

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of a meeting held at 7.45 p.m. at The Memorial Hall 27th April 2006

Present : Roy Church, Bridget Wright, Pauline Brown, Stephen Williams and John Willmore. Ron Cornell in the chair.

Clerk: Peter Dilloway, James Joyce (County Councillor) and P.C. Wooton (Community Beat Officer).

Six members of the public: Mr. & Mrs. Gribble, Mr & Mrs. Simpson, Mrs. Burchinshaw & Mrs. Kinsley

- (1) Apologies: Kevin Francis.
- (2) Minutes of the meeting held 28/5/06 were agreed to be a true record proposed R. Church. seconded Mrs. P. Brown and signed as such by the chairman.
- (3) Matters Arising: There were no matters arising from the minutes.
- (4) Chairman's Report: The Chairman's report had been circulated prior to the meeting but the Chairman read his report to those present. A copy is appended hereto.
- (5) Financial Report:
The clerk gave a brief report, but had circulated the unaudited figures for the council's perusal and made available to all present. As at the end of the last financial year the following bank balances were held to the credit of the Parish Council:

Contingency Fund	£1189.64
Current Account	£ 50.88
Business Premium Account	£1653.14
High Interest Business Account	£2291.18
Total	£5184.84

Income for the last financial year totalled £3454.69 and expenditure £2945.35.

- (6) Great Witchingham Fuel Allotment Charity:
The Chairman's and Treasurer's reports had been circulated prior to the meeting but were read out to all present and copies are appended hereto.
- (7). Open Meeting.
 - (a). For expediency the chairman proposed discussion of police matters first to allow PC. Wooton to leave early.
 - (i) The Chairman opened the discussion by asking what measures could be taken to reduce the incidence of speeding in The Street. Since the inception of the 20mph limit the situation has worsened rather than improved and was prevalent at 'school run' times. Speed humps had been suggested but this was considered both unsociable and impractical. The entrance to The Street nearest the bridge by its design and location allows traffic to the A1067 without having to slow down and that speed is carried through as far as parked vehicles allow. PC Wooton will try to organise random speed checks throughout the village during the coming months.
 - (ii) Mr Simpson said that children waiting for the Reepham School bus caused visibility problems for vehicles exiting Street by the Post Office. A number of attempts had been made to change the pick-up point to the other side of the junction but this had met with no success. A discussion ensued as to whether there was space for a lay-by to be created opposite the bus-stop. The matter will taken up with Reepham School and NCC Highways.
 - (iii) John Willmore raised the perennial matter of motorcycles on Marriott's Way. P.C. Wooton said that the only effective action was to report sightings as quickly as possible to afford the police the opportunity to catch offenders in the act. It was noted that the type of gates used on the path, had been changed and wide openings left beside them allowed horse riders to pass through. Those openings also allowed unrestricted access for motorcycles. Lack of signage prohibiting motor vehicles of any kind is also a contributory factor.
 - (iv) P.C. Wooton told those present that crime figures for the parish totalled 7 crimes in 2 months and of these, 5 took place on industrial premises. By county standards the rate is extremely low.
 - (b). Mr Simpson asked whether there was any information regarding the future of the village hall. The Chairman replied that to date there was none. The possibility of a dual purpose hall on the existing site or a new hall adjacent to Hall Walk remains, but arguments for and against either, combined with the uncertainty of funding make any clear decision impossible at this stage. Mrs. Burchinshaw, a member of the hall committee said that she too had mixed feelings as to which scheme would best suit the needs of the community.
 - (c). Mr Church asked that if the hall committee simply disbanded and walked away from the hall, would the ownership of the land revert to the church and thence to school. No-one was certain as to the answer. Mr. Gribble said he would try to find out if time permitted.
 - (d). Stephen Williams said that the hall was designated as war memorial and was opened in 1921 by W.J. Barrie who donated the land. He offered to check through the archives to see what further information turned up.
 - (e). Fly tipping at Rabbit Lane continues to be a problem. There have also been instances at Hall Walk. Because it is private land, it is the responsibility of the landowner to clear it up. The Council asks all residents to report any instance to the police.
 - (f). Stephen Williams said that he hoped shortly to have draft proposals for the village website.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.45pm

Date and time of next meeting: 26th April 2007 at 7.45pm

GREAT WITCHINGHAM ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

AGENDA 26TH APRIL 2007

- 1) Apologies.
- 2) Minutes of the meeting held 27/4/06
- 3) Matters arising.
- 4) Chairman's report
- 5) Financial report
- 6) Gt. Witchingham Fuel Allotment Charity
 - a. Chairman's report
 - b. Treasurer's report
- 7) Clay Hall Farm update
- 8) Open meeting