

**Notes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Sudbrooke held on
Thursday, 3rd April 2008 in the Village Hall, Sudbrooke**

Present: Councillor Mr M Dickie (Chairman), Mrs C Myers (Clerk),
Mrs B Solly (Treasurer), 9 members of the public, PC M Lassmans

Apologies: Cllr I Russell

Chairman's report – Martin Dickie - Welcome to the Sudbrooke Annual Parish meeting on Thursday 3rd April 2008

'Looking over the last 12 months of Agenda's things seem to be going along at a steady pace, nothing contentious has happened to upset the workings of the Parish Council ,YET !!

The Christmas tree event was a bit of a damp skid but hopefully it will be better this year.

We have worked along side and supported the Parish Plan whose committee have done sterling work.

We still await the Solicitors to sort out the land in front of the shop so we can after 3 years get the dropped kerbs installed

We continually try to keep up with the running and maintenance of all the equipment and land under the ownership of the Council

We have enjoyed working with our present, newest member Paul, but we are seeing three Councillors leave us at the end of this Council year so we look forward to welcoming three new ones with their new and fresh ideas.

It will be sad to say farewell to Derek, Mike and Roger as they have done a tremendous amount of work for the benefit of the Parish. It has been a privilege and an honour to work with each and every one of them and I would like to thank them on behalf of the Council

Thanks also to Nick Truscott for his sterling work as Editor of the Sudbrooke News, long may he remain in post, and to every one involved in getting the Magazine to every house.

My thanks also to Chris the Clerk and Bridget our Treasurer, for their hard work, but mainly for putting up with us. And a final thank you for everyone's support during the year.

Clerks Report – Mrs Chris Myers - Another busy year for a keen and active Parish Council. Meetings of the Parish Council have been held monthly throughout the year. I and the Treasurer, Bridget Solly, work closely together to ensure smooth running of the administration and finances of the Council and attend courses organised by the Lincolnshire Association of Local Councils which are always informative and useful. I have also attended Seminars on Funding and obtaining grants.

Treasurers Report

RECEIPTS in the year

Precept £16,500
Grass cutting Grant £1,460
Bank Interest £1,908
Sudbrooke News £2,430
Sports Day £307
Christmas tree Do £194
VAT Reclaimed £2,500

TOTAL RECEIPTS £25,437

PAYMENTS in the year

Parks and Open Spaces £2,950 – this included landscaping at the Village Hall and Northfield Park.
General Admin £3,622 – this includes sports day, Audit Fees, purchase of a Marquee, Insurance
Salaries and Expenses £9,802
Grass cutting £3,061
Resurfacing the Multi Purpose Sports Area £9,240
Christmas tree Event £610
Parish Plan £1,550 – this includes the purchase of 2 New Age Kurling Kits
Sudbrooke News £3,300

TOTAL PAYMENTS MADE £36,317

County Councillors Report – County Councillor Hiscox stated his dissatisfaction at the high cost of Council tax bills in the County. He also apologised for his non-attendance at Parish Council meetings due to illness.

District Councillors Report – Stuart Curtis – It has been a relatively quiet year compared with previous years when we have had to contend with the proposals by Star Energy for underground gas storage. There has been no further proposals so far and let us hope it remains that way.

During the last year I have sat on the Development Committee which deals with all planning applications and also on the Development Plan Sub-Committee responsible for the local development framework up to the year 2026 which replaces the local plan.

Having helped to achieve a Village shop I am now fully supporting the Parish Council in trying to provide permanent sports field for the village and will press the District Council to provide maximum grants towards such facilities.

Once again rumours are rife over the future of the Red Arrows. We have therefore launched a campaign to make sure that not only do the Red's survive but they remain in West Lindsey. If the Red's were to leave Scampton the effect on the local community would be devastating.

The District Council has set a Council Tax of £1,461.21 for Band D property. This is an increase of 2.9% by the District Council 3.5% by the County Council and 78.9% by the Lincolnshire Police Authority.

Conservation Committee Report – Ian Russell – Throughout the year the Committee has advised on Conservation matters within the Parish. However this has been a relatively quiet year compared to recent years.

Spring Clean – Members have supported litter clearance in the village although this is no longer organised by the Committee.

Trees and Shrubs – Members advised on proposed works to protected trees at various locations in the village. Trees and shrubs on community land were inspected including those planted at Northfield Park in spring 2007.

A further 25 trees were planted to the west of Northfield Park by volunteers. Trees were provided free of charge by Lincolnshire County Council and included 2 Oak, 5 field Maple, 5 wild cherry and 5 rowan.

Village Plan – The Committee has supported promotion of the Parish Action Plan and will continue to seek ways to implement actions of conservation interest.

Footpaths – No work has taken place on actual footpaths but following a spate of vandalism, the timber footbridge over the stream in the Park has been replaced with a steel structure.

Sports field Committee – Stuart Curtis – The Multi-Purpose Sports Area has now been re-surfaced and is ready to use. It is hoped that a Tennis Club can be formed ready to play this season and make full use of the area.

Local Organisations Reports

Village Hall Management Committee – Rose Dobbs, Chairman

The past year has seen much change – we have had a new Chairman, a new Treasurer, a new Secretary, a new Bar Manager, and a Co-opted Fund Raising Member, all critical members of any team. The Committee are the unsung heroes of our village – trustees and representatives who willingly give their time, meeting every six weeks, with a lot more work in between, to assist in the management of the village hall. There is now much stability and spirit among the committee.

Stuart Curtis was one of the Founder Members of the Village Hall and has been a Trustee since its inception. Stuart realised his dream of a village hall for Sudbrooke and has been a member of this Committee since that time. Stuart was committed to the village hall many years before that, since 1972 to be precise – 38 years ago when ideas were being pulled together and the village hall committee was reformed and registered as a charity.

We now have sound financial management. Hugh Thomson, a former Bank Manager, came on board as our Treasurer much less than a year ago and has brought much professionalism to the Committee – before taking on the role he spent weeks, hour upon hour investigating and reconstructing the finances, and since, taking the time to explain the accounts at every committee meeting producing a professional set of management accounts.

Paul Rignall came in as Bar Manager again on a volunteer basis not all that long ago and has done a sterling job. We have good bar management and good returns. Indeed at the New Year's Eve event the organisation was second to none and the promoters of that event are now planning a Summer Ball at the Village Hall.

We have a new Secretary, Ann Yeend and in picking up the gauntlet she took the job to heart and has done a remarkable job in very many ways.

We are indeed indebted to our representatives on the Committee – representatives from the Parish Council, the Gardening Club, the Brownies, the Seniors Coffee Club, the Pre School Group, Mah-Jong, Mums and Toddlers and the Sudbrooke Ladies Club.

Not directly part of this Committee yet very function is the Parish Plan Advisory Group under the chairmanship of Mike Halliday. This group took on the daunting task of producing an Action Plan based on parishioners' views part of which was based on activities for Village Hall use. In the next few months, ideas will become reality and we welcome co-operating with the group on their needs relative to the use of this hall.

As I said earlier there is now much stability and spirit among the Management Committee and I thank that Committee sincerely for their superb support during the year.

Ladies Club – Gill Rignall - The Ladies' Club meets on the third Thursday of most months except August. We go out for a meal in July and have a Christmas party in December. When we meet in the Village Hall we have a speaker and there is a wide variety of topics.

Membership is currently about 35 members. Guests, male and female, are welcome to attend our meetings and are asked to contribute £2.

Sudbrooke Seniors – Sheila Offord – The Sudbrooke Seniors meet regularly and the number of members is increasing.

Gardening Club – Mike Halliday – There have been 9 meetings throughout the year including the Spring and Autumn shows with speakers at the March and October meetings. Other meetings during the year have been held at members homes. Membership continues to be maintained but there is concern about the age profile of members, young people do not seem to be joining the club but this is due perhaps to smaller paved gardens being favoured in some developments. Any person wishing to join the Club is welcome.

Parish Plan Group – Mike Halliday – The launch of the plan took place in April 2007 and was attended by 269 residents who prioritised 13 of the total 35 actions for early attention.

The Parish Plan is a 10 year plan but will continually evolve as circumstances change. The formal constitution was written and adopted, Officers appointed except for the Vice Chair which is still open. There are 11 permanent Parish Plan Group members who have met regularly.

A meeting was held last October for the suggestion of new Clubs/activities/groups – this was well attended and plans are now in place to organise Walking, Tennis, New Age Kurling, Yoga and Keep Fit. More help is needed though to progress these activities.

A litter pick is planned for 19th April next.

A good close working relationship with the Parish Council has been achieved throughout the establishment of the Parish Plan.

Parishioners items – There were none.

The meeting closed at 7.40pm.

