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|  | Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday, 25th April 18 at Horningsea Village Hall |  |
| Present | Margaret Starkie, Michael Gingell, Jessica Kitt, Rob Balm, Tess Pleasants |  |
| Apologies | Andy Greed |  |
| Minutes | The minutes of the meeting on 3rd May 18 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 2017-2018. It has been a busy and interesting year. The Council has been at full strength and six councillors have now been returned unapposed. We say goodbye and thank you to Prof Andy Neeley as his new role at the university means he cannot attend meeting. We would like to encourage another resident to join the council as a co-opted member to bring us up to strength. We hold meetings bi-monthly but sometimes need extraordinary meetings for such items as planning applications with time constraints, so we have had a total of ten meetings plus the extra meeting for discussion with RLW on the Waterbeach new town. We have had a litter picking and cemetery tidy up session organised by Tessa; but unfortunately volunteer numbers were very low. 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 this year to cope with increased grass cutting, hedge trimming and maintenance. Waterbeach New Town is still very high on our priorities and I have attended joint parishes meetings. These have now morphed into Community Fora with the opportunity for all residents of nearby villages to attend. The Local Plan has completed examination but we are awaiting the inspector’s comments and this will have impact on the Supplementary Planning Document. This is organised by SCDC and will direct the total number of dwellings and the infrastructure such as access roads, schools and community facilities.  The exhibition on Greenways proposals was very well attended with residents giving some very constructive ideas to improve cycling between Waterbeach, Horningsea and Fen Ditton. Our mobile Vehicle Activated System has now been installed thanks to Hayley and Jessica and we are seeing a reduction in traffic speed. Jessica will be able to download some data to find the critical times for speeding and we can then contact the police. You are reminded to vote on May 3rd in the SCDC election. We are grateful to Cllr. Robert Turner of SCDC and Cllr. Anna Bradnam of Cambs. County Council for their contined support; they attend PC meetings and often take on issues raised by residents. Our village sign has now been restored to its former glory thanks to John Harrison who has also worked on the roof of the bus shelter opposite Biggin Lane. It was disappointing to see grafitti in the central ‘bus shelter and on walls. Thank you to Tessa, Charlotte and Andy Greed for their work on cleaning it. Hayley has negotiated a special rate for a defibrilator; this is completely automatic and instructions are given at the time of use but the British Heart Foundation recommends that a group of volunteers should be trained in CPR. We will arrange this training; please give us your details if you are interested. |  |
| Financial Report | This report covers the period 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018. Total Balance at the start of the financial year was 21335 and at the end of the financial year 31st March 2018 was 21077. The precept of 14525 was paid in two halves in April and September. Other income came largely from a VAT refund, burial fees and a donation from Scotsdales towards a defibrillator for the village. Expenditure was 16530 mainly for clerks wages, grounds and general maintenance, insurance, grant to HRA and refurbishment of the village sign. In January the budget was advertised, presented to the council and discussed. The precept for 2018-19 was increased to £16705 to cover increased grass cutting and maintenance in the village including the high cost of replacing cats eyes no longer working on the cycle path.  Dr Michael Williamson will conduct the Internal Audit shortly. The Annual Return will be approved at the next Parish Council meeting on 23rd May. As we have an income of less than £25,000 per year we no longer have to submit the annual return to external auditors. All documents will be on the website in June. |  |
| County Councilors Reports | Cllr Anna Bradnam attended and read her report | Notes on file |
| District Councilors Report | Report read from District Councillor Rob Turner | Notes on file |
| Fen Ditton Primary School | Last years year 2 and 6 results were above the national average, however this year there are more children with additional needs in those year groups. The school has been focusing on creativity and is also finding that a number of children are starting school without life experiences such as having visited a farm or beach and the school is addressing how they can help with this. The school converted into an academy on March 1st and now works closely with Bottisham and Stapleford primary schools. Pupil premium is not affected by this change. |  |
| Police Liaison report | PCSOs no longer attend PC meetings or hold regular local surgeries but can be contacted through the Cambs Police website. Horningsea is part of the Sawston Neighbourhood Police Panel which meets three times yearly at Sawston, Linton or Fulbourn. 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 but the police have very little resource for parking issues unless there is a safety concern because of obstruction. If you are concerned about parking please report it on the website as the police will respond if enough people contact them. The police continue to prioritise internet crime, slave trafficing and anti-terrorist prevention. A recent restructuring has included a recruitment programme for fifty new officers in Cambridgeshire. PCSO numbers will reduce through natural wastage. |  |
| Statutory Groups Reports | Quy Fen Trust:  With the previous grazier retiring last year, the lease was transferred to a new grazier, who also took on the role of Fen Warden. Projects held over from the previous year due to bad weather were completed, including the creation of two new glade ways to the north and south of the Cut, and the pollarding of two Willow trees. The Freshwater Habitats Trust carried out a survey of the ponds and wet areas and produced a plant/invertebrate survey of the fen, and also arranged for a plant walk-about in August led by a botanist. Their report can be found on our new website quyfen.uk. Funding from Natural England is changing yet again, with a predicted 2-year gap in subsidies until the new scheme is in place. Fortunately the Trust has sufficient reserves to cope, and it was agreed to pay £250 into each of the village funds. Currently the Horningsea fund stands at just over £1,500 after paying for another tree as part of the HRA’s WW1 project.  Horningsea Parish charities:  The Trustees of the Horningsea Parish Charities are John Wilson, Michael Gingell, Lindsay Davies and Rev’d Alun Ford as Vicar of Horningsea. One Trustee is a Parish Councillor and one is nominated by the PC. The Trustees met on 1 December 2017 to consider the accounts for the Parish Charities for the year and to consider whether or not to make distributions to those in the Parish who may considered as being “in need”. Over the years the income has been used to provide coal, vouchers for the village shop and more recently cash. The accounts for the last year show an income of £690 from all sources, including a donation from the HRA. The Trustees distributed grants totalling £260. The assets of the Trust amounted to £600 in cash and £11000 in investments. The Trustees are required to lodge a copy of the accounts with the Parish Council.  Bottisham United charities: Horningsea receives £72 a year from Bottisham United charities who meet once a year. | Notes on file  Notes on file |
| Horningsea Village Hall and Millennium Green Trust and footpaths report. | 10 trustees at present comprising reps from our HRA, Horticulture, Church, Toddlers ,Village Newcomers and now ‘Senior Citizens’ – voices of main village users & groups .We recently welcomed Harry, Jayne and Sarah to help us better maintain all our valuable Trust assets. More Recent Achievements-installation of our new beacon. Purchased and almost installed new sound and vision equipment to attract corporate bookings. New refrigerator, major overhaul of our orchard, maintenance of pavilion roof, boundary fence timbers and rails, Installation of baby changing facility and very important use of our own purging system - to avoid potential drain blockages. Work in Progress comprises siting new outdoor table tennis table for both youth and active adult use, repair of barbecue, interior decoration of the hall, pond maintenance, erection of security fencing (thanks to SCDC for £1000 grant) plus the erection of a new flagpole. 4. Finance – Latest 2017/18 Healthy accounts to be adopted at our 11 April AGM, with Hall bookings and income well maintained - due largely to attentive booking management . However, we’re always looking for grants and extra funding , as we must generate reserves for essential building maintenance (eg: roof) and other future plans. Hall letting fees were revised in 2016 and no increases are planned in 2018 for our own village groups. Green fees are now being charged for all marquees and other field events . | Notes on file |
| Parish Plan | Parish council will revisit this. |  |
| Horningsea Residents Association | After the spring’s events (notably the ever-popular Bingo and Fish and Chips Night and seniors lunch) we moved into summer with a special event on May 21st organised by Lindsay - the Coprolite March. Village Day was on July 1st, and in the light of last year’s popular ceilidh we decided to again ask The Stomp Happy Tribe to join us. Ceilidhs have the advantage of being fun for all ages, and this event was very well attended. The new marquee was erected with commendable eﬀort from the team and it’s presence ensured good weather. The event stretched long into a delightful summer evening. The Village Boat Trip on 10th September was again an expanded event. We stopped at the GOBA moorings upstream of Bottisham Lock for a picnic. The ﬁnely honed production process that is Apple Pressing Day took place on 30th September (the events come thick and fast at this time of year!) and the weather was perfect. October 14th was International Night - this year the cuisine was Thai - and a magniﬁcent eﬀort by the many superb cooks in the village contributed to a well-attended and riotously enjoyable evening. November 5th saw the ever popular bonﬁre night, which this year produced a record crowd and hence record income from our main revenue generating event. The year was rounded oﬀ as usual with the very enjoyable Christmas tree lighting in the Jubilee gardens, with mulled wine and mince pies courtesy of Pauline. Two pieces of ‘stop press’ news. Firstly, after an excellent fund raising coﬀee morning donated by the Crown and Punchbowl, we are able to make a signiﬁcant contribution to the deﬁbrillator which is soon to be installed in the village. Secondly, we have this week had the results of the RoSPA inspection of the playground (organised by Nicola) which gives it a very clean bill of health with only a few minor items needing non-urgent attention. This excellent outcome is due to a signiﬁcant programme of repair work carried out by the HRA under Graham’s leadership. | Notes on file |
| St Peters Church | The Revd Alun Ford was installed as priest in charge of Horningsea, Fen Ditton and Teversham on a part time basis, at Horningsea on 18th May 2017. Weekly services have continued the pattern of alternating 9.00am Communion and 11.00am Morning Worship and a joint service at 10.00am with Fen Ditton and Teversham on the last Sunday in the month, at each church in turn. On Christmas Eve for the first time we held a Crib Service which was delightfully lively, and in a brief spell of sunshine at the end of February Matt Hodder led our first Forest Church service in the churchyard which was attended by children and young at heart of all ages. During the year there were two baptisms at St Peter’s and Deb and Rob Balm were married in the church. Margaret Dorrington, to whom St Peter’s owes so much, died in the year and her funeral was held in the church. The Church has been well used by the village during the year. | Notes on file |
| Horticultural Show | The show remains a popular event in the Horningsea calendar. This year’s show is Saturday 14th July. | Notes on file |
| Cluzion Music, Music Nights and Green Stage | No representative present and no report sent |  |
| Village Website/Herald | Changes have been made to where PC minutes and agendas can be found to make it more user friendly.  The Horningsea Herald is intended for publicising village events for the coming month. However, all Horningsea related matters are welcome. It’s also intended for reports and especially photos of recent village events. The deadline for submission is still the 25th, but of course we always try and be as flexible as possible. There's still a few people who wants a printed version they don't have access to computers. Unfortunately as of the start of this year there is no arrangement for doing this. If you want to do it, please let us know. The long term goal is 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. There’s been refreshed activity on the Horningsea Residents Facebook page (formerly the Horningsea Residents Association page). Search Facebook for “horningsea residents”. The group originally started for just HRA events, but there’s more on there now.  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! • Also thanks to Debs who also works on the Herald and associated stuff! | Notes on file |
| Horningsea Adults and Toddlers | Horningsea Adult and Toddlers (HATs) Group has been running mostly term times this year, due to a couple of the regular attendees having school-aged children. The group is now a relatively small group with four families in Horningsea who regularly attend HATs with their children. We try and have special extended sessions at particular times in the year such as Halloween, Christmas, Easter, Summer! Last year the Parish Council kindly donated some money to the group, with which the group purchased some outdoor toys for the children to use in the summer. We also use the donation to cover the weeks when we have a shortfall in the rent, which is £7.50 a week, and to also put towards the cost of the parties at Halloween, Christmas and Easter. In order to keep the group running we need to have at least 4 families per session, however the more families we have the better, as surplus funds after the rent has been paid, can be used directly on supplies for the children and perhaps more themed weeks can be arranged. The group has seen another change in hands this year, with Jayne Neale taking the lead on running the sessions. Thank you very much to Mim Christensen who ran the group fantastically for the last couple of years. On behalf of the group we’d like to say many thanks to the visitors and those that have helped throughout the year, in particularly to Andy Clarke who kindly gives the group a monthly donation to assist with the rent payment. |  |
| Bridge Club | Bridge group has disbanded |  |
| Art Group | Art group runs every Thursday in the hall, for all ages and abilities. | Notes on file |
| Book Group | The Book Group meets at 8pm on the 4th Tuesday of every month, except August and December, in the Crown and Punchbowl. The group has been meeting for several years and currently has 7 members. We discuss one book each month from a list that we make at the end of each year. The list is compiled by the group who bring suggestions for books we could read during the following year. Group members generally buy the books but some members borrow from the library. | 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. 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 | Reports of recent cycle rides were circulated for all to read. Usually 3 or 4 rides per year. Bert Santilly and Frank Hopkirk cycle the route in advance and carry out a risk assessment. All welcome | Notes on file |
| Horningsea CIC | No representative present and no report sent |  |
| Items for future consideration | None |  |
|  | Date of next Annual Parish Meeting: Wednesday April 24th 2019 |  |