

KIRTON & FALKENHAM ANNUAL PARISH MEETINGS

Held on Monday 16th April 2012 in the Recreation Ground Pavilion at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT

10 Parish Councillors, the Clerk, Mrs P M O'Brien (County Councillor), Mrs S Harvey, Mr R Kerry and Mr G Harding (District Councillors), 2 Police Officers, Mrs Jan Ingle (Ipswich Hospital Trust) and 5 parishioners; meeting chaired by Mr D Jacobs (PC Chairman). Apologies were received from Mrs S Wardner (PTLO).

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th April 2011 were read, approved and signed by the chairman, Mr D Jacobs.

2. MATTERS ARISING

- i) Mobile Post Office The Parish Council had researched this, but as the office at Trimley was within 1½ miles of the villages, a mobile office was not viable.
- ii) Weir Place play area The Parish Council had investigated responsibility for this, and it lay with Heritage Housing. However, there was not sufficient funding even from the Play Space finance.

3. PRESENTATION BY MRS JAN INGLES, HEAD OF COMMUNICATIONS, IPSWICH HOSPITAL TRUST

Mrs Jan Ingles, Head of Communications, Ipswich Hospital Trust gave a presentation on the effects of recent NHS changes. There had been a recent £10m boost which was good news; £5m has gone to a new Heart Centre, which will end the need for journeys to Papworth, and £5m towards upgrading the Sterilisation Unit. Performance reports were showing steady improvement. The Trust was moving forward towards patients being at the centre of activity, through consultations with Patients Organisations and Age Concern UK. She responded to questions on confidence of Care in the Community, bed blocking, A & E services, hospital choices through GP surgeries, and expanded on the specialist services of Gynaecology, Spinal services and radio therapy.

4. POLICE REPORT

Pc Gledhill gave crime statistics for the Parish over the last year - of 22 incidents, 14 had been detected which was 3 times the national average. Speeding offences had dropped off and they continued to take a robust stance on under-age drinking. He would be seconded to Felixstowe over the summer month, but his colleague Glyn Bown would be the contact.

5. PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

The Chairman gave a report on the Parish Council activities during the year, particularly referring to the efforts to counter any idea of developments on land bordering Innocence Lane, the proposals to install cabling north of Falkenham for the Off-shore Wind Farm and the installation of new sewage treatment equipment at Bucklesham by Anglian Water following extensive lobbying by the Parish Council. He looked forward to the Jubilee celebrations, at which a beacon would be installed on the Village Green, and our own John Beer would be a torch bearer. He paid tribute to all the support he had had from the Clerk and Councillors new and past in this first year as chairman.

6. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS/ACCOUNTS

a) Parish Council

The Clerk presented draft accounts for the year and confirmed that the previous year's accounts had been successfully signed off. The year ended with just under £13,000 in its current account and nearly £16,000 in reserves. To satisfy HMRC the Council had been required to set up PAYE for payment of the Clerk. The precept for 2012/13 had been kept at £14,995.

b) Charities

i) Nassau Mrs S Harvey, a Trustee, said that 8 donations and hampers were given at Christmas; in the present financial climate more requests are being received. Donations had totalled £1,112.19 leaving a balance of £50,291.99, but low interest on this capital limited the amount that can be given. She emphasised the broad range of assistance to which the charity can give. The other Trustees were Anne Clarke, Geoffrey Mayhew and Frances Nunn.

(ii) Kidd, Roddam and Webb Mrs P Adams, Clerk to the Charity, said that 4 grants of £100 were given at Christmas to help with rising costs of food and fuel,

as no requests for help had been received. The value of its shares stood at 31.75 at the end of the year. She also reiterated the wide purposes for which help could be given. Its Trustees, were Sandra Abbot, Joyce Haines, Myrtle Posford and Rev Grant (ex-officio).

iii) Recreation Ground Accounts and a report on the Recreation Ground was given by Mr Beer, who noted that plans to install a Zip-Wire facility was moving ahead, together with other items of outdoor fitness equipment, which will be funded from the SCDC and SCC grants. CCTV and intruder alarms have been updated in the pavilion. Regular bookings for the field, and other events continue to come in.

7. YOUTH CLUB REPORT

Mrs J Shaw reported on the Youth Club, it had seen more girls than boys this year, averaging an attendance of 7 to 17 members. Donations had been received from KAFPA and the CC Locality Budget.

8. SCHOOL GOVERNOR'S REPORT

The chairman of governors of Trimley St Martin School, Mr Kemp, reported that the school was well on the way for an East Suffolk School's needlework award and the Robo Team, (British Champions) were currently in St Louis USA for the world championship. He paid tribute to Derek Edwards the coach. The school has many helpers come in, numbers are up and results are now better.

9. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The County Councillor, Mrs O'Brien, and chairman of SCC, said it had been an exciting year, making particular reference to the appointment of a new Chief Executive, and radical changes to all its services - Adult and Community, Schools Organisation Review. Delivering high speed broadband continues after an injection of £10m by SCC. The new Landmark House will be occupied jointly by SCC and the Police. SCC must make savings of £50m over the next 2 years. She concluded with an account of her activities as Chairman and the advent of Police Commissioners..

10. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

The 3 District Councillors gave reports. Mrs Harvey spoke of the challenges of a first year

in the position, not only personally but for the District Council itself. Her particular concern was over the Innocence Lane issue. Mr Kerry had been elected vice chairman, and also referred to the problems of the cuts and noted the reorganisation of the planning department, the final production of the LDF and a forthcoming Boundary Commission Review. Mr Harding concentrated on planning issues and was particularly eager to resolve the money put aside from the Maltings development towards affordable housing.

11. HISTORY RECORDERS

The 2 History recorders provided reports, a written one from Mr Lanigan was very comprehensive and was presented by the Clerk. He too was concerned about the Innocence Lane issue. Matters to which he referred included a historical note on the former police station, enquiries into a “lost hamlet” of Kirton, and by families of WWII pilots connected with Kirton. People in the news over the year were listed. Mrs Shaw had noted alterations to various properties in Falkenham, and mentioned the proposals for underground cables to be laid north of the village for the off-shore wind farm. Reference was made to the value of the FACTS bus, and how the Remembrance Day service had been attended, for the first time in some years, by a member of the RAF and Beaver sons. She had information to give about the Manor of Dodnash and historical connections with the Church Tower.

12.RESOLUTIONS

None received

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS BROUGHT BEFORE THE MEETINGS

A vote of thanks to the Chairman was proposed and carried. There being no other business brought before the Meetings, the Chairman thanked all for attending, particularly those who had given reports, and closed the proceedings at 9.45pm. The evening concluded in convivial manner with a glass of wine/fruit juice and nibbles.