

Earsham Parish Council

Minutes

Of the Annual Parish Meeting held at Earsham Village Hall
on Wednesday 29th April 2015

1. The Chairman of the Parish Council, Mrs. Lynda Hamps was present and welcomed everyone to the meeting, which was attended by thirteen members of the public including councillors.
2. The Chairman signed the minutes of the 2014 Annual Parish Meeting as a true and correct record.
3. Annual reports and accounts:-

a) Report from the Chairman of the Parish Council – The Chairman read out her report (report 3a) which highlighted events and proposals of the last 12 months. These included:-

- Levels of crime and anti-social behaviour in the village
- The refurbishing the village hall which is an ongoing project. However, a verbal agreement by Taylor Wimpey has been given to release the covenant on the village green which restricts further development. South Norfolk Council have also shown an interest in signing over the required land to enable an extension to go ahead.
- Preschool has now been running successfully since September 2014 and the subsequent financial input has been a big help towards the village hall's financial security
- Prompted by a letter from a resident last year the council decided to embark on fundraising towards renovation of the war memorial. Over £1400 was raised thanks to a 1940's night in the village hall and the generosity of local residents and businesses. The Memorial was subsequently cleaned and two planters sited either side of the monument filled with red, white and blue flowers in time for the Centenary of the outbreak of World War One.
- February of this year saw the long awaited completion of the new football pavilion on the playing field. Whilst this is a facility that benefits a relatively small number of people, it can be made available for others to use and I believe it is an asset for the village that has replaced an obsolete eyesore. Also on the playing field we have had hedging planted along the A143 boundary using plants supplied by SNC as part of a National Tree Week initiative.
- The council has in the past had complaints from residents about vehicles speeding through the village. This is an ongoing situation that will in all probability always be a problem. In an effort to combat this, the parish council are considering the installation of an illuminated sign that will hopefully discourage speeding. Advice has been sought regarding this and it is hoped that we can proceed in the coming months.
- I am happy to say that the current parish councillors are all remaining for another term and would like to thank them for all their support over the last four years. I would also like to thank Murray Gray for his constant support and advice, and our clerk Lynda Ling whose dedication to duty is unflinching.

A brief overview was given of the unaudited parish accounts which saw the balances as at 31st March 2015 stand at – Parish Council £25,305.10, Playing Field £6,303.01 and the Allotments £1,152.61. It was noted that the balance of the Playing Field account included a £2,000 grant from Norfolk Community Foundation as a contribution towards the new football pavilion.

b) Report from County Councillor Margaret Somerville – apologies had been received from the County Councillor, the Chairman read out her report (report 3b)

c) Report from District Councillor Murray Gray – apologies had been received from the District Councillor, the Chairman read out his report (report 3c)

d) Report from the Police – There was no representative from the police nor a report

e) Report from Earsham Football Club – apologies had been received from the chairman, Peter Goodfellow, the Chairman read out his report (report 3e)

f) Report from Earsham Bowls Club – apologies had been received from the Bowls Club, the Chairman read out their report (report 3f)

g) Report from Mettingham Football Club – Keith Penn read out the report on behalf of the club and gave a verbal Treasurers report of their accounts (report 3g)

h) Report from Earsham Trust – apologies had been received from the Trust, the Chairman read out their report (report 3h)

i) Report from the Village Hall Management Committee – The Chairman read out the report and accounts (report 3i)

j) Report from 1st Earsham Scout Group – Hadyn Farr, Chairman – Waveney District Scouts and Acting Group Chairman – Earsham Scouts chairman read out their report (report 3j)

k) Report from Earsham Village Magazine – Andy Harvey read out his report (report 3k)

l) Report from the Parochial Church Council – Revd Chris Hutton introduced himself and proceeded to give his report (report 3l)

m) Report from Earsham Primary School – apologies had been received from the Primary School, the Chairman read out the report (report 3m)

n) Report from Earsham Festival Committee – Sue Cramp read out her report on behalf of the committee and informed those present that they would be pleased to receive other ideas for use of surplus funds which would help to fulfil their aim to develop the sense of community in the village (report 3n)

m) Report from Earsham Playground Committee – Karl Gunton read out the report on behalf of the committee (report 3o)

4. Parishioner's Forum – No discussion

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.30pm

**** All reports are available for viewing by request to the clerk**

Signed

Date