



MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 22.04.16

Chairman - M J Bootman

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Minutes of the Palgrave Annual Parish Meeting held in the Community Centre on 22nd April 2016 at 7.30pm

Present

Councillors: M Bootman (Chairman), Mrs E Bootman, Mrs E Collins, Mrs W Cooper, J Gibbons and Ms M Sneddon.

Also present: County Cllr J Fleming, District Cllr D Burn and R Twigge, Ms B Dewhurst and C and Ms J Lewis from the River Waveney Trust.

Electors: Mrs H Cooke, Mrs B Dyer, M Dyer, V Dyer, P Dyer, Ms G Heriz, Mrs D Gibbons, P Harrington, D Kemble, M Lockett, Mrs J Lockett, Ms J Lockwood, L Lockwood, I McClintock, Mrs J McClintock, J Sparks.

4.16.1 APM Welcome

Cllr M Bootman welcomed Electors and Representatives and explained the purpose and structure of the Meeting, which would take a slightly different format from previous years.

4.16.2 APM Apologies

Apologies received from Cllr M Brown, Cllr K Charman, Cllr N Weston, H Bunbury, Mrs S Bunbury, Mrs D Dyer, Mrs S Dyer, H Westerveld and Mrs K Westerveld.

4.16.3 APM To confirm the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held 24th April 2015

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 24th April 2015, having been published in the on the Parish website and in the April 2016 'Palgrave Star', were approved and signed as a true record. Copies of the Reports were appended to the Minutes.

4.16.4 APM Reports

The following reports, having been published on the Parish website and in the April 2016 'Palgrave Star', were referred to and supplemented by additional information, with the main points of discussion on each noted as follows:

4.16.4.1 APM Police: submitted by PCSO David Faulkner

In the absence of a representative from the Police, the Chairman summarised the report and informed those present of the recent changes to policing following the force-wide review:

Reduction in PCSOs across the force together with a reduction in Safer Neighbourhood Teams, locally down from 4 PCSOs to just 1 and 1 PC, under a Sergeant who also covers Debenham, with operational command and support based in Halesworth;

Locality Inspector at Halesworth had e-mailed the Chairman about methods of keeping in touch. The Chairman had replied but no further contact has been made since;

Eye Police Station remains in use but now closed to the public;

Attendance at Parish Council meetings only for specific crime or crime prevention matters;

New style of crime report for Parish Councils introduced but to date has not been circulated;

Crime statistics for Palgrave exclude St John's but these are included on internet crime maps.

Those present agreed that the Chairman should write to express their thanks to PCSO Faulkner for his work as the local policing presence over the past 3 years.

4.16.4.2 APM County Council: County Cllr Jessica Fleming

Community Transport Provision - recommended attendance at one of the briefing meetings;
Infrastructure - very aware of the pressures on local roads and schools;
Highways - 15 year investment plan (for Highways England) only includes major routes;
HGVs/Lorry Routes - meeting to be held with SCC Cabinet Member next week. Agreed that Crossing and Priory Roads are both unsuitable for this traffic;
Flooding by the pond - apologised for the unacceptable level of service from SCC Highways.

4.16.4.3 APM District Council: District Cllr David Burn

Brome Recycling Centre - nearest site serving 94 Parishes in S Norfolk/N Suffolk. New operator found and was due to open 25th April but delayed by legal issues. Re-opening will be widely publicised with full details and information re opening times and charges on MSDC website;
Real Nappy Week - Suffolk sends 8,000 tonnes of disposable nappies to Energy-from-Waste (EfW) site a year, costing over £1 million to deal with. Modern real nappies are much improved over original terrycloth squares and can save up to £1,000 per baby, see www.goreal.org.uk
Home Composting - Suffolk deals with 50,000 tonnes of organic waste a year, costing over £3.5 million. Special deals on home composting bins and wormeries, see www.getcomposting.com or call 0844 571 4444 quoting SUF16L;
Comments - different operating practices for recycling and green waste across District Councils. MSDC uses 'open windrow' composting, not organic digestion, so cannot accept food waste.

4.16.4.4 APM St Peter's Parochial Church Council: Mrs Beryl Dyer (PCC)

Rector for the Benefice - Rev. Adrian Watkins, agreed to introduction of a rationalised pattern of services across the churches in the Benefice that has resulted in a joint feeling of 'belonging';
Friends of Palgrave Church - revived at recent meeting, is developing a programme of events to support St Peter's, including a talk on the history of the two Palgrave churches on 3rd June;
Repairs - more roof replacement work is needed above the Chancel but the churchyard is in good condition, with renovations to the front and rear gates to be done this summer.

4.14.4.5 APM St Peter's Primary School: Patrick Harrington (Governor)

Road Safety - still awaiting proposals following meeting last September;
Playground/Classrooms - with the school being sited within the Village Green and Conservation Area doing anything presents challenges. Need for more classroom space is now consider more pressing and the Governors are considering options for providing temporary accommodation;
Academy Status - would that bring the opportunity of building a new school on a new site? Uncertain, but it offers more scope for funding directly from the department for Education;
Catchment Area - where does it extend? At present 19 pupils are from Norfolk.

4.14.4.6 APM Palgrave & District Community Council: Martin Dyer (Chairman)

Refurbishment programme - further redecoration and replacement ovens in the kitchen;
Events programme - continues with an expanded programme and new themes, film nights very successful and the audio-visual projection equipment had been further enhanced;
Working with Parish Council - in providing joint Parish notice board and new play equipment;
30th Anniversary - of the opening of the Community Centre on 12th April 1986, to be celebrated by a 'Discover Palgrave' programme events from late May and during June;
Constitution - updated version to be put to Special General Meeting on 17th May;
'Palgrave Star' - under a new editor it continues to be published monthly and delivered free;
Alan Spoor - stood down after 3 years as chairman and editor of the 'Star', having achieved much in both roles. His efforts were much appreciated and contributions invaluable.

4.14.4.7 APM Parish Council: Cllr M Bootman (Chairman)

Vacancy - there is 1 vacancy to be filled;

Budget - last year the duties and responsibilities that direct the work of the Parish Council were summarised. This year a brief explanation of the budget process was given. Having frozen the budget last year an increase was necessary this year, half of which was due to increased charges by Mid Suffolk District Council for grass-cutting and emptying dog waste and litter bins;

Planning Applications - have taken up more of the Council's time and efforts in the past year, a consequence of Mid Suffolk not having a 5-year land supply that permits central government to consider land beyond settlement boundaries as appropriate for development. Arguments that development is not sustainable due to constraints on the school and services and infrastructure in Diss are consistently dismissed by MSDC despite evidence to the contrary;

Keeping You Informed - through regular reports in the 'Palgrave Star', information on the Parish website www.palgrave.onesuffolk.net and by e-mailshots.

4.15.1. APM Other Village Organisations

Due acknowledgement and thanks were given to the other organisations in the Parish which include the Palgrave Welfare Trust, St John's Liaison Group, Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator and, individually and collectively, members of the Gardening and Social Group. Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator John Sparks spoke briefly concerning reductions in support and funding.

Break for Refreshments

4.16.6 APM River Waveney Trust

The River Waveney forms the northern boundary of the Parish, District and County. Robin Twigge, chairman of the River Waveney Trust, gave an amusing and informative talk about it's aims and how it can support and work with those organisations having shared interests.

4.16.7 APM Joint Working Party (JWP) for 'Play in Palgrave'

The Parish Council and PDCC are working together to revitalise the Play Area on the Community Playing Field. Hannah Cooke provided an update on the work and progress made by the JWP, supported by plans and illustrations on a display. Regular updates will be found on the PDCC website www.pdcc.co.uk and in the 'Palgrave Star'.

4.16.8 APM Discussion - Community-led Planning - Cllr M Bootman with Cllr D Burn

The Chairman referred to his earlier remarks and to recent planning approvals. Communities can have a say in the way they develop, but not prevent development. Community-led Plans must be considered in making planning decisions but do not have the same legal status as Neighbourhood Plans. These Plans let Communities examine issues - e.g. housing, schooling, traffic, local services - gather evidence about them and then make proposals to address them. Require commitment and expertise to develop, support by District Council, public consultation, examination by planning inspector and local referendum to agree them.

Palgrave is invited to join Diss and its neighbouring Parishes to develop a Neighbourhood Plan.

4.16.9 APM Discussion - Other Business

None was previously notified nor requested by those present.

4.16.10 APM Annual Parish Council Meeting 12th May 2016

This is the Parish Council's 'Annual General Meeting' when the chairman and vice-chairman are elected and members of committees and representatives to other bodies appointed.

4.16.11 APM Meeting ended - Closing Remarks with thanks to all those present.