

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF SADBROOKE HELD ON  
THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2018 IN THE VILLAGE HALL, SADBROOKE**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Peter Heath (Chairman), Christine Myers (Clerk)  
Bridget Solly (Treasurer), County Councillor Sue Rawlins  
6 residents

**APOLOGIES:** District Councillor Bob Waller, Councillors Miss Rose Dobbs and Ian Russell,

**1 APPROVAL OF THE NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2017 TO BE SIGNED  
AS MINUTES**

Proposed by Councillor Paul Rignall, seconded by Councillor Andy Cottam that the notes were a true record of the meeting and that they be signed as minutes.

**2 CHAIRMANS REPORT**

This year has been another busy year for the Parish Council. We were all devastated when Stuart Curtis lost his battle with cancer, he is sadly missed for his knowledge and good humour and drive to support this village. Continuity with the Parish Council has been maintained by the election of our Deputy Chairman Bob Waller to the vacant District Council seat.

We have continued to liaise with Jackson and Jackson, the developer of The Parklands, to ensure that the impact on the existing village is minimised and that the development complements our community. Work has commenced on clearance of the site for the first phase of the development and your Council has had some influence in the retention of natural parkland surrounding the development.

Our annual Sports Day was a great success as it combined with a Village Fete run by the Village Hall Committee and it is hoped to achieve the same success this year. Our decision to combine our Christmas tree event with the Village Hall was taken on practical grounds but was not the success of previous years. It has been resolved to restore the event to the Christmas tree and provide refreshments and encourage parishioners to attend the village hall after the lights have been switched on.

The Tennis Court at the Village Hall received a make-over courtesy of a community youth group and is available to parishioners for tennis or 5 a side football. Though we still have some vandalism with damage to the fence overall it has been reduced with the installation of a working CCTV system.

The generation of the Neighbourhood plan has been slow. The responsibility for the plan fell on just a few of our parishioners and proved a difficult task, however the bulk of the work has now been done. We have applied for further funding and secured the service of a consultant to draw the final strings together. We plan to present it to you and hold a referendum on its adoption later this year.

### **3 CLERKS REPORT**

A busy year for an active Parish Council, again a dominant item being the development in Sudbrooke Park.

It is hoped that the Parish Council will soon have ownership of the new sports field on Scothern Lane and it will be named in memory of Councillor Stuart Curtis, who sadly passed away last October.

Members, the Treasurer and myself have attended training courses during the year run by the Lincolnshire Association of Local Councils. These are very useful and assist in keeping us updated on new legislation.

Training and information is ongoing regarding the new General Data Protection Regulations that will come into force at the end of May 2018. There are concerns about the burdens the new Data Protection regulations will place on councils and how this will undoubtedly impact, eventually on council tax payers with the necessity for Councils to appoint a Data Protection Officer.

Last year I reported that it was hoped that Sudbrooke would have funding made available from LCC for improvements to the road surfaces in the village. Well it has happened and smartened up the village. I couldn't count how many reports I have made to LCC about potholes over the last few years.

Sudbrooke is very fortunate to have a hard working team of parish councillors working for it.

### **4 TREASURERS REPORT**

The Council received a Precept (budget) of £26,626.00.

During the year the Council spent £6,800 on grass cutting – it was the first year that the County Council didn't make a large contribution to the costs. Their contribution this year was £438 meaning that the Parish Council have paid just over £6,300 this year.

We spent £2,300 on printing and preparing the Sudbrooke News this year with advertising revenue generated of £471. The Council recognise that the Sudbrooke News is an essential part of our community and will continue to support it financially.

A full copy of the accounts will be available to members of the public in due course as per instructions from the Auditors.

The Council lived within its budgeted precept.

#### **4 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT – Sue Rawlins, Welton Rural Division**

The County Council year of 2017/18 has continued to be a financially challenging one; an ongoing trend in the public sector nationally and particularly for Shire counties as evidenced by recent news coverage regarding the strains on local government funding, particularly around adult social care. In developing its two year local financial plan to take the authority to the end of the four year funding deal from government, the Council has increased the Council Tax for 2018/19 by 2.95% in addition to the adult care premium of 2.00%. At the July 2017 County Council meeting the authority launched a campaign to lobby government to increase the level of funding to the sector and to specifically request that central government look at the distribution of funding to the Council to reflect the needs of the area. In the meanwhile, the Council prudently maintains a financial volatility reserve.

The Council still has difficulties with IT elements of the “Serco” contract, which it is working with the company to ensure that they provide services in accordance with the commercial terms agreed and deliver all outstanding transformation work.

A new contractor, Galliford Try, has been brought in to ensure that progress continues on the Lincoln Eastern By-pass after the Council officially ended its contract with Carrillion. Galliford Try will keep things moving in the immediate future while the council finds a long-term replacement. It is hoped a new company will take over in the summer.

Planning permission has been granted for the construction of a 60 meter diameter roundabout with associated realignment and improvement works to the existing A46 Dunholme/Welton junction. An extended period of time to seven years to implement the scheme was recommended due to the complexities of funding and land assembly.

#### **6 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT 2018 – COUNCILLOR BOB WALLER**

I would like to start this report by paying a tribute to my predecessor, the late Stuart Curtis. Stuart did a tremendous amount for the villages of Scothern and Sudbrooke during his time as the District Councillor for Sudbrooke Ward and as a member of Sudbrooke Parish Council. He is deeply missed by all his friends and colleagues.

Since being elected in November 2017 I have attended a training and update sessions that have made me confident in being able to fulfil my role, especially as a member of the WLDC Planning Committee. I will strive to serve the residents of Sudbrooke Ward to the best of my ability.

During this Civic Year the Council has undergone a major management restructure that has made the council more efficient, but also has resulted in a considerable reduction in cost. The Council has also invested some of its reserves into initiatives that not only produces revenues but also helps to create employment opportunities within West Lindsey.

In April of last year, the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan for the next 25 years was formally adopted. This plan with its policies for growth and regeneration will make sure that our settlements grow in the right way, ensure we have homes and employment where we need them and ensure our new communities are sustainable, accessible and inclusive.

On 5<sup>th</sup> March the Budget and Corporate Plan for 2018 was approved at full Council. This included a 3% rise in Council Tax, one of the lowest increases across the Country. This was achieved through streamlining systems and prudent investments in revenue streams against a backdrop of central Government reduced funding.

The “Green Bin” garden waste scheme introduced in March is proving to be a success with 82.8% of the target being met by mid-March. Whilst some residents argue that it should be a service paid for through council tax, garden waste disposal is a Discretionary Service that the Council do not have to provide. By making it an Opt in service, only people using the scheme pay for it, not all Council Tax payers. WLDC is the last council in the county to charge for such a service.

## **7 POLICE - OVERVIEW OF POLICING IN LINCOLNSHIRE**

The Chief Constable is confident that in 2018-2019 we will be able to reach the figure of 1100 officers for policing in this county. He hopes this demonstrates his commitment to frontline resourcing, even when the budget is limited.

Lincolnshire Police will continue to campaign, petition, discuss, and demonstrate what we do and how we do it, and quite simply how safer and better funding could help us in Lincolnshire.

In Lincolnshire we have a workforce that is made up of dedicated, passionate people who carry out exceptional work on a daily basis, and that has been with a backdrop of an uncertain financial future for some time – that is no mean feat.

**Local Crime Figures** - Local crime, policing and criminal justice information for Lincolnshire can be viewed via the ‘crime mapper’ website - <https://www.police.uk>.

This is a nationally run website with street-level crime and outcomes maps and data, and details of local policing teams.

## **8 LOCAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTS**

**A) SADBROOKE LADIES’ CLUB** – *Gill Rignall* - The last year has been successful for Ladies’ Club. We had speakers in the hall on six occasions.

Members enjoyed afternoon tea at Doddington Hall for our July meeting and we went to the Elite fish restaurant for our Christmas get together.

We have twelve members and other guests join us from time to time. All residents are welcome to join us if a meeting is of particular interest and guests are asked to contribute £2. We enjoy refreshments and a chat.

Our varied programme is on the Parish website and in Sudbrooke News.

Our meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2018 sees the return of a particular favourite, a representative from Golding Young will bring some items to discuss and will look at one item for each member or guest.

We meet in the Bramham Lounge on the third Thursday of most months at 7.30pm.

**B) SUDRBOOKE VILLAGE HALL – Allan McCrone** - The Village Hall was opened in 1986 as a meeting place and community asset for both the village and the wider community and is operated under the rules and regulations of the Charity Commission Registration number 504143.

The Hall is maintained and run by a Management Committee of seven trustees and representatives of various groups who regularly use the hall – the principals being a Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Booking Secretary and Bar Manager.

This committee meets every six weeks over the year to ensure the proper management of the Hall's business, to ensure that our constitution is followed and to see that the audited accounts are presented to the Charity Commission at the appropriate time.

The past year has sadly been overshadowed by the death of Stuart Curtis. Stuart was one of the founders of Sudbrooke Village Hall and had been a trustee and an active committee member since its inception. His last role was as Booking Secretary and his contribution to both the Village Hall and the wider village community will be sorely missed.

During the last year the hall has continued to be well used on a regular basis by the Pre-School, Seniors Coffee Club, Ladies Club, Whist Club, Gardening Club, Mahjong, Pilates, Kick Boxing and the Parish Council together with many ad hoc bookings such as Children's and Birthday parties, Family get togethers, Religious meetings and Theatre rehearsals.

Our financial position is in good shape due to the hard work of our fund raising team particularly with the contribution of the monthly Quiz nights run by Bob Waller and the sterling efforts of our Licensee, Paul Rignall.

To maintain the financial stability we have had to increase some of the letting fees taking effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018. Our overall finances are under the professional control of our Treasurer, Hugh Thomson, who I would personally like to thank for keeping us on the straight and narrow.

Over the past year we have almost completed the upgrading of the Village Hall to comply with Regulatory Fire Safety Act of 2015. A new pressure pad fire safety door has been fitted to the kitchen exit, tamper proof fire exit alarms have been fitted to the Main Hall and Bramham Lounge emergency doors and a lockable fire safety box to contain the relevant log books and certification has been located in the kitchen area.

We have created a new post on the Committee – that of Fire and Safety representative. Amy Jackson has agreed to take on this role and is currently conducting a monthly check as per the fire and safety manual.

The general maintenance is always an ongoing commitment throughout the year, toilets, internal lighting, sewers and wifi have all needed attention.

The role of Booking Secretary has now been filled by David Stewart who kindly offered to take on the job.

We are now looking for two trustees for the Hall.

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On behalf of the Committee I would like to thank Bob Waller for all his hard work over the past few years, particularly with his fund raising activities. Bob has agreed to carry on hosting the Quiz nights which are always a good source of income.

Looking forward, we are investigating the possibility of extending the rear of the Village Hall to give us a self-contained community room complete with children's /disabled toilets, a kitchenette and dedicated entrance and exit. This could be used by the Pre-School and other groups, thereby freeing up the main hall and Bramham lounge for multiple lettings.

The Village Hall Management Committee have decided, after consultation with Mrs Lyn Curtis to rename the main hall as The Stuart Curtis Hall as a fitting memorial to Stuart and a plaque to this effect will be mounted in the hall in the future.

I would like to thank Gill Rignall for her help, not only as Committee Secretary, but also for her admin and legislative skills. Finally my thanks to all the Committee members who have supported me over this last year – these are volunteers who freely give their time and effort to the smooth running of this community asset.

**C) SADBROOKE SENIORS – Allan McCrone** – The Sudbrooke Seniors Coffee Mornings continue to be successful with a membership of between 18 and 25 – attendance depends on health and weather!

**D) CARVING GROUP – Coral Evans** - There are currently six members to Sudbrooke Carving Group. They are happily working on personal projects at the carving leaders' house. Projects vary from hanging basket posts to markers for the flower bed and decorative items. The carving group meets on Monday mornings from 10am to 12am. Tools are available to the members and help advice and opinions are also available to/from all members. Any persons interested in the Carving club can contact Coral on 01522 750031.

**E) SADBROOKE GARDENING CLUB – Coral Evans** - The Club has a full membership and holds nine meetings per year as follows:

Speaker Evenings take place in March and October at the Village Hall and non-members are invited to attend. Last month we enjoyed a very informative talk from the Senior Gardener of Clumber Park about the History and Development of the Walled Kitchen Garden.

- As in previous years, in April and September members organise and run the Village Spring and Autumn Shows, held at the Village Hall.
- The May and June meetings are hosted by members on a voluntary basis at their homes.
- Our annual outing takes place in July and this year we have a visit planned to Scampston Hall & Gardens, Malton, North Yorkshire.
- Our AGM is held in August at the Village Hall.
- The Club Christmas Dinner takes place in December at a local venue.

On behalf of the whole parish we run the village "Best Kept Front Garden" or the "Best Hanging Basket" competition. This year, the village's front gardens will be judged in July and we are grateful to Scothern Nurseries for providing prizes and judging the finalists.

Enquiries about joining the Gardening Club should be made to a committee member.

**SUDBROOKE WALKING GROUP - COUNTRY WALKS – Mike Halliday** - The group was formed soon after the adoption of the Parish Plan in 2007 and has managed to keep going since then although turnout in recent months has been low due to a combination of illness, injury or general wear and tear!

A viable group size would be around 12 members as one of the attractions is to chat with other members as the miles slip by. Other obvious benefits include good exercise, seeing some splendid views and visiting buildings of historical interest.

We use Sudbrooke News and e mail to communicate with members and meet on the first Saturday of every month at the village hall at 9-30am. We aim to walk between 6 and 8 miles and try to return to Sudbrooke by 1-30pm, but it can be later if we are doing a coastal walk or similar long distance from Sudbrooke. Members are given good notice of a likely late return.

We have done a few new walks this year as well as some old favourites. A couple of walks were cancelled due to very bad weather.

The group is run on informal lines with no membership subscriptions and members can volunteer to lead walks if they wish. Everyone is welcome to join in these walks.

The meeting concluded at 7.50pm and light refreshments were served by the Clerk and Treasurer.

*Signed* ..... *Name*.....  
*Date*.....