

East Tuddenham Parish Council

Parish Assembly - Minutes of the Meeting held 14th June 2017

1 Welcome

The meeting was opened at 7.30pm by Ian Payter who welcomed attendees including Councillors, members of various committees to report on their activities and members of the public.

Ian Payter introduced himself as Chair for the past six years and Chantal Childs as the Clerk.

2 Minutes of meeting held 8th June 2016

There were no matters arising from minutes of 2016 so they were approved and signed by Ian Payter.

3 Chairman's Annual Report

Ian advised that Parish Council consists of himself, Lynsay Barrett, Anna High, Charles Barker, Alex Leaney, Sarah Mugford and Gary Watkins. Apologies that Lynsay, Gary and Alex are unable to attend due to commitments to another meeting. Also present were our Norfolk County Councillor Bill Borrett and our District Councillors Paul Claussen and Pablo Dimoglou.

Ian gave a brief Chairman's report of issues progressed by the Council during the year. He advised that during the year the main issues discussed at meetings were Highways problems, speeding through the village, planning applications and dog fouling.

- We own our own flashing speed signs in conjunction with Hockering Weston Longville, Ringland and Honingham. The law requires the sensors to be running for 3 weeks at a time and then not again for another 8 weeks. This will mean they will be used 2-3 times a year when shared with the other 4 parishes. The signs have been up four times and they reduce speeding, however 75% still exceed the limit and 3,000 vehicles pass through the village daily.
- For planning applications, the parish council can only comment and the final decision is always with Breckland Council Planning Manager. The village status to Rural means we will only have infills rather than large developments.
- The three new dog waste bins are being used and the number of complaints have dropped significant since being installed. The Parish Council encourages people to exercise their dogs and use the footpaths but to also clean up afterwards.
- Over the past 12 months we have dealt with the following: -
 - Children's Play Area – Thanks goes to Margaret Cram, Colin Cram, Ted Hickling, Tony Bradfield and Yvonne Vallas
 - New dog bin at Church Lane/Rotten Row
 - New Notice Board to replace the existing one
 - Wheelie bin stickers on Mattishall Road
 - Consultations on A47 dualling between North Tuddenham and Easton - we will hear in the autumn about route options to give our preference and it is still open for negotiation. There is an imminent meeting with all parishes locally to get together and prepare
 - Easton Food Hub
 - Fly Tipping- if this is on private land then it's up to the land owner to remove but otherwise it will be cleared
- Parish Council meetings minutes are on the website with a summary published in the Parish Pump.
- Ian Payter urged attendees and parishioners to contact himself or any other Councillors with any matters that need bringing to the attention of the Parish Council. Meetings are held on the second Monday of every month at 7:30pm expect August and December.
- Ian thanked his fellow Parish Councillors as well as the support of Bill Borrett, Paul Claussen and Pablo Dimoglou.

4 Presentation of Parish Council Accounts

An accounts balance sheet was presented by the Clerk. This recorded an income of £4,372.55 and details of expenditure totalling £6,104.18. Parish council funds at the end of the year decreased to £6,706.77

5 Other Reports

Charities Committee – *The Charities look after the state of the almshouses and its occupants. There are two blocks of four let to local people. The main job of the Charities Committee is the maintenance of those houses. An electrical report has been carried out recently. It has also been agreed that the windows will be replaced Summer this year. This will make a significant improvement to heating and insulation. This will cost approximately £25,000.*

The Charities Land Common Road – *There are no issues and it is being looked after in an environmentally friendly way. It is Natural England funded. The riverside meadow has cattle which will be moved on. Part of it will be re-sown. There is wildflower which is managed and the results should be seen next year. The new hedge is not looking too well and the rest of it will be replanted soon.*

Colin will make a map available to parishioners to identify Charities Land. IP will obtain this.

Childhood First – Earthsea House & Merrywood – *Andy Lamb – Unable to Attend.*

The Church – *Sally Thurgill (Assistant Minister) made apologies for Janet Guy and Rev. Mark McCaghrey who were not able to attend. The restoration to the church has been completed. The Tomb of the Knight has been moved and restored and the Avenue of Trees has been trimmed. All the trees on the churchyard are being reviewed.*

The church is open April to September from morning until tea time. There are three services each week and a prayer box available. There is also a collection point for Norfolk Food Bank which goes locally to Dereham. Thanks were passed on for the fete, where half the money has gone back into the church. There is an upcoming flower festival 9th/10th September where the theme is sport. The Christmas Eve service has been moved to 4:30pm which is welcome by all.

Easton School – St Peter's Church of England, Voluntary Aided Primary School

- *Mary Blathwayt reported the news that their former headteacher who had retired last March had passed away. She managed the formation of the Trinity Foundation which raised the standards of all three schools*
- *The Senior Leadership team includes the Executive Headteacher, Executive Deputy Head and two Assistant Heads.*
- *Easton school has grown again to 176 pupils. The two new mobile classrooms enable the school to have no mixed classrooms.*
- *From the Key Stage 2 SATs last year, Easton and Great Witchingham were rated in the top 10% of the country for reading, writing and maths and Little Hockering in the top 1%.*
- *The Trinity Foundation has been visited by the Regional Schools Commissioner and his representative, an inspector for the Academy Trust for an effectiveness audit, along with staff from other Norfolk Schools. The Management was acknowledged as strong and effective.*
- *The financial budget for the future is tight and there will have to be cuts in the provisions offered to pupils*
- *The children enjoy a varied curriculum and have close links with the Church. The before and after school clubs are also thriving.*
- *Activities for the children this year included working with a book author and singing at the O2, building a goblin racing car for the STEM science project, sports competitions and a lunchtime sports club.*

Any Other Business