

Annual Parish Meeting Report - April 2017

The Annual Meeting for Electors of the Parish of Palgrave was held in the Community Centre on 21st April. Almost 70 residents were present, together with Councillors from the County and District Councils and various local bodies and organisations with the meeting chaired by Cllr Mike Bootman.

Reports, previously published in the April issue of the Palgrave Star were presented to the meeting with question and answer sessions following each report. Following a summary submitted by the Police, Cllrs Jessica Fleming and David Burn spoke respectively on behalf of the County and District Councils; St Peter's Church and the Benefice was talked about by Hugh Bunbury; Patrick Harrington spoke about the Village School and was joined by Kit Wells of the governing body of the Academy Trust to answer a number of important questions about future plans for a new site; Martin Dyer reported on the Palgrave and District Community Council whilst Mike Bootman spoke about several current issues for the Parish Council and answered questions.

A progress update on the 'Play in Palgrave' Project was enthusiastically delivered by Hannah Cooke, at the end of which Cllr Mike Bootman was pleased to hand over to those members of the Joint Working Party who were present (Cllrs Elaine Bootman and Wendy Cooper, and Jane McClintock and Hannah Cooke) funds of £5,500, previous received by the Parish Council and representing donations from local businesses Renvale and Danny Ward Builders and grants from District Councillor David Burn and County Councillor Jessica Fleming. Those present showed their appreciation for the hard work and fund raising successes that had allowed the two principal items of play equipment and seating and tables to be ordered in such a comparatively short time.

After a brief moment to remind those present of the work done by the Palgrave Welfare Trust and other groups and individuals, such as John Sparks for Neighbourhood Watch, the meeting took a short break for refreshments, with the Community Centre Bar open as usual on a Friday evening.

Following the break there was a presentation concerning the potential for proposals for substantial development surrounding the village and the merits and benefits of preparing a Community-Led Plan in the interim whilst a Neighbourhood Plan for Diss & District was being drawn up. As may be expected there were many searching and relevant questions asked for which answers were given where possible. After full debate and positive discussion those present all agreed with the proposal to work with the five other Parishes surrounding Diss and with Diss Town Council to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan; there will be a number of ways in which residents, businesses and other stakeholders can get together to help identify the issues and consider ways of addressing them so please do look out for future announcements.

Next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 18th May 2017 - 7.30pm in the Community Centre. Members of the public are always welcome to attend and time may be set aside for any questions. The agenda is posted in advance on the Palgrave website:

<http://www.palgrave.onesuffolk.net/> and also on the Parish notice board by Forge Close.

This is the Annual Parish Council meeting when the chairman is elected and appointments made for a vice-chairman, members of any committees or working groups and representatives to other bodies.

The Parish Council meeting due to be held on 8th June is postponed for one week due to the holding of a General Election on the original date, when the Community Centre will be the Polling Station.

You can contact the Parish Council by e-mail: palgravepc@gmail.com or tel: 07554 733 621 or in writing to: Palgrave Parish Council, c/o Church Hill, Hoxne, Eye IP21 5AT.

Any issues, ideas, suggestions or offers of help relating to Community-Led/Neighbourhood Planning can be sent to the above or by e-mail to: mikebootman@outlook.com
