

# **NOTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF SADBROOKE HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL SADBROOKE ON THURSDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> APRIL 2014**

**Present:** Councillor P Heath, Mrs C Myers (Clerk) 7 residents  
Mr P Warner, Building Control Officer, WLDC

**Apologies:** Councillors Martin Dickie, Ian Russell, Miss Rose Dobbs,  
Mrs B Solly (Treasurer)

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming Mr Patrick Warner, Building Control Officer at WLDC who gave an interesting talk on Building Regulations/Process.

## **1 Chairman's Report – Peter Heath**

'Welcome to you all for this Annual General Meeting. It is my pleasure to report on the events of the last year.

We started the year by electing a new Chairman and Vice Chairman (Bob Waller) and it has been a learning experience for us both. The composition of the council has otherwise remained unchanged.

We have run or tried to run the usual events that have been successful in the past. The sports day was a great success and well run (if you'll pardon the pun) The Litter Picks have succeeded in clearing a considerable amount of rubbish from the village some it accidental and some from sheer thoughtlessness. These necessary clearances have enabled us to receive favourable notes from the judges of the Best Kept Village Competition although sadly we have not won but will continue to enter.

Some of those comments were compliments about the Jubilee garden and the new additions of the gifts from the carving club. These additions have generally been favourably received. Currently we are looking to install the final gift of matching wooden posts along Holme Drive and as far as Beech close..

The annual Christmas tree lighting was well attended and gives a sense of community to our Village. We always welcome volunteers to help set up and run the event.

Our efforts to provide a footpath between Nettleham and Sudbrooke received a setback when the development plan for Poachers lane was rejected by West Lindsey Planning committee. However the provision of this pathway remains a goal for the future as it was a feature of the consultation for the Village Plan.

We do try to accommodate all opinions in the Village but we can't please everyone. From those who don't want a Dog waste bin close to their house to those who don't want us to spend money on anything they don't like. The Parish Councillors are all Volunteers and give their time willingly. New Councillors are always welcome and if you think you would like to stand for the council then please do.

I would like to thank Chris as our hardworking Clerk and Bridgette as our treasurer and thank all the other councillors, Bob, Ian, Stuart, Rose, Lynn, Paul for their unstinting help and hard work during the year.

### **Clerk's Report - Chris Myers**

Another busy year for the Parish Clerk, coupled with a house move for me and temporary accommodation for the 'parish office' at the home of Jacki Myers at Langworth, who I am genuinely indebted to for allowing me to work in her conservatory for 4 months.

Sudbrooke has had its share of vandalism this last year with the lights at the millennium stone having had the wires cut, damage to the tennis courts and notice board at the village hall. Thanks must be extended to Dave Etheridge for continuing to help out with repairs.

Peter Malone, our Playground Inspector does much work in keeping our play equipment in safe order. Peter and I are in close touch by mobile or email should there be a problem with the equipment, otherwise we seldom see each other!

Unfortunately Roy Summerfield is now unable to continue with updating the website so a replacement for Roy is required.

We have a new Editor for Sudbrooke News, Dominic Picksley, who has stepped into the role following Nick Truscott's resignation and is doing a good job.

Listening to some Clerks in villages within the county and the tales they have to tell I consider Sudbrooke, and indeed Bridget and myself, fortunate in having a good team of Councillors to work with. Peter has stepped into the Chairman's role admirably and I think we work well together, supported by Bob Waller as Vice Chair.

The Parish Council has commented on 13 planning applications during the last year.

## **Treasurer's Report – Financial Year 2013 / 2014**

The Parish Council received a Precept of £20,490 this financial year. Monies also received consisted of revenue from advertising in Sudbrooke News, Bank Interest, Grass cutting grant and a grant from Community Lincs to fund Sports Day.

This year monies have been spent on grass cutting, production of Sudbrooke News, fitting the seats at the Millennium stone, repairs to play equipment that had been vandalised, resurfacing the play area at Northfield Park, fencing and hedge cutting at the Village Hall in an attempt to cut vandalism, the Christmas tree event and general administration.

## **District Councillors Report – Stuart Curtis**

During the last year I have been on the West Lindsey Planning Committee and the Challenge and Improvement Committee. I have also continued to represent West Lindsey on the Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee responsible for preparing the next Local Plan covering the City of Lincoln, North Kesteven and West Lindsey

Under the District Councillor Initiative Fund I have so far sanctioned grants to both Sudbrooke and Scothern Parish Councils for capital projects and also to local organisations

West Lindsey is committed to provide fast Broadband across the whole of the District and has already installed Wi-Fi in most village halls

I am sure you will agree that the West Lindsey refuse collection service is second to none and this has now been confirmed by receiving a National Award for providing the best collection service

Although financial support has been reduced by Central Government, West Lindsey has again been able to freeze Council Tax for the next financial year without affecting front line services

## **Sudbrooke Village Hall Management Committee – George Benson, Chair**

*The following report was read to the meeting:-*

Sudbrooke Village Hall, opened in 1986, has become a great asset to our community.

The Hall is cared for by a management committee consisting of seven trustees who have full responsibility for its administration and management. The committee is further strengthened by several non-voting members appointed to represent the

various groups which regularly use the Hall. Meetings of the Sudbrooke Village Hall Management Committee are held at approximately six weekly intervals throughout the year to ensure the proper management of every aspect of Hall business. We are a registered charity, governed by a constitution, and each year our audited accounts are submitted to the Charity Commission.

The Hall has been well used this year. Some of our regular users are: the Pre-school Group, Seniors' Club, Ladies' Club, Gardening Club, Mah jong Club and the Parish Council. I would like to thank all of our users for their continued support.

We ended 2012 with a substantial deficit. During 2013 our finances have started to recover, but there is still a long way to go. In order to increase our income and encourage greater use of the Hall we now have a very active fund-raising sub-committee. Their main focus has been to organise the regular Friday evening entertainments or 'Pub Nights', which began on 13th October. With their help I am sure our financial position will continue to improve.

A great deal of voluntary effort, often unseen, enables the running of this facility. As much as I would like to mention the work of individual contributors, I must decline as the list is simply too long. However, to everyone who has been involved, in whatever capacity, I extend my sincere thanks for all their time and effort, so freely given.

With the continued support of the local community we may be confident of another successful year ahead.

### **Parishioners Items**

Two members of the public thanked the Parish Council for their dedication and work throughout the year.

The meeting closed at 7.40pm and refreshments were served.

