

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 1 May 2013 at 7.00pm in the Coronation Hall, Wilby**

**Councillors (Cllrs) present:** I Williamson (Chair), D Holliday, S Lee, P Dupuy, M Ward and M Stanford

**In attendance:** County Cllr. G McGregor, District Cllr. S Gemmill, four members of the public and A Pullen (Clerk to the council)

1. Introduction and welcome by Chair of the Parish Council - The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting
2. To approve the minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on 4 April 2012 - The minutes of the meeting, having previously been published on the parish notice board were approved, proposed and seconded by Cllrs. Ward and Dupuy respectively and signed by the Chair
3. To discuss any matters arising from the minutes - None
4. To receive a report from Suffolk County Councillor, Guy McGregor - Cllr. McGregor presented a report to those present. A report is attached. Please see Appendix A
5. To receive a report from Mid Suffolk District Councillor, Stuart Gemmill - Cllr. Gemmill presented a report to those present. A report is attached. Please see Appendix B
6. To receive a report from Suffolk Constabulary – A written report was read by the Chair and is available in these minutes at Appendix C
7. To receive an annual report from the Chairman of the Parish Council - The Chair presented a report to those present. A report is attached. Please see Appendix D
- 7.1. To receive reports from Wilby CEVC Primary School, St Mary's Church, the Coronation Hall and the Women's Institute (WI) – Several reports were received and are included in these minutes as follows:
  - 7.2. Wilby Primary School – No report was received or presented from the school
  - 7.3. St Mary's Church (Appendix E)
  - 7.4. Coronation Hall (Appendix F)
  - 7.5. WI (Appendix G)
  - 7.6. Caterpillar Dance Club (Appendix H)
8. Parishioner's forum – Nothing to report
9. Meeting close – The meeting closed at 7.40pm

Appendix A

**Wilby Annual Meeting 1 May 2013**

This is the last meeting of the current 4 year term at SCC.

The main battle at EH is to avoid increasing the Council Tax with ever reducing support from Central Government.

It is not easy but as a member of the Cabinet we are giving a commitment that the SCC share of our Council Tax will not increase (nor will Member's Allowances). We continue to bare down on costs but I know that delivery response is creaking.

Paddock House will remain until Care UK build a better facility at Eye (a commitment I secured) but I must say I am concerned about the lack of services in the newly refurbished Hartismere Hospital. Including the virtual closure of Maternity.

Ambulance response times still cause concern especially because of the extra costs inflicted on our Fire & rescue and the Police.

For me the biggest challenge is the threat in the Waveney Valley from new giant HV Pylons. I have lead the debate at the House of Commons and I am doing my best to ensure that the two local MPS (Poulter and Bacon) are aware of the threat

I am pleased that my Locality Fund has been used to support improvements to this Wonderful Hall.

Locality Fubding has also been used to support the changes to the Stradbroke Library including the ownership change of the Court House to the Parish Council

In conclusion these are difficult times but your SCC is uo to the task,

I would like to thank members of Wilby PC for the couteous way I have been received at their Parish Council Meetings.

Guy McGregor

**Report from the District Council**

Looking back at the report that I presented last year, I was very tempted to simply print it out again as not too much has changed since then.

The main theme is still Integration and Transformation, although it has moved on a bit. The Tier 4 staff positions which are for Service Managers, have now been completed, and I am pleased that generally the best people have now been appointed to the Corporate Manager posts with responsibility for both Councils. The only problem that I sometimes encounter is that you never know whether they are in Needham or Hadleigh when you try to get hold of them.

During the year we have conducted a Community Engagement exercise to ask the community what changes they would like to see in the way that we run our services. Those of us members in the north eastern part of Mid Suffolk arranged an afternoon and an evening event at Wingfield Barns to have discussion. Sadly, I don't think the event was very well advertised and the turnout was rather poor, particularly from my Ward.

We appointed an expert externally to conduct a Governance Review. This consists of making changes to our committee structure to a level that is largely consistent with Babergh. There will also be a number of joint committees. Hopefully, this will lead to a more efficient way of conducting our business with a reduced level of staff.

In terms of my own position on the Council, we had our annual meeting last week and, in view of the fact that I don't intend to seek re-election in 2 years time, I am being gently put out to grass. I have given up my position as Chairman of Planning A and have settled back to the role of Vice Chairman. Within the Governance Review we have created some new committees, and I have a position on the new Joint Audit and Standards Committee.

In last year's report I mentioned the future plans for an Energy from Waste Facility at Great Blakenham, and for a potential £100m straw fired power station at Mendlesham. Following planning approval, the Incinerator is now under construction, you may have seen the new chimney not far from the original one at the cement works. A decision on the Biomass power station had to be deferred for legal reasons, but I expect it to return to Committee shortly.

As always I am very happy to try and answer any questions you may have, but please remember I am only a phone call or email away if anybody needs any help. Thank you very much.



**SUFFOLK  
CONSTABULARY**  
*Taking pride in keeping Suffolk safe*



The Parish of Wilby has had 6 reported crimes for the year running from April to May. Those crimes were –

- 1 x Common Assault
- 1 x Burglary to an Outbuilding
- 1 x Theft of ladders
- 1 x Harassment Offence
- 1 x Theft from the Church
- 1 x Theft of Heating Oil

In relation to a spate of burglaries throughout the year along the North Suffolk/South Norfolk border, which included targeting the Hoxne and Stradbroke ward, a male was charged with this series, and is currently serving three years in prison.

In other news, a recent survey revealed that 92% of people living in Suffolk feel safe and nearly 68% agree that Suffolk Constabulary does a good job. These levels are amongst the highest in the country. Between 1st April 2012 and 17th March 2013, there were 5039 fewer crimes recorded than the same period in 2011/12. This is the lowest level for a decade. There were 7830 fewer incidents of anti-social behaviour (ASB) and domestic burglary was reduced by 4%.

Changes to Suffolk Constabulary over the past year include the introduction of the first ever Police and Crime Commissioner. Tim Passmore took up the new role on November 15<sup>th</sup> and he replaced the Police Authority which formerly oversaw the counties policing. Chief Constable Simon Ash also retired and was replaced by Douglas Paxton in January. On a closer level, the Mid Suffolk North police team has recently seen an Officer leave to become a Constable in Stowmarket, with another officer due to follow in June.

Eye Police Station moved to its new base in December, joining onto the hospital site on Castleton Way in Eye. As of yet, the old police station on Victoria Hill is still to be sold as the Constabulary continues to deal with budget restrictions and increases its collaboration with Norfolk police. We are now faced with the challenge of a further £10.6m needing to be saved by the end of 2016/17.

And finally to end on good news, Suffolk residents will be pleased to hear that Police Crime Commissioner Tim Passmore has decided not to raise the policing element of your new council tax bill for the coming year.



Regards PCSO 3172 Steven Long & PC 878 Jacqui Thomas



**WILBY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING - 1 MAY 2013**

**Report from Chairman Wilby Parish Council**

This year the Parish Council has met each month until January when we switched to a two monthly meeting schedule. We continue to meet in between our scheduled meetings if, as was the case in March, there are important planning applications to consider. The formal record of our meetings is placed on the Village web site – I am grateful for the work which David Holliday and Penny Dupuy have undertaken to improve the web site and to place our business on it – and on the Parish noticeboard. We also include a less formal but usually more expansive report on our proceedings in the monthly Parish newsletter.

Last year our budget was set assuming an income of £3059 and planned expenditure of £2883. In practice and the figures are still to be audited, our income was £3065 of which £2993 came from council tax and our expenditure was £2605. We continue to maintain reserves to cover election expenses, potential legal costs associated with Wilby Green and unforeseen general expenditure including neighbourhood planning. These currently amount to some £4200. Details of the Council's annual accounts will be published on the web site and on the Parish noticeboard when they have been audited.

Perhaps the most challenging issue facing the Council in the last 12 months has been the proposed development of the Church Close site for affordable housing. Council is aware of the District Council's wish to provide more affordable housing for which there is clearly a need, if not from a large number of people with Wilby connections. Equally Council was aware that the proposal submitted by Orwell Housing Association for ten new houses was not supported by those most affected by the development. Council was of the view that the proposed development had a number of technical failings in design and layout and was too many houses for a small village such as Wilby. The planning application was therefore not supported and in due course the District Council did not approve the scheme. The Parish Council is not opposed in principle to the development of the Church Close site but wishes to see a development that is appropriate for Wilby, that is of a suitable standard and which is likely to command the support of the community. The Council has declared its willingness to work with the District Council and potential developers towards this end.

Council remains interested in developing a Neighbourhood Plan albeit that it looks as if there will be little or no help in meeting what are likely to be the substantial costs involved. We may therefore consider an alternative such as a Parish Plan to gauge how the community wishes to see Wilby develop and to use as a benchmark when considering planning applications with a view to preventing undesirable development.

We look forward to the planned celebrations of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of The Queen's Coronation and the building of this hall next month. In the light of our experience in celebrating the Jubilee last year, I am sure that these will be popular and very successful events.

## *Wilby Parish Council*

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow Parish Councillors for their commitment, their contributions to our meetings and for their support over the last year. Special mention must be made also of the excellent service we receive from our Parish Clerk, Alex Pullen, who prepares our minutes and agendas, looks after our finances as well as ensuring that we are working within the law. My thanks go also to our Footpath Wardens, Fred and Penny Dupuy and to Fred for his services as our Tree Warden and effectively Emergency Planning Officer. My thanks also go to our District and County Councillors and to the Police for their attendance at our meetings, keeping us up to date in their areas of interest. Finally I would like to thank those members of the public who have attended our meetings and so importantly contributed to our consideration of local issues.

That concludes my report. I will be happy to take any questions.

DRAFT

**WILBY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 1 MAY 2013**

**Report from St Mary's Church (Ian Williamson)**

This report is presented on behalf of the PCC of St Mary's Wilby.

As usual the Church has continued to run a full range of services and we are indebted to our clergy and to, Jackie Bakewell and Sheila Pipe, our lay elders who take services when the clergy are not available. Also to Enid Munro who has officiated at the Village Worship services, which have proved so popular.

It is with great sadness that we witnessed the passing of Peter Moss our former lay elder. In addition to leading services he was a crucial support in maintaining the churchyard as well as being a major contributor in so many ways to the parish of Wilby.

This year we have seen the welcome completion of the works to the church tower. The costs were substantial at £46,000 but this sum was raised through support from various charities, including The Suffolk Historic Churches Fund, and the unbridled generosity of our own community. Two new flags now fly from the church on appropriate occasions, their slightly smaller size, which some have queried, being to ensure that undue stress is not placed on the parapet.

This year has also seen the inauguration of the new benefice, which now comprises Laxfield, Cratfield, Brundish, Wilby, Tannington, Worlingworth with Southolt, Monk Soham and Bedfield. Ensuring an appropriate range of services, conducting baptisms, weddings and funerals and providing pastoral care across this widely dispersed group of parishes is a real challenge for our Vicar, Canon Fiona Newton and her able assistants, Canon Graham Noble and the Reverend Ron Orams.

We are delighted that Rob Barber has agreed to serve as a Churchwarden, taking up his post formally later this month. He will be a most welcome addition and support as Mary Pipe has been shouldering the duties of both churchwardens for over a year.

Our Vicar, Fiona Newton will be retiring on 31 July having served us in Wilby since 2003. We wish her and her husband Ian a very happy and fulfilling retirement and thank her for her enormous contribution to St Mary's, Wilby Primary School and to the community of Wilby.

The Parochial Church Council is grateful to all those who support the Church and its activities, ensuring that it remains a key part of our small community.

## *Wilby Parish Council*

### Appendix F

#### **Parish A.G.M.** 1<sup>st</sup> APRIL 2013

#### CORONATION VILLAGE HALL—WILBY

Since the last Parish Council A.G.M. the Hall Committee and other people have achieved so much for the hall during the year. After a village survey to report the need for work on the hall many people kindly and successfully filled in forms for grants. Other people have worked hard to maintain the hall and its surroundings to a high standard. Thank you all.

A film unit, complete with a P.A. system was installed. Training for the use of this will take place 8<sup>th</sup> May 2013 at 4p.m. Mr Williamson and some of the Committee completed the form for "The BIG Lottery Fund". It paid for this film unit and some china.

A Locality Grant to help regenerate the toilets has been received and work will start on the domestic end of the hall as soon as money is received from the Corporate Regeneration Fund and Section 106. Members of the Committee are extremely grateful for all this help which has to be match funded by the hall.

New lights, a cigarette end bin and letter box have been fitted.

Different types of dance other than Ballroom, Latin and Sequence have been organised. It was interesting to see different people attending.

The village celebrated the Diamond Jubilee in the hall. It was very successful.

The church and the school have held functions in the hall and they too will benefit by having the new P.A. system installed.

Social lunches have proved a success.

Plans for the car park and garden area, solar panels and a conservatory will be considered later. The conservatory will allow 2 functions in the hall to take place at the same and it will be useful for small meetings cutting the heating bills.

Mrs B. Barker was an excellent treasurer but retired due to family commitments. Thank you Barbara. Mrs Cropley is the new treasurer and she and her husband are both on the Committee.

Peter Moss became a member of the Hall Committee and he used to unlock and lock the hall doors. His sudden death shocked all Wilby village where he was affectionately respected.

Thank you to Mrs Rayner Green and Mr Mutimer who are the key holders living nearest to the premises now.

New Tai Chi classes are popular. "The Eastern Angles" might visit us 2014. A youth club is expected for Autumn Term.

The next big excitement will be the Coronation Celebrations from 1<sup>st</sup> June until 8<sup>th</sup> June 2013 when we think about the Queen's Coronation 60 years ago and when the Coronation Village Hall plans materialised.



DRAFT

Appendix H

**Parish Council report from the**

**Caterpillar Dance Club**

**24th April 2013**

The caterpillar dance club was formed in October 2006 to share the enjoyment of dancing without the formality and expense of dance lessons.

We meet on Monday evenings to practise with each other; “sequence” dances, which are ballroom dance steps and moves that are choreographed and internationally recognised so that every pair of dancers on the floor are dancing in a synchronised manner to music that complements the moves. There are nearly 4,000 sequence dances, some of these are over a hundred years old, like the “Veleta” with others a matter of just a few days old, e.g. The “Rose Gold Rumba” that came out at the end of March this year, which we practised last Monday. We hope to be soon using the new Audio and Visual equipment to enhance our learning, (we have to pass our operating test first) during installation it seemed very promising, with quite clear videos of the dances shown on the 4 x 3m screen.

Learning the dance steps and moves in the ‘sequence dances’ allows the dancers to use these in ordinary Ballroom and Latin dances but in a random order to suit each couple.

Dancing and learning new dances is a fun way of keeping both mind and body fit and healthy with an opportunity to meet and make new friends. The ‘caterpillar dance club’ aims to prepare budding dancers for social dance events like Wilby’s Saturday dances, giving them confidence to get onto the dance floor. Some have progressed to medal and competition dancing.

The club meets Monday evenings following the ‘Zumba’ at 8.15pm for a two-hour session revising several old dances and being introduced to perhaps one new dance. It is a very informal and hopefully fun evening. It can be exhausting and mind blowing but how else can the mind learn and the body get fit?

We hope you will join us.

Gwen Warne  
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