



HOVETON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Miss Lisa Weller
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Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Hoveton Monday 20th May 2019 at 6.30pm, Hoveton Village Hall

Present: Councillor Martin Richmond (Chair of the Meeting)
Councillor Jilly Gourlay
Councillor Alex Howe
Councillor Peter Howe
Councillor Christopher Marshall
Councillor Russell Reeve
Councillor Ann Rogers

In Attendance: Miss Lisa Weller (Parish Clerk)
PC Tom Gibbs (Beat Manager for Hoveton)
Four members of the public

1. INTRODUCTION

Cllr Richmond thanked everyone for coming to the Annual Parish Meeting. He explained that although the Annual Parish Meeting is arranged by the Parish Council, it is a meeting of the parish electorate rather than the Parish Council.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 2nd May 2018 were AGREED and APPROVED. The minutes were signed by Cllr Richmond.

3. CHAIR'S REPORT

Cllr Richmond noted Hoveton Parish Council's disappointment that no local residents, aside from seven existing members of the Council, stood for election to Hoveton Parish Council at the recent council elections. There are currently five vacant seats on the Parish Council, but these seats may now be filled by co-option. Local residents are urged to come forward to get involved.

Cllr Peter Howe was thanked for deputising for the Chair at a number of the Parish Council's meetings owing to Cllr Richmond's work commitments. The Parish Clerk/RFO was thanked for her ongoing hard work in keeping the Council running and ensuring the Council achieves a clean bill of health from its auditors. Members of the Parish Council were thanked for their hard work over the course of the year. Cllr Jilly Gourlay and Cllr Ann Rogers were thanked in particular for their dedication to improving facilities at Hoveton Village Hall and for everything they have achieved so far.

This year, Hoveton Parish Council has taken on the responsibility of maintaining the village's flowerbeds, and thanks were given to the volunteer who is spearheading this project (and to all local residents and businesses involved with the project). The volunteer was also thanked for her ongoing work tending to the Granary Staithe garden. Cllr Alex Howe was thanked for organising a new grit bin for the village, and Cllr Peter Howe was thanked for organising new village signage.

Cllr Richmond noted the tireless work being undertaken by the District and County Councillor Nigel Dixon in terms of pursuing Anglian Water to resolve problems with the local sewerage network. This year, Cllr Dixon and the Parish Council worked together to ensure changes were made to the Church Field development proposal to improve the development's on-site drainage.

Public consultation on the North Norfolk Draft Local Plan is underway. The proposals include 150 new homes for Hoveton. A consultation drop-in event is due to be held this week at the Broadland Youth & Community Centre. Local residents are encouraged to make their views on the Draft Plan known.

Traffic congestion remains a problem, but studies and surveys are due to be carried out this year to try to identify possible solutions. Hoveton Parish Council will be involved in this work. The Council will also consider whether it will be viable to pursue a Neighbourhood Plan for Hoveton. A project of this size will require additional funding and increased community and volunteer involvement. Local residents are encouraged to contact the Council if they would be interested in getting involved.

At the recent North Norfolk District Council elections, two District Councillors were elected to represent the newly-combined Hoveton & Tunstead Ward. Cllr Nigel Dixon (who remains the county councillor for Hoveton) was re-elected and he is joined by Cllr Gerard Mancini-Boyle. It is expected that the two District Councillors will split responsibility for the different parishes within the ward between them.

4. COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Apologies received from Cllr Nigel Dixon and Cllr Gerard Mancini-Boyle (councillors instead attended and gave reports at the Annual Parish Council Meeting of Hoveton Parish Council, which followed the Annual Parish Meeting).

5. POLICE REPORT

PC Tom Gibbs shared crime statistics from the past year. In that time, Norfolk Constabulary recorded 142 crimes in the Hoveton ward (which amounts to approximately one crime every two-and-a-half days), most of which were low-level crimes. PC Gibbs explained how crimes are recorded and the criteria used to determine a 'crime', which sometimes means statistics look more alarming than they are (e.g. 22 common assaults). Fraud offences recorded were mainly telephone fraud from overseas, targeting elderly and potentially vulnerable residents. A lot of this type of crime goes unreported, but the Operational Partnership Team is working

to protect residents against fraud. Residents are encouraged to let PC Gibbs know if there is anyone they believe may be at risk of such fraud. PC Gibbs has visited local schools to talk to the students about drugs, knife crime, and the sharing of indecent images. All drug-related crimes recorded in Hoveton over the past year involved the possession of cannabis.

Speed checks have been carried out on Tunstead Road this year, catching a number of speeding drivers, thanks in part to the data gathered by the Parish Council's SAM2 device. Concerns were also raised about speeding on Tunstead Road by Broadland High Ormiston Academy. It is hoped the SAM2 data can be used to provide similar 'evidence of need' from Stalham Road in the coming year.

The number of crimes recorded in Hoveton remains steady, compared to previous years. PC Gibbs looks after 24 parishes and is the only 'neighbourhood policeman'. His job is to be visible and out and about, supporting the community. A large part of his work doesn't involve crime – he spends around two-thirds of his time dealing with matters such as concerns for safety, mental ill health, domestic situations, and vulnerable adults and children. PC Gibbs is pleased to report that Hoveton is very safe and doesn't have much serious crime. Over the summer, PC Gibbs will carry out reassurance patrols around tourist areas (camp sites, boat yards, staithes, etc) and areas where young people congregate in an effort to minimise anti-social behaviour.

6. HOVETON VILLAGE HALL REPORT

Cllr Jilly Gourlay thanked the volunteers who are looking after the flowerbed outside Hoveton Village Hall. This year, the Village Hall received a grant from North Norfolk District Council's Big Society Fund, which allowed the charity to purchase a zip wire and new large swing set. It is hoped grants will be applied for this year to provide further play equipment (including accessible/inclusive equipment to allow disabled children and children with special needs to play alongside able-bodied children) and outside gym equipment for the parish. Assuming funding can be obtained, the charity's wish list includes new tables and chairs, new curtains for the hall, and a new kitchen.

Car boot sales are being held on the park on Friday and Sunday mornings and are proving very popular, with large numbers of people on site but no reported problems with access or traffic congestion. Further fundraising events are planned this year and there are also plans to open a monthly cinema club in the hall on Friday nights and a children's cinema club on Saturday mornings.

Repairs are urgently needed to the youth room's ceiling, but all other repairs have now been actioned. The outside toilets will be left open for the summer to encourage visitors to the park to stay for longer. No volunteers have come forward to set up a youth facility on the former bowls club site, so other options for this site are being explored, such as grass tennis courts. Cllr Gourlay thanked the Wroxham and Hoveton Lions Club for continuing to cut the grass in this area; a task the Village Hall's caretaker will soon take over. Picnic tables and benches have now been put out on the park. Another football club is interested in using the

facilities but the park won't be available for matches until November when the car boot sales end.

7. QUESTIONS (PUBLIC SPEAKING)

Support expressed for Hoveton Village Hall's cinema club plans, as the cinema at Wroxham Church Hall has now closed.

8. CLOSE

The meeting closed at 7.20pm.

Signed

Date

Name