

## **FILBY PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 11 May, 2010, 7.00 pm. at the Clubroom**

**Present:** Mr. D. Thompson, Mr. P. Hudson, Mrs. L. Elms, Mr. A. Thompson, Mr. J. Baldry, Mr. P. Chapman, PCSO Paul Edwards, Mr. D. Balls (Clerk), and 3 Members of the Public.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** Mr. M. Carttiss, Mr. R. Stanton, Rev'd G. Steel , and Mrs. D. Flowerdew.

**2. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 12 MAY, 2009** - These were agreed and signed.

**3. MATTERS ARISING** - There were no matters arising.

#### **4. CHAIRMANS REPORT by Mr. D. Thompson**

Another year has been successfully completed with no major problems. My thanks go out to all Councillors for their support and regular attendance.

There has been 4 Full Council meetings and 4 Planning meetings where the attendance at these meetings throughout the year has been 81 % which is fairly good, but shift work makes it difficult for some councillors. We have dealt with 16 planning applications this year which again is slightly less than last year.

We work very well with the Playing Field Committee which again is a good thing as some of the grants available are subject to Parish Council involvement, and the success of the hall is extremely important to the village as the existing unit we use is on its last legs. Let's hope we can report something positive in the near future.

There were no matters arising.

#### **5. FINANCIAL REPORT by Mr. D. Balls**

I am grateful to Mr. Adrian Thompson and Mr. David Thompson for scrutinising the financial records after the end of each quarter, and to Mr. Clive Bean, the independent auditor, who examines the annual accounts and records in advance of the formal audit. The last audit produced no matters requiring attention. The accounts for the year just ended will be sent for Audit in late June this year, which is again a month earlier than last year.

As usual, an un-audited Receipts and Payments statement has been prepared, and is summarised as an attachment with tonight's agenda.

Final accounts for the year ended 31 March, 2009 will be available from the Clerk once they are signed and approved by the Audit Commission.

The precept was increased this year by £1800 over the previous year mainly to cover a grant to the Playing Field Committee for their increased administrative and running costs. Work on the Claypits car park throughout the year was minimal, however planned resurfacing work this current year together with a new car park lighting column will be funded by accumulated car park rent payments by the school which in turn will result in only a minor increase in next year's precept figure.

Because of the small turnover throughout the year the audit fees have remained roughly the same as last year

All in all I am satisfied that the Council has conducted its financial affairs carefully and thoughtfully throughout the last financial year. I must take this opportunity of thanking our Chairman and Vice-chairman and other councilors for their efforts in carrying out many small jobs around the village which in many ways has helped to keep Parish Council expenses down again this year.

There were no matters arising.

#### **6. POOR TRUSTEES REPORT by Mr. D. Thompson**

Four trustee members attended our Annual Meeting which was held on 2 December, 2009 in the Clubroom for the allocation of poor trust money to 28 applicants.

The Chairman reported that the £2,839.24 income this year was the same as last year, comprising the following:

Balance Brought Forward	£ 30.24
Land at Filby Heath (Mr. Thompson and Mr. Barnes)	£ 500.00
Filby Common (Essex and Suffolk)	£ 759.00
Shooting Rights (Mr. H inchley)	£1500.00

After depositing £900 in P.O. Savings Account, 28 applications in turn received £65.00 each which now leaves a balance of £119.24.

Mr. Thompson reported that The Post Office Investment Account now stands at £5,273.58 which is reserved for emergencies, and because spending is not increased each year then interest on this account will continue to accrued, albeit currently in a small way.

More people are requesting to go on the list which, if added means all applicants will in future get less.

There were no matters arising.

## **7. PLAYING FIELD REPORT by Mr. A. Thompson**

Another busy year has passed by where once again the support from local people and the wider community is evidence that we have had lots of support in trying to raise money for the new village hall. Since May, 2006 when the fund was started almost £54,000 has been raised, this is lodged in 3 different accounts, two fixed terms and the other with access if required. In addition to this we have £12,405 in a post office savings account. We also have a current account for day to day running expenses etc. and as at 21/4/10 this balance was £7,191.

The firework display in 2009 was again down on previous years, the weather was o.k. but earlier in the day it had been raining, and was obviously very wet underfoot.

The Annual Fete was very well attended on Monday 30 August, a lovely day and everything went well. Revenue overall from the fete weekend was £8,729, and after expenses, profit was £4,671, this was up on 2008 when the profit was £3,887.

Once again the Craft Club has been instrumental in promoting and arranging bazaars and social events in the hall to raise money. Both Easter and Christmas events were very successful and well supported. The recent garage sale organized by Jenny, Barbara and Jackie made over £500.

“Filby in Christmas Bloom” this year was just the one day only, 13 December. This again proved a most enjoyable afternoon, and financially worthwhile with £575 being our share of the proceeds.

The outlet for used and clean clothes has raised £3,000 to date. This is in addition to the bottle and paper banks which this year alone raised over £4,000.

The Clubroom continues to be hired by several organizations, but we are always looking for more. The refurbishment of the kitchen has now been completed, this has enhanced the facilities considerably, and thanks go to the Craft Club for their financial contribution towards these costs

There were no matters arising.

## **8. YOUTH FOOTBALL COMMITTEE REPORT** - No report

## **9. POLICE REPORT by PCSO Paul Edwards**

From 1/04/09 to date a total of 143 calls for assistance were recorded via our Control Room. It must be remembered that more than one call is received for a single incident

Of the above, 19 resulted in crimes being recorded, these crimes consisted of: 4 theft, 3 theft from vehicles, 2 criminal damage, 1 assault and 8 burglary from dwellings.

The figure most alarming (and unusual) in these statistics is the number of burglaries. The majority of these occurred in late August/September, 2009, when we suffered a well publicized spate in the area. Three of the burglaries were successfully detected, with the offender receiving a term of imprisonment. As a result of these burglaries PCSO Judith Ward handed out numerous DNA marking kits to householders within the village.

The staffing of the Rural Flegg Villages Neighbourhood Team, which polices the village remains the same (two police officers and three PCSO's) and in December, 2009 Police Inspector Nathan Clark took over the control of the team. Unfortunately, due to an injury whilst on duty PCSO Judith Ward is currently off sick and it is anticipated that she will be for some time. In the meantime the other PCSO's on the team – Pete Williamson and Paul Edwards will cover in her absence, with an additional PCSO joining the team in June.

Engagement with groups within the village, whilst interrupted by PCSO Ward's absence continues, along with PCSO attendance on the mobile library van that attends the village.

I also regularly liaise with both of the Mr. Thompson's.

I have also made some appointments to go into the School and Nursery to engage with the pupils.

Speed checks are also being carried out in the village by myself and colleagues. This has resulted in some motorists being given verbal warnings, some have received warning letters, and others have been given speeding fines

## **10. FILBY PRIMARY SCHOOL REPORT by Head Teacher Debbie Flowerdew read out by Chairman**

Filby Primary School is a growing school and 2009/10 is our first year of full primary status.

We currently have 76 children on roll and this will grow to 85 in September, 2010.

Our current families live in – Filby 34%, Runham 10%, Stokesby 9%, Fleggburgh 6% and other (out of catchment) 41 %.

With the retirement of Mrs. Baker in July, 2009 a new head-teacher was appointed, Mrs. Debbie Flowerdew. Due mainly to the growth and having older children we have appointed several new staff – a new KS2 leader and teacher for Y5/6, Mrs. Monica Baker, a specialist language teacher of French and German, Mrs. Coralie Tungate, and Miss Claire Finch an early years specialist, also specific assistants for children with special educational needs Mrs. Kathryn Warner, Mrs. Pippa Futter-South, and Mrs. Kim Drew. We will be appointing a new Y3/4 teacher as from September, 2010 as governors have agreed to open a new class to ensure our children remain in small classes (largest 21 children).

Over the years the children have been involved in a variety of community events and we remain totally committed to Filby and its surrounding area to ensure every child is given the opportunity to experience and value what our own area has to offer.

### **Church Events**

Rev'd Steel takes our assemblies every Tuesday morning.

We organize a Children's Crib Service at the Church at Christmas and the Christmas Nativity Play "Nearly No Nativity" was performed to a full house on three occasions in the school hall.

Monies raised from these events were donated to Gt. Yarmouth Shelter.

We have had assemblies for parents/families at Mothers day, Easter, and will be celebrating Father Day.

#### Filby in Bloom and Environmental Issues

The school continues to support the Filby in Bloom committee. Children were very willing and families able to bring children to school in their Summer Holidays to meet and greet the "In Bloom" judging team – we are always very grateful for this level of dedication to our village events.

The gardening club continues to flourish under the watchful eye of Wendy Green (parent and governor) and Mrs. Rose Canham (grandmother), and teachers are busy integrating this into our new curriculum for all children. Our gardening club is always oversubscribed and would welcome any offers of help to extend the opportunities for the children – (please drop in or telephone the school for more details).

#### Partnership between Filby Primary School, Broads Authority and Filby Parish Council

Filby Primary School is working with the Broads Authority and the parish Council to reclaim and renovate the area adjacent to the school field – representatives from each partner met earlier this year to evaluate the area and put initial plans into place. Volunteers from the Broads Authority have been back to clear some overgrown trees prior to nesting season and we are due to meet again in the autumn to plan the next steps which are restoring the board walking and reclaiming and fencing the perimeter. It is hoped that when the area is safe children from the school will work with adults to discover and if necessary plant to encourage other creatures into wildlife area. At this stage our younger children can use the area for discovery, investigation and stimuli. This will be a fantastic community resource for all to enjoy for many years to come, if we continue to maintain it, and the school would like to be part of this.

#### Partnership between Filby Primary School and Filby Sailing Association

Filby Primary School will be offering sailing as an afterschool activity from June, 2010. A partnership has been set up between the school and the sailing association to provide sailing lessons for all children over 8. Qualified instructors from the association have offered their own time to give this exciting experience for our youngsters. We are hoping this will become a permanent fixture to our school year and all our young people will be encouraged to sample one of the delights of the wonderful environment in which we live.

#### Extended use of the school building

The school building is used by the Filby Mothers and Toddler Group every Wednesday. Stepping Stones Nursery use the hall for a Mothers Group on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday.

We let the hall to a local drama group on Wednesday evenings.

The schools "Friends" use the school for a variety of fundraising events including Easter Fayre, Quiz night and summer BBQ. The school has also been used on an ad-hoc basis for events such as Bingo.

We are pleased to report the Filby WI has strengthened its links with the school and regularly provides teas and coffees to thirsty audiences or shoppers for which we are very grateful.

#### Use of the parish playing field and community hall

With the growth of the school and consideration of space to allow sports games, Adrian Thompson and myself have discussed the use of the parish playing field by the school for sporting events and such sports as football. It would be invaluable if the school could use these facilities but consideration would need to be given to allowing the children to hold a key for the hall due to the constant need for toilet facilities. We would envisage using the field for junior sports lessons, some lunchtime football practice, and afterschool coaching in the first instance.

We are awaiting council decision

#### And Finally

We are always looking for new ways to involve our community in the life of the school and am sure there is a wealth of hidden talent in the parish that could inspire our children. Could I please ask parish councilors to signpost anyone with spare time or talent to us to ensure that our children continue to develop an awareness of the local area and ensure our communities sustainable future.

### **11.FILBY ALL SAINT'S CHURCH REPORT by Rec'd Graham Steel read out by Mr. P. Chapman.**

All Saints continues to serve the community, being there for everyone at times of joy and celebration – baptism, weddings, and anniversaries – and to provide support and comfort at times of bereavement.

Worship is offered at 10.30 am. each Sunday except 4<sup>th</sup> in the month when we share in Fleggburgh's service, and other Special Sundays when we meet as a Benefice – e.g. Rogation Sunday when we travel round the Benefice by tractor to pray God's blessing on the crops.

We also pray for the community every Saturday morning at 9.30 am. at a short service of Morning Prayer.

We held our Christmas Midnight Communion at St. Mary's last year and an Evening Service takes place there on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month during the summer period.

Our links are strong with Filby School. The children visit the church on special occasions and the Rector takes assemblies regularly.

Church members are actively involved in community events, they also take part in Benefice events such as our summer

Holiday Club and monthly Lunch Club at Stokesby, and will soon be taking bible stories into several schools in the Open the Book Project.

Both churches are open during daylight hours through the summer and attract a steady stream of visitors.

We are concerned that we lack young families in our regular congregation and are looking at ways of providing opportunities for worship for those who find our traditional services on Sunday mornings inaccessible for one reason or another.

The building has been adapted for the needs of the community generation by generation and we are looking at how we can make the building more suitable for the needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, particularly now that the Church Hall has had to be closed. We want to improve the heating, the kitchen/toilet and create more space so the building is more flexible. Re-ordering a church is a long drawn out process. So far, we have met with the Diocesan Advisor, with the Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches and are awaiting a meeting with our architect. Once this has happened, we want to share the resulting ideas widely with the community for comment.

I want to pay tribute to the Churchwardens, Parochial Church Council and Church members who work hard to keep the church available for those all who want to use it from the whole community.

Caring for our beautiful church building in the centre of our village is an enormous responsibility, and we are grateful for all those who contribute financially (both as individuals and through such events as the regular Thursday Quiz evenings at the Bridge Restaurant and Filby-in-Bloom weekend etc.) and in other ways to help us do this.

**12. NCC REPORT** - No report

*The Meeting ended at 7.36 pm.*