance of the school grounds including old and building new sheds and generally improving the health and safety of the outside environment and redesigning the Quiet Garden area to the front of the school;

Putting in new flooring in the boys toilets and; Creating a new stud wall to separate the new staffroom area from the hall, making it a much more user friendly and QUIET space for both adults and children.

The school is also developing in terms of what is offered for children's educational experiences. We have already extended after and before school provision so that wrap around care is provided most days from 8am until 5.15pm (4.15pm on Fridays) and we will be extending our current preschool provision from 15 to 30 hours beginning in the Autumn Term. The school is also considering offering costed provision for two year olds.

The school's Thursday morning Tea and Toddlers group will also see some change with Elie Sharrat from Crocodile Rock providing music and movement sessions for children from 0-4 years of age.

The school offered two whole school Open Days in the Autumn term and now offers half termly Open Mornings for pupils aged up to four/school starting age. There are two Early Years Open Mornings planned for the Summer Term: May 22nd (Theme- 'Pirates Ahoy') and 10th July (Theme- 'Teddy Bears Picnic'). Open mornings were also offered to parents on Spelling (Autumn Term) and Arithmetic (Spring Term) and staff are now offering termly day and evening sessions for parents of

pupils in all classes to support them in becoming more familiar/ confident in current calculation methods.

WEBSITE

Anna Andrus who is studying website design/ marketing at Cambridge kindly offered her services at the beginning of the year and helped to standardise and de-clutter the website home page leading to a more professional overall appearance. This has been further de-cluttered and a number of new areas added including Safeguarding information, Church-school links, SMSC, Collective Worship and British values information.

Better use is being made of the Galleries pages and class teachers will be ensuring that they include more frequent photographic and film evidence on their Class pages. An additional Learning Support page features in the Children's Support pages —this will be populated with videos of pupils explaining calculation strategies in order to provide a virtual learning resource for parents and pupils alike. Better use is being made of the school facebook page and a facebook page has been developed for both our Tea and Toys group and our Pre-school class. These will be combined into one school page in the summer term.

School church links:

We are very proud of our close links with St Mary's Church in Wilby and continue to hold celebrations and worship in church across the whole school year. Some of these events for 2016-17 have included: Harvest festival, Christmas and Easter services, Church led school services in church (termly), an 'Experience Advent' event and our Christingle service which was held in January.

Plans for the Summer Term

We have lots of exciting plans for the Summer term including a wide variety of trips for the children. We have been increasing the range of sporting activities available for children including orienteering in the Autumn term and in the Summer-term we will be taking the children sailing and kayaking. Our Year 6 pupils have already enjoyed a wonderful day in London and their residential trip to Hollowford in the Peak District is planned for July. Our Year 4 and 5 Children will be visiting 'African Adventure' which is an outdoor residential programme, (run by Christian Youth Ministries of Ipswich). This unique learning experience immerses children in an imaginary world of adventure, different cultures and important social challenges.

Our Music for a Summer's evening will take place on Wednesday June 28th - we would love you to join us as we celebrate the musical talent of pupils both past and present.

As you can see we continue to offer a wide range of opportunities for all of our children and I have no doubt that the academic year of 2017-18 will be just as varied and exciting as this year has been.

Roisin Wiseman

Headteacher Wilby CEVC Primary School

APPENDIX C Wilby Women's Institute

Since the last report, the WI has gone from strength to strength. We have had lots of new members, of all ages, which is always a bonus. At the moment, there is 26 of us, our numbers seem to grow with each monthly meeting.

A vibrant committee is in place & lots of activities planned ie: book club, theatre trips, walking group & Ladies at Lunch, all up for grabs! Also, a group of us are off to the Suffolk Show. The talks we have already enjoyed include box making, the story of the Bevin Boys, very interesting, & medical detection dogs.

The first of two group meetings where four other WI's joined us was held at Mendham & Metfield Village Hall. The speaker for this was Duncan Slater, the first double amputee to complete the Des Sable marathon across the desert sometimes in 50-degree heat. Duncan has also been on the trip to the South Pole with Prince Harry. Duncan gave a great talk about his desert crossing with nothing left out. He has a wicked sense of humour.

In June we are going to visit Howard's nurseries at Wortham. Other talks to come include Viking Stained Glass and the history of Aspall Cyder. The WI year ends with a meal out to celebrate Christmas.

So, it you or any other women you know think they would like to come along and see if Wilby WI is for them, they would be warmly welcomed.

Nancy Morton Vice President.

APPENDIX D St Mary's Church, Wilby.

The church continues to be a Christian presence in the village and is open every day. There is a service in St Mary's Church every Sunday morning. Two of the services are from the Book of Common Prayer – one Holy Communion and one Morning Prayer. The other two are Village Worship services which are informal and are normally led by our Lay Elder. We would not be able to continue to have this amount of services without our Lay Elder, Sheila Pipe who has been taking at least two services each month. We are grateful to her and our priests David Burrell and Ron Orams. We also would like to thank David Mulrenan, Lay Elder from Brundish who helps once a month. Additionally, we now have a short service of prayer in church every Wednesday morning at 9.15am. Everybody is welcome to any of these services.

We held fund raising events during the year – Lent Lunches and an Autumn Supper. Half of the money raised at the Lent Lunches is donated to the St Elizabeth Hospice. The church has had a presence at various events organised by the Coronation Hall and money raised by the church at these events has been donated to East Anglian Children's Hospice.

We have strong links with the school and they come to the church for their Christmas, Harvest and Easter services. Also, they often visit the church for other activities throughout the year. Some of their work is displayed in the church from time to time.

In May, we relaunched the Drop In. This normally takes place on the third Tuesday of the month from 10 to 11.30am. Coffee and tea is served and delicious cakes. Do come along for these and a chat with other villagers. It is a very friendly and social event.

You will all be aware that there have recently been thefts of lead from churches in our immediate area. So, in January we had a roof alarm installed to hopefully deter the thieves. This was a necessary expense as if we did not install the alarm and were unfortunate to have the lead stolen the insurance company would not pay the full cost. The alarm cost £5508 but we were pleased to receive a grant of half the cost from the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust.

Once again, we have paid our Parish Share of £6980 in full which is a wonderful achievement. This is paid to the Diocese and goes towards the priest's salary and other central church expenses. On top of this we have to pay large amounts of money just to upkeep, insure and run this beautiful building.

Our churchyard as always is well maintained and this is down to the hard work of various people in the village who help with grass cutting, strimming, hedge cutting, tidying and sweeping up the leaves. We are most grateful to them all.

Our parish newsletter is produced by the church and contains much interesting and essential information. We are grateful to the people who produce this each month and to all who help with photocopying them and delivering around the village.

Finally thank you to those in the village who support us in so many different ways. We hope that we will continue to receive this support in the future – the church is here for you and we need your support.

APPENDIX E

Wilby Village Coronation Hall.

Well it truly has been a wild year this year as chairperson of an ever changing Village Hall committee, it has been a tremendous challenge to keep the village hall functioning. At the same time, despite many lows and the sad loss of Tim Askew, there have been many highs and now I believe that the villagers can see how much effort and time we, the committee and associates, put into securing the future of this important village facility. My thanks go out to Ian, Kenny and Sheila Mutimer and Bev and Janet Grantham, without whom we would be lost, for their continued support and efforts. We are delighted to welcome the new support of Charlotte and John Atkinson and Tracie Russell. Many hands make light work!

We have hosted a range of events throughout the year, some new some old. We thank the Parish Council and the WI for continuing to hold their meetings in the hall along with Marian who continues to organise the village lunches with The Ladybirds. Our thanks go to the Church for their continued support and using the hall for the annual church supper. We have reduced the number of dances to one a month which has opened up opportunities for external bookings for private functions which I am pleased to say are on the increase. We have provided a great venue for two weddings, various birthday parties including my own, a Golden wedding anniversary, a coffee

morning, the RBL lunch, the WI darts competition, Forest School and have now added Suffolk County Council to our list of external hirers who have used the hall as a training venue.

Fundraising events such as our quiz night, summer fete, a night at the dogs, a Rumble Jumble and the return of Blackheart proved successful. We were proud to welcome Wild Willy Barrett and the French Connection to play in our hall along with the well-attended musical evening arranged by our primary school head Roisin Wiseman and the Hoxne Choir. We intend to hold similar events over the next 12 months. As always, we rely on the help and support of both the committee and local residents to make these occasions a success. Our monthly pub nights continue to be supported but this is an area where we would love to see more of the local residents frequent. We held our first New Year's Eve party which although was poorly attended, was much enjoyed by those who were there and fun was had on St. Patrick's Night.

Ian continues to focus on advertising the hall more and more, spreading the word, putting up posters and regularly updating the Hallshire website, Facebook and publicising our events on Grapevine, Streetlife, the Wilby website, Stradbroke webmaster plus a load of other magazines and in addition he has also managed to create a new Wilby Village hall website where you can see our new village hall logo, kindly created by Jo and Brian Jaquest. Our most recent purchase of mugs proudly sports our new logo and are available to buy! Ian and I have worked hard on managing the village hall accounts which has been a time-consuming task but I think that Ian has now mastered this new skill and we can rest assured that we are now confident in this area. In terms of energy efficiency, I had a free report done by the council and we are doing everything we can to further reduce the electricity charges. We are now starting to build up some much-needed reserves to face the day to day running costs of the hall and are now in a position to start to build up a contingency fund to help maintain the car park in future years. We are in consultation with the school and are working together to try and ensure the longevity of the car park.

Inside the hall, we have added to our lounge area and thanks to Kenny for giving up his time to repaint Jack's bar. We must thank Station 119, Elliott Norris and particularly Marc Medland for jumping in to rescue us when we were put in a position with having no licence to run the bar with an imminent event planned! We now have a new committee management licence which allows us all to operate the bar as well as any other 'responsible' adults. It was great to see the school use this facility to host their first school social night and with another one planned we hope that this will become a regular event. We also have increased our selection of drinks available at the bar, have purchased a new beer pump to serve Station 119's beer and are always open to suggestions. We look to ensure that the Village Hall keeps up to date and free Wifi is now available at the hall, which we hope will entice future hirers.

I was successful in obtaining a grant from Mid Suffolk County Council to pay for the external decoration which is going to be done in the next few months. We look forward to a fresh new look! Here's to another year, never a dull moment!

APPENDIX F Report from District Councillor Julie Flatman

It's been another interesting and rewarding year with many planning applications coming forward for small and large developments across the three Parishes I represent. Although sometimes controversial the villages do have to grow to be able to sustain and improve services. Mid Suffolk grants team which fall under my remit as Community Capacity Building and Engagement Portfolio holder have been very proactive in securing grants for the district. Stradbroke, Laxfield and Wilby have received help and advice on securing grants and accessing Developer contributions. The Village hall has received £3,428.79 towards External Refurbishment. Gillian Hilder and team are always happy to advise on any community project but none of this would have been possible without the hard work of Village hall committee.

Since last Summer I have been part of a task and finish group that has been looking at our leisure facilities across the two districts. Stradbroke comes under this heading so obviously, I have a vested interest and keen to upgrade and keep this valued service. This is not yet in the public domain. But as and when I can I will keep you updated on progress and decisions.

In my role as Community and Capacity Building Portfolio Holder I have attended the following engagements. Last report included part of June 2016.

Over sixties Lunch to celebrate the Queens 90th Birthday held on 10th June 2016, Laxfield Village Hall.

Chairman's Charity event held on 23rd June 2016 at Weatheringset Midi Railway, in aid of East Anglian Air Ambulance and Home Start.

Chairman's Charity event held on 29th September 2016 at West Suffolk College, Bury St Edmunds, in aid of East Anglian Air Ambulance and Home Start.

Disability focus forum held on the 25th October 2016 at Suffolk One, Scrivener Drive, Ipswich, Suffolk.

Opening of new gym equipment Stowmarket Leisure Centre funded by Mid Suffolk held on 13th January 2017.

Visit to the Mix, Stowmarket 3rd of February 2017.

'The Mix based in Stowmarket are a young people's charity focused on providing support, advice, guidance and activities for any young person in school year 7 to year 12, and for people with additional needs up to the age of 24. The Mix is a newly emerging charity, just over two and half years old, and we are currently supporting the Open Access Evening Offer for 3 nights per week through the Mid Suffolk Revenue Grant Programme. Our support also includes helping the charity with business planning, developing their income generation aspirations and the commercial arm of their work.'

Opening of the new village hall at Metfield held on 11th March 2017.

Chairman's Charity event held on the 24th March 2017 at the Red Feather Club and Museum, Horham in aid of East Anglian Air Ambulance.

Opening of the new village hall at Westhorpe held on 25th March.

Planning meeting for village with Philip Isbell Corporate Manager-Growth & Sustainable Planning held on 30th March 2017 at Laxfield Village hall.

Opening night for Who's Tommy held on April 4^{th,} 2017 at the Wolsey Theatre, Ipswich. A play who's cast all had physical disabilities.

End of Year Report 2016/17 Babergh and Mid Suffolk Working Together

Top 10 Achievements

Recycling **UP**: **20 tonnes** of glass being collected and recycled a month, with **6.5% increase** in our business waste service customer base.

New Council Homes **UP**: we are building **65** new council homes across the districts, with **14** already in the hands of their new occupants.

Funding for Community-led-Housing **UP**: **£430,000** of DCLG grant secured to promote community led housing and kick start the delivery of new affordable homes.

Green Energy income **UP: £460,000** of income generated this year by solar panels installed by our Solar PV project, up by almost **70%** on last year. The project has now reduced CO2 emissions by **3.7 million tonnes** since June 2014.

Opportunities for businesses **UP**: established enterprise parks at Stowmarket and Sproughton which could attract up to **293** new businesses and **2,400** new jobs.

Number of empty homes **DOWN**: we brought **97** empty homes back into use, generating **£130,000** of income to the local economy this year.

Avoidable Evictions **DOWN**: Financial Inclusion Project has taken over **150** referrals, helped tenants claim **£33,106** more in benefits they are entitled to and averted **13** evictions.

We've empowered communities to bring forward neighbourhood plans across the districts with the first 3 now adopted in Lavenham, East Bergholt and Mendlesham and 14 further communities have started the formal process.

Following our Annual Electoral Canvas **97%** of those surveyed feel well informed about electoral matters.

The Councils provided over **£725,000** in grants to community groups, comprising £492,184 in revenue funding and £233,526 capital funding. The capital funding represented 12% of over £2million total project costs.

Councillor Julie Flatman

APPENDIX G

Suffolk County Council

From the residents' viewpoint, the most significant item is the fact that yet again there is no increase in the Council Tax from SCC for 2017-18.

However, there will be an additional precept which will be used exclusively to fund Adult Social Care.

The next significant item is the continued improvement of education provision in this part of Suffolk.

Hartismere HS provides exceptional education and is in my view (and is shared by OFSTED) not only among the best in the county but also the country.

In addition, the results from Stradbroke H S continue to be impressive.

With regard the issue of school funding (now exclusively the responsibility of Central Government) schools have enjoyed 5% year on increases over a number of years but there is a huge difference between many LA areas. Suffolk has been receiving significantly below average support for a number of years and this has made the task of school improvements more difficult I continue to serve as a member of the Diocesan Education Committee and we meet this afternoon.

Stradbroke Library has achieved national recognition for the variety of its services.

SCC Fire & Rescue Service is the most cost effective service in the country, however, I am not happy with the proposals that control should be passed to the Police & Crime Commissioner. Care UK 's splendid new Care Home (Hartismere Place) is now over a year old and I do urge you to pop in for tea. This Care Home is a wonderful facility and it is a credit to the provider and to the vision of Suffolk CC.

Paddock House has now been sold to MSDC and I hope we can see a quality redevelopment on this site.

Particular concern remains highway maintenance and I am disappointed that many potholes are considered too small to need immediate attention but the new County Surveyor has brought about improvements (much needed) to the service.

You may remember the application by Progress Power to build a standby facility in Eye. This company has been bought by Drax Power Ltd and preliminary work is about to start

I have attended many of the Parish Council Meetings and this is an opportunity to express my thanks for the courteous way in which I have been received by parish councillors. They all do a fine job in articulating the requirements of the village.

Along with my responsibilities as a County Councillor for the Division I also have responsibilities for a number of projects:

Sizewell C

Lowestoft Third Crossing and Ipswich Wet Dock Crossing Member of the Broads Authority

Guy McGregor County Councillor, Hoxne & Eye Division

APPENDIX H

Mid Suffolk North Safer Neighbourhood Team

