

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting
Teversham Parish Council
Held on Monday 23rd May 2016 at Hope Community Church at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Dave Kelleway (Chair), Frances Amrani, Oliver Fisher, Liz Freeman, Simon Martin, Al MacInnes, Michael Nicholson and Ian Oxford. District Councillor Caroline Hunt, County Councillor John Williams and Louisa Kenzie (Head Teacher, Teversham Primary School). Mr & Mrs Wakeling, Mr Barker and Mr Sharpe came along. The Clerk attended and took the minutes.

1. Welcome, Introduction and Apologies

The Chairman, Councillor Dave Kelleway, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the meeting. Apologies were accepted from PCSO Julie Hajredini and Age UK Warden Kirstine Lewis.

2. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th April 2015, were circulated, agreed and signed by the Chair.

3. Parish Reports

Teversham Primary School

Louisa Kenzie, Head Teacher gave a very informative report, outlining how the school continues to grow and develop. The number of children on the school roll has increased, spread across six classes. The school prides itself on its musical focus with children learning a variety of instruments and singing. A recent performance for the guests at the lunch club at Hope Community Church was greatly appreciated and the school continues to enjoy close links with the community.

Trips continue to play an important part of the broad and balanced curriculum offered by the school and the whole school recently took part in a sponsored skip, raising an incredible £900 for Guide Dogs for the Blind.

The school is delighted that wrap around care is now provided by the school with the provision of the before school and after school clubs, both which are self-sustaining. Facilities at school will be enhanced with the planned development of the School House. The re-development of the property in the school grounds will provide additional learning space, a room for teaching staff upstairs and downstairs will become a dedicated space for the after school club.

Challenges facing the school include the changes to the testing system and the recruitment of teaching staff. There is an expectation that Teversham will have to become an Academy school within the next two years and The Governing Body are working hard finding out more about the implications of this change as it is very important.

The Chair thanked Louisa for her interesting and informative report. A question was then asked from a member of the public about sports provision at school. Louisa confirmed that a specialist sports leader comes into school to deliver PE lessons and there are lots of lunch and after school clubs providing extra-curricular sports including street dance, gym, golf, tennis and rugby.

The Chair then voiced his opinion about the loss of the school house as social housing. A short discussion followed.

4. Special Presentation from Miriam Amrani

Miriam gave an excellent report about her planned trip to teach abroad with the Project Trust later this year. She has been fundraising to fund her trip to teach English, ICT and extra-curricular sport and thanked the parish council for their grant.

The Chair thanked Miriam for her presentation and confirmed she will be welcome back to share her experiences in the future.

5. Police Report

The Chair read from a report submitted by PCSO Julie Hajredini in her absence. This included a summary of crimes in the parish in the last twelve months and feedback about the skate park.

There were no questions.

6. Chair's Report

The Chair, Councillor Dave Kelleway gave a report starting with encouraging people to come forward to join the parish council as we now have three vacancies. He thanked Jay Mackay for his work over the past year. He then highlighted a number of issues that have taken up a lot of the council's time this year, including the skate park, the threat to Hall Farm Caravan Park, the re-development of Pembroke Way and street lighting. Councillor MacInnes was thanked for his work in dealing with issues at the skate park and the Hall Farm Caravan Park. The Clerk was also thanked for her work.

The Chair then reviewed some of the other achievements of the parish council this year including the replacement of swings at the Recreation Ground, the success of taking over the grass cutting at Teversham Foxgloves and the planned new play equipment at Teversham Foxgloves. He also thanked Councillor Freeman for managing the kiosk library on the Village Green as it continues to be a popular resource.

The Chair gave an overview of the parish council's decision to increase the precept for 2016/2017. Increased liabilities to be met by the parish council during the next financial year include street lighting, extra costs for grass cutting and providing a pension for the Clerk. He detailed the organisations who were awarded grants last year and thanked Marshall's for their continued financial support of the warden scheme and Borley Brothers for everything they do for our parish. He also thanked our warden, Kirstine Lewis, the Litter Pickers, Martin Parcell, Caroline Pittas-Goldsmith and Joshua Cowie for their work and Councillor Al MacInnes and the team at Hope Community Church for their work, including the recent village clean-up. Thanks were also given to Peta Ben-Hafsia for maintaining the planters, PCSO Julie Hajredini, District Councillor Hunt, County Councillor John Williams, the rest of the parish council for their work and continued support and the Clerk for her work.

Mr Tom Wakeling thanked the Chairman for his work and commitment.

A question was asked about the proposed roundabout at the Church Road/Airport Way junction. County Councillor John Williams was able to answer this and confirmed that a new roundabout must be in place before the first home on the WING development is occupied as a condition of the planning application approved a few weeks ago.

7. Overview of Accounts

Copies of the unaudited accounts for y/e 31st March 2016 were circulated. There were no questions.

8. Report from County Councillor John Williams

County Councillor Williams started his report with details of further cuts imposed on the County Council and the difficulties this presents. He reported on the flaws with the Connecting Cambridgeshire initiative and the PFI with Balfour Beatty. County Councillor Williams also explained that constraints to the Highways budget will mean that parish councils will have to pick up more, with volunteers cutting back hedges, keeping footpaths clear and cleaning signs.

County Councillor Williams confirmed that funding has been secured to enable the No 18 bus to continue to run for another year. He also reported on the consultation that will have to take place with Teversham due to changes to the catchment area for the provision of secondary education in the parish in the future. He also raised concerns about increased traffic around Teversham due to the developments at WING and north of Airport Way over the next five years.

The Chair thanked County Councillor Williams for his report and the work he does on behalf of our parish. A discussion then took place after questions were raised from the floor about the impact of traffic using Teversham as a cut through, Stagecoach and the car parking charge, the lack of affordable housing on both the WING development and the site north of Airport Way.

9. Report from District Councillor Caroline Hunt

District Councillor Hunt gave a report detailing the progress of the Local Plan and about how the District Council is managing to work with a reduced grant from Government. District Councillor Hunt focused on the District Council's finances and how money is to be saved going forward with re-organisation of management and implementing shared services with other local authorities.

District Councillor Hunt then explained the recommendation made by the Boundary Commission to join Teversham with Fulbourn, Fen Ditton and the Wilbraham's making the ward one with three members and changes to all out elections from 2018.

District Councillor Hunt thanked the residents of Teversham, the Chair, Councillors, Clerk of the parish council and County Councillor Williams for their work and support.

The Chair thanked District Councillor Hunt for her report and the work she does on behalf of our parish.

An interesting discussion took place regarding the changes to the District Ward and Mr Barker asked if it would be possible to put together a well organised response with the other parishes to oppose the proposed changes.

Both District Councillor Hunt and County Councillor Williams agreed to work on a joint statement of opposition to the proposals.

10. Open Forum

Mr J Barker reported that his proposal (prior to his retirement from Marshall's) to the County Council to implement a new bus services from the Newmarket Road Park and Ride to Addenbrooke's Hospital was successful. Whippet Coaches are now running a six month trial.

Councillor Al MacInnes gave a verbal report regarding the success of the lunch club run by Hope Community Church and how great it was to see so many people attend the gathering at the switching on of the new Christmas lights in December. Thanks to the Parish Council, Borley Brothers and Teversham Motors for their support. Al also confirmed that the village litter pick held in mid-May was a success and having listened to County Councillor Williams earlier in the meeting, there will be more work to do around the parish in coming years!

Mrs Wakeling kindly reported on All Saints Church. Unfortunately there is no resident Vicar at the present time, but the Church Wardens are managing to keep services going. The Church appreciates the grant given by the parish council towards cutting the grass in the churchyard.

The meeting closed at 9.03pm

This page is intentionally blank.