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|  | Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday, 3rd May 2017 at Horningsea Village Hall |  |
| Present | Margaret Starkie, Michael Gingell, Jessica Kitt, Rob Balm, Andy Neely, Tess Pleasants |  |
| Apologies | Hayley Livermore- Clerk, Andy Greed |  |
| Minutes | The minutes of the meeting on April 27th 2016 were agreed and signed |  |
| Parish Council Report | MS welcomed everyone, asked the councillors to introduce themselves and presented the report of the Parish Council’s activities for 2016-2017  We said goodbye and thank you to Richard McMahon in May last year as he took up his chair at Warwick University. Richard had been a long serving and experienced member of the council and we knew we would miss him. However, the Council has been at full strength throughout the year and members have been busy. We are fortunate to have such a good mix of skills and ages so that the village is well represented and so that we can call on expertise in making decisions. Although we are scheduled to hold meetings bi-monthly, extraordinary meetings have been necessary for such items as planning applications with time constraints, so we have had a total of twelve meetings plus the extra meeting for discussion with Urban & Civic on the Waterbeach new town. We have had two litter picking sessions organised by Tessa; the latter included a lot of work on the cemetery and we are grateful to volunteers involved in that. The Jubilee Gardens wall was at last completed, just a year after the accident demolishing it, but unfortunately we suffered another accident at the southern gate and our PCSO is still trying to identify the culprit. Our relationship with Horningsea Residents’ Association, achieved by Richard and John, continues well with useful input to some of our meetings by Richard and other HRA officers. We appreciate the continued involvement of the HRA in all things Horningsea and give financial support to some of its activities. The council is responsible for administering the Precept, paid out of your council taxes, so we are very aware of the need to keep costs to a minimum. You will hear in more detail on this from Hayley as responsible financial officer, but we had to increase the Precept slightly this year. One of the reasons has been grass cutting, which became problematic when contracted to Groomfields, but which continues well with CGM, a company many councils use. The warm, and sometimes wet, weather last year meant additional cuts and we had to consider that it would be necessary again this year, so budgeted for this in the January precept request. Although many of our meetings include considerations of planning applications within the village, the one taking up much of our time currently is the Waterbeach Outline Planning Application. I’m very grateful to the residents who have attended meetings with Urban & Civic and with the District and County officers and for their comments. The council is very aware of the need for housing around Cambridge, especially affordable and social housing for our key workers, but feel that the application is premature considering that the A10 Corridor Strategy has not reported, that the Local Plan is still under examination, that cycle routes and public transport are inadequate and the legal framework for the integration of the two developments is not apparent. Residents are concerned about an increase in traffic on the B1047 and the effect on Horningsea conservation area. These concerns are reflected in the council’s response to the application, copies of which are available online and here today in hard copy. The development is going to happen, albeit over a twenty year period, but the council is working with the councils of Fen Ditton, Waterbeach and Milton to mitigate its negative effects. We also recognise the positive side with a new secondary school, retail outlets, employment opportunities and leisure facilities. Some of you may have attended the exhibition by RLW Estates on 22nd April. Their aim is for additional four and a half thousand dwellings making a total of 11K dwellings in the new town. I epressed our concern over the increase in traffic but I was told that they are working towards better public transport, A10 improvements and cycle routes; the latter being dependent on the outcome of the Greenways proposal. They will attend a meeting here and answer residents’ questions.  The speed of traffic within the village continues to be a concern but we must congratulate Jessica and Hayley on a successful Local Highways Improvement bid to install a mobile Vehicle Activated System. This will be partially funded by income from the sale of Lugg’s Lane and partially by the LHI grant from CCC.  The Council wants to express its appreciation of the support of our District Councillor Robert Turner; he attends nearly all our meetings and gives sound advice. With the new county council division changes, we shall be in Waterbeach Division, we will have a new County Councillor – and you are reminded to vote on May 6th; that includes the new Mayoral position. We are going to hear reports from the various groups in Horningsea shortly and we recognise the work which they all do to make Horningsea the pleasant and active place it is. However, there are a lot of unsung heroes who quietly do their bit; this may be picking up litter throughout the year, distributing New Life magazine, contributing to Horningsea Herald, checking on neighbours, clearing vegetation from the cycle path or reporting potholes. It was suggested to the council that we might celebrate our own village hero each year and we are pleased to make the award this time to Mary Fishpool and thank her for everything she does for the village. |  |
| Financial Report | This report is for the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017; all figures are rounded for your information  Total Balance at the start of the financial year was 24443.  The total of current and savings A/Cs at the end of the financial year 31st March 2017 was £22480.  The precept of 14025 was paid in two halves in April and September. Other income of 2500 came from a VAT refund, legal fees refund and a grant from the community chest at SCDC which was passed on to HVHT. Expenditure was £19256 mainly for clerks wages, grounds and general maintenance, insurance and Grants to the HRA and HVHT. In January the budget was advertised, presented to the council and discussed. The precept for 2017-18 was increased by 3.5% to 1452. Dr Michael Williamson will conduct the Internal Audit shortly. The Annual Return will be approved at the next Parish Council meeting on 31st May and submitted, with Dr. Williamson’s report, to the External Auditors by the end of June. Their report will be posted on the notice board. |  |
| County Councilors Reports | County Councillor did not attend and no report sent |  |
| District Councilors Report | Cllr Turner attended and read his report, the main points being the local plan, Waterbeach new town, Boundary Commision, Devolution and planning performance | Notes on file |
| Fen Ditton Primary School | No representative present and no report sent |  |
| Police Liaison report | Horningsea is part of the Sawston Neighbourhood Police Panel which meets three times yearly at Sawston, Linton or Fulbourn. The meetings are streamed on Twitter. Anyone can attend the meetings; I attend as part of my responsibilities for Parish Council liaison with the police. The meetings give updates on crime figures, anti-social behaviour and traffic issues. There is an opportunity to raise any issues specific to villages. Our PCSO Julie Hajredini no longer attends PC meetings or APMs because PCSOs are involved in normal policing duties which currently prioritise internet crime, slave trafficing and anti-terrorist prevention. However, alerts on crimes are sent out as they happen to anyone signed up to the e-mail system.  Margaret Starkie | Notes on file |
| Statutory Groups Reports | Quy Fen Trust:  Maintenance of the fen continued with weed wiping, topping, replacement of posts and re-wiring of fences where necessary. There were delays in carrying out some planned glade way clearance and maintenance, pollarding of willows and the planting of a willow grove, plus the planting of another three trees, but these have all been reorganised for this year. The fen grazier gave notice that he would be retiring in April 2017. The Trust undertook a tendering process and secured a new tenant, who will also take on the duties of fen warden, from April 2017.  On 25th April this year a party of students and teachers from Bottisham Village Collage visited the Fen for education purposes. As in previous years the trustees agreed to put £200 into each village account. Horningsea’s account balance stands at £1,336 after HRA purchased another tree to commemorate the Great War.  A re-enactment of the Coprolite workers march of 150 years ago to protest working conditions takes place this month. On Sunday 21st May everyone is invited to set-off from the Jubilee Gardens at 11.30am and walk to Quy Fen. You can bring a picnic but please remember – nudism can cause offence!  Horningsea Parish charities:  There should be four Trustees : The Vicar of Horningsea (currently vacant), one member of the PC currently Michael Gingell, and two nominated by the PC, John Wilson and myself, Lindsay Davies. Once our new priest, Reverend Alun Ford is licensed this month he will become an automatic trustee. The Parish Council appointed Michael Gingell to replace Richard McMahon.  Natwest bank have caused problems problems by refusing to accept that the Trustees are not “Reverend Graham Sanderson, Laurie Marsh and Dinah Asplin”. A formal complaint has been made to the Bank but apart from an offer of compensation (which never materialised) it has failed to produce any sensible response.  A major change in the finances of the Trust was the donation by Peter Davison and Sabrina Sahini of their shares in the Horningsea Community Interest Company. | Notes on file  Notes on file |
| Horningsea Village Hall and Millennium Green Trust and footpaths report. | Recent Achievements - Successful installation of Broadband /WiFi to attract corporate bookings. Major overhaul of our orchard , Replacement of rotten boundary fence timbers and rails, Complete indoor & outdoor re-decoration - only a month ago, Roof repairs & importantly the successful commissioning our own purging system - to overcome drain blockage. for youth/more active residents is due to be sited shortly . Work in Progress comprises siting new outdoor table tennis table for both youth and active adult use, audio/visual sound system installation, baby changing facility, purchase of a new refrigerator, acquisition of a new flagpole and replacement of our village beacon.  Finance – Latest 2016/17 Healthy accounts were adopted at our 12 April AGM, with Hall bookings and income again increased.  Future Plans comprise: Considering a CCTV system to protect our facilities and recruiting 2 new, younger trustees. Hallmark Award renewal by Cambridgeshire ACRE, to maintain high standard management. | Notes on file |
| Parish Plan | The consultation process instigated by the steering group in which all households in the parish were canvassed on their views, was completed some time ago and the results distilled into a report which was presented to the Parish Council for discussion and adoption. Many of the responses were related to traffic management. In the light of recent proposals to develop a new town in Waterbeach, the complexion of these issues may again have changed. |  |
| Horningsea Planning | Horningsea Planning is the name of a group set up within the village as a result of the Outline Planning Application by Urban and Civic Ltd to develop a new town on the old Waterbeach barracks site. All villagers were invited to join or contribute to the group, but a committee of about twelve has been formed. The aim is to provide a studied and reasoned response to the application with a view to achieving the best outcome for Horningsea. Unsurprisingly, the main thrust of concerns are to do with traffic generation. The application has been studied and a full response submitted to the planning department of SCDC, which is now in the public domain. Our aim is to continue a dialogue with SCDC to lobby for appropriate mitigation measures for the benefit of the village. |  |
| Horningsea Residents Association | The HRA enjoyed a very successful year in 2016. All of our favourite events took place, notably the Seniors Lunch, the Bingo and Fish and Chip night, the Village Day which included the Queen’s birthday celebrations, the Boat Trip, the Apple Pressing Day, the International Night, Firework night and the Christmas Tree Lighting. All events were heavily attended and enjoyed by all. This year’s calendar will feature all of the usual events and we intend to repeat the inclusion of a ceilidh on Village Day which was a major - if exhausting - success. Also planned for later this month on the 21st is a Coprolite Walk to Quy Fen which has been organised by Lindsay Davies and Frank Hopkirk, and will celebrate the history of coprolite production in the village with a walk to - and a picnic on - the beautiful fen.  The HRA has continued it’s management of the Playground area, and has responded to comments in last years RoSPA report by carrying out remedial work to the equipment. Work continues on raising match funding to enable bids to funding bodies to completely renew the playground.  We have welcomed several new members to our committee this year and look forward to further involvement, particularly from those new to the village. | Notes on file |
| St Peters Church | St Peter’s, along with Teversham and Fen Ditton, has been in vacancy throughout the year. In March we were delighted to announce that Revd Alun Ford had accepted the post of half time priest in charge (which means three days a week plus Sundays) for the three parishes and would be licensed in St Peter’s on 18th May. | Notes on file |
| Horningsea Allotment Association | No report as the allotment association has disbanded |  |
| Horticultural Show | The show remains a popular event in the Horningsea calendar. This year’s show is Saturday 8th July. | Notes on file |
| Cluzion Music, Music Nights and Green Stage | No representative present and no report sent |  |
| Village Website | The Horningsea Herald recently had its hundredth issue. Well done to Sabina for setting this up.  Many people regularly send items for inclusion. Special thanks to Lindsay, Margaret, Hayley, Bert, Frank and many others for reliably sending in items before the deadline!  I've been consistently late in sending out the Herald before the end of the month and so I changed the release schedule to be before the first weekend of a month! The deadline for submission is still the 25th, but of course I’ll always try and be as flexible as possible.  Feedback is always light, but I hope that it's a useful resource for the village. There's also now an online calendar that anybody can subscribe to for village events. The link to subscribe is in each issue. So far quite a few different village groups have started entering their own events. Other groups are welcome.  There's still a few people who wants a printed version they don't have access to computers. Vee still distributes these.  I’d still like to move the Herald away from a PDF magazine style format, and towards an online format, with the compromise that PDF is ideal for less IT literate people. The PDF format is limiting via email and especially as the page count has gone from a maximum of five to approaching ten on some occasions. | Notes on file |
| Horningsea Adults and Toddlers | The Horningsea Adult and Toddlers group has been running most weeks throughout the year, continuing to provide a friendly place for parents, carers and their children to go to.  With older children leaving and a new set of attendees who have moved into the village it is a relatively small group of around 4 families who attend regularly. With at least 3 new babies since April 2016 in the village it is hoped that the group will continue as parents, caregivers and children find it a valuable/benefiting group to be part of. However, the future of the group will need to be reviewed as the current small member attendance will be changing come September and needs new members in order to financially continue!  The running of the group has changed hands from the lovely Jessica Kitt who has done a fantastic job of running the group for quite some time - many thanks from the group to her. On the behalf of the group many thanks to the visitors and those that have helped throughout the year. |  |
| Bridge Club | No representative present and no report sent |  |
| Art Group | No representative present and no report sent |  |
| Book Group | The book group was set up several years ago. We meet in the Crown and Punchbowl on the 4th Tuesday of every month apart from December and August and discuss the book we have read. We have 6 members. We are a friendly group and would be delighted to welcome more members. | Notes on file |
| Silver Circle | Silver Circle is for those residents of Horningsea 60 years of age or over. We meet in the Plough and Fleece every Wednesday from 11am with no subscription.  There is no particular Agenda leaving those present to discuss any topic. Men occupy one table and ladies a separate table!  Currently there are approximately twelve regulars with ladies outnumbering the men by at least two to one.  Any resident 60 and over is welcome to come along on a regular or irregular basis. The tenants of the Plough and Fleece make us most welcome with liquid refreshments available to purchase if required. |  |
| Cycling club | The Village Cycle Ride Group has organised 6 rides in the last year. We provide rides of differing complexity, distance with a variety of terrain so that there is something for everyone from the occasional, to the sports cyclist, in our group of riders. Each of our rides is researched by Frank Hopkirk and Bert Santilly first, and a complete risk assessment is made of the route before the group rides it. Riders are provided with a detailed summary of each route, with directions and any necessary alerts. We ride as a group and stop at regular intervals so that the group can stay together. We welcome everyone, from children with their parents, to individuals who might like to ride in company with others and family and friendship groups. Our start and finish point is the Crown and Punchbowl who have been very supportive of our activities. | Notes on file |
| Speedwatch | Horningsea SpeedWatch has eight volunteers at present.  We would like more.The objective of SpeedWatch is to educate drivers to stay within the speed limit as they drive through the village. We use equipment which displays the speed of an approaching vehicle so that the driver can see the speed. The volunteers stand near the equipment, and wear high-visibilty jackets. Any vehicle which exceeds 35mph within the 30mph area is noted, and details are sent to the Police. The police then write to the owner of the vehicle. Between May and September last year we conducted 17 one-hour sessions in Horningsea, monitoring the speeds of vehicles entering and leaving the village.  A few as 1% and as many as 11% of vehicles were travelling faster than 35mph. At rush hours, morning and evening, traﬃc in long queues travels at the pace of the slowest vehicle. Individual vehicles tend to be faster.  The highest speed recorded was 53 mph at 07:59 on 25 August. When sessions were held on consecutive days there was a noticeable reduction in numbers travelling over speed limit, indicating an educative eﬀect. In October last year the equipment was taken away for checking and recalibration. It has now been returned, and we expect to start Speed Watch sessions again in the next week or two |  |
| Items for future consideration | Invite a report from Horningsea CIC next year  Try to set up Neighbourhood Watch for High Street following spate of shed burglaries. The Allotment Association has been disbanded-remove from agenda for next year. |  |
|  | Date of next Annual Parish Meeting: Wednesday April 25th 2018 |  |