

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 26TH MAY 2016 AT 7.30PM IN CORONATION HALL, WOODHALL SPA

There were 52 members of the public in attendance.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr David Clarke, introduced himself and the Parish Clerk, and welcomed everyone to the meeting. He explained the format of the meeting.

2. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mrs Linda Sisley, PCSO Nicola Stuchfield and District Councillor Craig Leyland

3. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 28TH MAY 2015

It was proposed by Graham Keegan and seconded by Martin Wright that the minutes be signed as a correct record of the meeting. This was confirmed by a show of hands and the Chairman signed the minutes.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman explained that his report would cover the period from 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016 and he displayed a list of the Parish Councillors during this period. The meeting was given information about the functions and structure of the Parish Council.

The Chairman spoke about the highlights of 2015/16, the first one mentioned was the Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership speed awareness campaign and the passive and reactive speed awareness signs which had been displayed in various locations within the village. The meeting was shown the data that had been collected from the reactive signs. Other highlights included the refurbishment of the village signs, the tidying of Kirkby Lane cemetery, repairs to Jubilee Park roads and line marking, Neighbourhood Development Plan consultation, ELDC transformation programme, responding to important planning and tree work applications, Wartime Woodhall Heritage Trail, the provision of a new bus shelter on Witham Road, the revising of the Community Emergency response plan, working to provide cycle racks in two locations in the village, interacting with Highways on various issues, trialling the Parish Council newsletter being printed within the pages of the Wapentake magazine,

organising the Christmas lights and carol service, developing a tree management policy for the village, working with ELDC and the Heritage Committee on the Article IV Direction and Local Development Order for the Conservation Area, and installing a new flag pole in Royal Square.

The Chairman explained what the Parish Council's role was in the planning process and gave details of the significant planning and tree applications which it had been consulted on last year.

The Chairman gave details of grants which the Parish Council had given to community organisations during the 2015/16 financial year, and he informed the meeting that the Parish Council was currently revising its policy so was not accepting grant applications at the current time.

The Chairman spoke about the precept and he explained why the precept had been increased and how it only equated to a 2% increase to property owners which was equivalent to 70p a year increase for band D properties, and he commented that the precept for Woodhall Spa was still lower than many other similar size parishes.

Details were also given about the consultations which the Parish Council had been asked to consider and respond to during the past twelve months.

The Chairman finished his report by speaking about what the year ahead would have in store for the Parish Council and the community, this included on-going discussions with ELDC on its Transformation Programme and the transfer of ELDC assets within the parish to the Parish Council, being consulted on the ELDC Core Strategy and Settlement Proposals, updating the Community Emergency Plan and getting the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) to the referendum stage.

The Community was encouraged to get involved by responding to the NDP, and East Lindsey Local Plan consultations, volunteering to help with the Community Emergency Plan and helping at the Cemetery Clean up morning on June 18th.

Photos were shown of the work being done at the cemetery and of the volunteers hard at work, and the meeting was informed that the Parish Council would hold a public meeting on the settlement proposals once they had been approved by ELDC.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

The Parish Clerk informed the meeting that copies of the financial report had been put on the seats and were available on the Parish Council website.

The Clerk gave a verbal summary of the financial report and informed the meeting that the Council's accounts would be available for public inspection from 6th June until 19th July at the Parish Council office if any resident wished to make an appointment to come and view the Parish Council's accounts.

6. TO RECEIVE REPORTS

The Chairman informed the meeting that the report from the Local Policing Team was on the seats.

EAST LINDSEY DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

District Councillor Susanna Gorst thanked the Parish Council Chairman for speaking about the Transformation Programme and the Local Plan and she encouraged everyone to respond to the consultation on the Local Plan because a lot of work had gone into producing the plan. She also informed the meeting that ELDC was debating this evening on the Devolution proposal and having an elected Mayor for Greater Lincolnshire and she explained what this would mean for the County. Councillor Gorst expressed her thanks to the Parish Council for working so well with ELDC and she invited residents to contact her with any questions or comments relating to ELDC business.

LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

County Cllr Hoyes informed the meeting that he had been fighting hard for Woodhall Spa's share of LCC funding and would continue to keep fighting. He mentioned the Devolution proposal and commented that the money that it would bring was not a lot to be spread amongst the entire County and he couldn't see Woodhall Spa benefitting from having a Mayor for Greater Lincolnshire. He explained that he had been working and donating funds to get a cycle rack installed in the village. The Woodhall Spa old Victorian drainage system was mentioned which caused a lot of issues, and Cllr Hoyes promised to keep fighting for Woodhall Spa whenever he could.

Both the District and County Councillors were thanked for their support.

WOODHALL SPA CRICKET CLUB

Martin Wright spoke about the support that the Cricket Club had been given which had enabled it to update its facilities which could be used by the community throughout the year, and not just for cricket.

He commented that the club was very proud of its Cricketers and how they represented the village and had been very successful. The Club was hoping to get a grant from the Nationwide Building Society so a public access defibrillator could be installed and a hearing loop. He encouraged residents to attend the Legends event.

The meeting was given details about the Woodhall Spa community groups / organisations which were represented around the hall, and included: Tree Group, Heritage Committee, Jubilee Park, Jubilee Park Bowling Club, Rotary Club, Lions Club, Neighbourhood Development Plan, Community Emergency Plan, Gardeners Association, St Peter's Church and the Tennis Club.

7. TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS FROM ELECTORS

John Luffman from the Cricket Club asked what support the Parish Council would be able to give regarding the issue of dog fouling which was regularly happening on the cricket ground. He explained that the Cricket Club would be erecting signs to ask people not to exercise their dogs on the Cricket Ground, and he commented that he was aware that Jubilee Park would be implementing a rule that all dogs had to be on leads. He asked if the Parish Council would put an item in its next newsletter to ask residents not to walk their dogs on the Cricket ground. He was informed that the Parish Council would co-ordinate with the Cricket Club and Jubilee Park on an article for the next issue.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and encouraged people to stay and have a drink and look around the tables of the community organisations.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.20pm.