



## OLD PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Richard Baldwin      Clerk: Nicki Clode

### Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 25 April 2017 in the Community Centre, Townson Close at 7.30 pm

**Parish Councillors Present:** Richard Baldwin (Chair), Pauline Baldwin, Nick Moore, Colin Smart, Graham Day, Catherine Beckett.

**District Councillor:** Ann Carter,

**Old Parish Charities, Chairman of the Trustees:** Joan Barratt

**Members of the public, village groups or village organisation representatives:** 9

1. **To note any apologies given.** Parish Councillors Rosemary Bury, Nick Moore and Barrie Grant. County Councillor Judy Shephard
2. **To approve the minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting of 26 April 2016.** Approved
3. **To receive report from the Parish Council Chairman covering the activities of the Parish Council for the year to 31 March 2017 and to take any questions following the report and agree any actions.**

This year has again seen some changes to the personnel of the Council.

In December we said good bye to Alicia Schofield who had been our Clerk for nearly three years left us to take up a position as Town Clerk to Higham Ferrers Council. In Alicia's place we welcomed Nicki Clode but sadly, due to family commitments, Nicki will also be leaving us at the end of April. I would like to thank both Alicia and Nicki for the work that they did for the Council and for the support that they gave me and I wish them both the very best for the future.

Our new Clerk will be Rosie Warne who will join us at the beginning of May. Rosie is already Clerk to several other Parish Councils so brings a wealth of experience and I am looking forward to working with her.

This year we have been very fortunate to obtain two defibrillators for the Parish. One is located at the Community Centre in Townson Close and the other adjacent to the central green in Cherry Hill. We are very grateful to Old Parish Charities for funding the former and British heart Foundation for providing a grant for the latter. Unfortunately we are experiencing some issues with the cabinets that will house the defibrillators but we are working to resolve these and hope to have both fully working in the near future. As well as the equipment we also had a very well attended training session provided by East Midlands Ambulance Service so I believe we are in a much better position if anyone is unfortunate to suffer a cardiac emergency in the Parish.

It was again very pleasing to see a large crowd attend the Xmas tree lighting celebration. As always our thanks go to the Charities for co-funding the tree, the White Horse for providing the mulled wine and mince pies and all those who helped with putting the tree up and taking it down. Particular thanks also to Moira Hornby who donated some fabulous new lights for the tree.

Some of you may have noticed that we have a new contractor cutting the grass in the parish and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sam Harris who has done a great job in maintaining our green spaces for the past three years.

Due to the unusually warm, and at times wet, spring the first cut this year was something of a challenge but the job was made easier thanks to all those good natured people who have been cutting the grass verges outside their homes. As well as keeping the parish looking neat and tidy this also helps to reduce the overall cost to the Council so we are extremely grateful to everyone that helps in this way.

It has been suggested that we leave some areas of the greens uncut to allow wild flowers to flourish which will, in turn, benefit bees, butterflies etc. I think this could be a very good idea if it was carefully managed but I would welcome your views.

The contractors have raised a couple of concerns with the Council following their first cut which I want to share with you.

Firstly they did encounter quite a lot of dog mess on some of the greens. As well as being anti-social and unhygienic this is understandably very unpleasant for the people using the mowers, strimmers etc. As we have previously stated Daventry District Council has strong policies on dog fouling and the Parish Council will not hesitate to report anyone

we suspect of allowing their dogs to foul.

Secondly they also found some small metal canisters at the edge of the green at Cherry Hill. Whilst we cannot be sure what the canisters contained they are typical of the type used to contain nitrous oxide or 'laughing gas' which is used as a recreational drug by some people. There may, of course, be a perfectly innocent explanation for the canisters to be there but, as this is the first time we have come across this, we are passing the information on so people can be aware.

On a related subject there is some concern that the amount of litter seems to be increasing, particularly on Mill Lane and Walgrave Road. Much of this is probably discarded from passing cars but there is some evidence of fly tipping. We are talking to DDC about what we can do to discourage this type of behaviour.

I am still keen to create some flower beds on the greens around the Parish and the White Horse have kindly donated a wooden barrel to use as a feature planter for the small green in the village where the Wold sign is so if there are any budding garden designers who would like to help create a flower bed there please let me know.

Questions/comments:

- Comment from a member of the public that recycle bins add to the litter around the village. Chair to include request for people to be considerate when putting their recycling waste out.
- White horse pub offered to donate flowers for barrel planter that they have already donated.

#### **4. To receive reports from the County Councillor and the District Councillor and to take any questions following the reports and agree any actions County Councillor Shephard.**

I have now completed 20 years as your local County Councillor for the Moulton Division which comprised 13 villages. (Boughton, Pitsford, Moulton, Hannington, Holcot, Old, Overstone, Walgrave the Bramptons the Harlestones and Spratton.)

We are approaching the County Council Elections on 4<sup>th</sup> May and have now entered a period of Purdah which will restrict the content of my report.

NCC have commenced the second year of a four year budget, and have to make and have to make £66.9m savings over the next 12 months which is a substantial challenge.

This is being achieved for example by:

- 12 Headquarter buildings being consolidated into one (One Angel Square) (£51M saving). The new Council offices will be occupied next month.
- Exploring if we can become Unitary Authority (duplication of services)
- Reducing front line services duplication (people receiving more than one service)
- Adopting a zero based budget approach (instead of looking at existing budgets and deciding what cuts can be made, we go to a position of each service having zero money and seeing what they need to deliver their outcomes!) ensuring resources are deployed to the right areas.
- No cuts are planned but the key is managing demand

Our Highways maintenance alliance is recognised as best value and ensures that we repair over 40,000 potholes a year. (which covers a 28,000 mile road network in Northamptonshire).

Since 2012 we have created 13,474 new School places in the county. This year, for example, saw Secondary School places allocated to more than 8000 pupils across Northamptonshire – 300 more than last year.

Our invaluable Fire & Rescue Service has attended more than 4000 incidents this year and the number of incidents continue to fall. This is testament to the work by the F&R in our communities through Home Safety Checks. This year, almost 80% of the homes in high risk areas have been visited and checked by our Fire Officers to help people to minimise risks to themselves and to their properties.

Our Library Plus Centres are being used more than ever and will have been visited more than 3 Million times this last year, and our valued Country Parks attracted over 2 million visitors.

We have established 'First for wellbeing' the largest publicly owned social enterprise of its type which is revolutionising our offer to residents in the services we provide. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has indicated that Northamptonshire is to receive 11.5m extra for Social Care in recognition of the demand pressures we face here on our service.

The number of older people in our county (currently 132,00 is predicted to grow by around 37,000 over the next 10 years. This means by 2027 the number of people over 85 will have increased by 7000! (from 16,000 to 23,000). This means we have to deliver our services in a much smarter way.

As part of our Next Generation Model we are creating NASS for the provision of Adult Social Care as a single entity

(Olympus, Contracts, ASC combined) which will be fully operational by September of this year. NCC are to run a further consultation on the preferred route for the Northern Orbital Route and the North-West Relief Road simultaneously. The consultation material will be available on the NCC website immediately before the start of the consultation which runs for 6 weeks from 15<sup>th</sup> May until the 30<sup>th</sup> of June. There will be a number of Exhibitions in several locations. (Including Boughton, Pitsford, Harlestone, Moulton and Kingsthorpe). Locally I sit on Harlestone, Raybell, Boughton and Pitsford Liaison Forums, the OMBHH Committee, The Buckton Fields Liaison Forum and in addition I attend all the Parish Council Meetings within my Division and I have been a Boughton Parish Councillor for over 30 years. I am at present Chairman of Development Control at NCC which deals with planning issues such as Schools, Roads, Minerals and Waste. It is a job I love!

### **District Councillor Carter.**

As always at this time of year, the Annual Parish Meeting gives residents the opportunity to meet with their various representatives at Parish, District and County Levels. Many of you already know me as I have represented the Walgrave Ward for the last 14 years, but it is fair to say that a large proportion do not know me as they have never had cause to make contact. Those that have had a wide range of concerns and queries, mainly on the planning side but equally on such matters as missed bins, flytipping, antisocial behaviour and general concerns about the rules and procedures of Local Government. In all cases, I try to explain what I can and cannot achieve in these areas and where possible, intervene on behalf of residents who feel uncomfortable when dealing with Officers at DDC. This report is also meant to appraise residents of what is happening in and around the District. As you know, Daventry Calling does try as best it can to let all residents know the up-to-date position as does our Facebook and website pages. On this subject, the Spring issue is a wealth of information from applying for community grants to the major projects planned for 2017. The Council has also voted to pursue a contract with Daventry Norse when the current contract ends with Amey in 2018. Many of you will know that the current cost of waste collection is set to rise considerably and it was this fact that decided us to radically rethink our waste collection service to keep the cost down as much as possible. Please remember that it is not just your waste/recycling costs but also the cost of clearing flytipping, street cleaning and keeping Daventry town and its surroundings, clean and tidy. There will be changes to the current system – one good thing is the blue and red boxes will disappear to be replaced by one bin for all recyclates. Normal waste will be collected every 3 weeks, recyclates every week as will food waste in the small brown bins. Green waste will still be an option at a small yearly extra cost for those that wish it. Nearer the time, all households will be fully informed of the new arrangements and the effective date. As far as your District Councillor is concerned, I am still very much involved as Chairman of the Licensing Committee and currently making waves about the (in my view) very jaundiced report that has emerged from the Lords on the future of Licensing. As we are now facing a General Election, naturally such matters have been shelved for the time being and possibly shelved for a considerable length of time. I am also very keen on promoting the concept of Affordable homes in our villages and regularly sit on the Affordable Homes subcommittee which brings together representatives from all Housing Associations that have homes already in the District. Added to that, I am very supportive of the Walgrave Wellbeing Centre concept and meet with the Partners on a regular basis. It was disappointing however, that the open meeting held late last year in the Church room did not attract many residents. I have nothing else to add to this report other than to thank all residents for their continued support and as always, consider it a privilege to be your advocate in many areas. I may not always give you the answer you would like to hear, but rest assured, it will be truthful, fair and without prejudice.

### **5. To receive reports from the Trustees of Old Parish Charities and to take any questions and to agree any actions.**

Presented by the Chairman to the Trustees, Joan Barratt. Report from the trustees. David Parton continues as vice chairman. In the last 12 months welcomed Bridget as one of the trustees. Disabled facilities being updated at the community centre to include:- Disabled toilet, Adapted internal door and plans to adapt the external doors. Good level of use by the community with events such as, Quarterly Breakfasts, coffee mornings, lunches including a fish and chip lunch once/month. Pools darts night have a steady group of people partaking. Hobby craft continues. Pool and darts night continues with a steady group and Youth Club

has become a real success and needs further volunteers. Christmas lunch was a success with over 50 people attending. Shopping bus/ Taxi has been suspended due to lack of demand. Community centre closed for elections 4 May and 6 June. 2 Allotments are currently available. Tennis court keys available should any one wish to use the facility. Currently reviewing the conditions of the tennis court which could to be power cleaned and possibly further work depending on expert review. Dog fouling remains a problem. Cricket club are putting a score box up and are going to install more substantial nets down by the tennis courts to ensure safety. Bungalow number 3 came up for residency. 3 applicants. 1 person complied with charity rules and will be taking residency in 2-3 weeks. Curry night sat 14 Oct, and treasure 10<sup>th</sup> Sep. Mrs Barret thanked all for their support and hard work over the year.

#### **Questions/comments**

Those present discussed possibilities of a dog poo bag dispenser.

Suzu from the white horse pub requested someone informed Elaine that she will volunteer for the youth club.

#### **6. To receive reports from any parish group, organisation, community representative and village resident and to take any questions following the reports and agree any actions.**

##### **Cricket Club: Frank Keightley Represented by Richard Baldwin.**

Mark Bocking has taken over the Chairmanship this year from David Lloyd, who has reverted to the role of Vice-Chairman, and Mark has therefore relinquished his position of Coordinator of Youth Cricket. Moira Hornby will be returning to the role. In 2017 the club is fielding 3 League sides, and 2 Friendly teams. Club Captain Sam Street leads the 1<sup>st</sup> XI in Division 2 of the Northants League, whilst we have a new skipper leading the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI in Division 7 : James Hope. Tim Keeber, leading the 3<sup>rd</sup> XI . All fixtures are now available to view on village notice-boards. Saturday home fixtures for the 3<sup>rd</sup> XI and home fixtures for all mid-week games are held at Walgrave. Aspiring new players – of whatever ability are always welcome and should come down to the Playing Field on Thursday nights at 6pm.

The Club shall be fielding two junior sides in the Corby & District League : the Under-11's and the Under-13's. The Under-11's play on Sunday mornings starting at 10 am. The Under-11's play on Monday evenings at 6pm and all home games will be on Old Playing Field. The Juniors' training night is Wednesday starting at 6pm and again we welcome all-comers. Moira will be offering the ECB "All-Stars Cricket Programme" for 5 to 8 year olds and senior players will be on hand to coach under-11's and under-13's. One such senior player will be our new Overseas Player, again this year an Australian, who as an all-rounder will be coaching our youth as well as senior players with both bat and ball. We are looking forward to his arrival in the next week or so and must give warm thanks to Mr and Mrs Yeoman for their continued support with accommodation.

Our appreciation as ever goes also to Old Parish Charities for their continued sponsorship of the Junior teams, whilst we have a new main sponsor for the senior sides : The Proper Pub Company, thus once again re-cementing the club's relationship with the village pub.

Sunday August 27<sup>th</sup> will be our annual gala cricket day, when, weather-permitting, lots of entertainment will be on offer as teams of mixed age and gender will compete for the Jabba Cup. All villagers are warmly invited down to the playing field to enjoy the fun.

This season's contact details for both Junior section coaches and senior officers can be found in the spring edition of News From Old, and will be repeated in the Summer edition.

##### **St Andrews Church: Jacqueline Yeoman**

The average for Sunday attendance is 20. There have been a variety of services. Mission partner from Brasil conducted a very interesting service. Christmas eve 200 attendees with collection of £650 divided between Hope centre in Northampton and Christian mission partners in Brazil. 2 new officials. Mark Willis (reader). Mrs Gill Hewer (lay pastoral minister). Camping night for youngsters in the church good fun hoping to repeat this year. The Parish share to the Diocese was paid in full. Church lighting has been overhauled. Next project to be the Bell. Fundraising for which is ongoing £45-£75,000 will need to be raised. Food drop of point in the church for the food bank in Kettering is available. Thanks to Sue Clark for organizing the flower arranging rota and all those who carry out the works. Fate 25<sup>th</sup> June at the village hall/ playing fields to raise funds. Mrs Yeoman thanked all for their support and hard work over the year.

##### **Village Hall, Katie Lindenbaun**

Village hall been running for 6 years. Regular clubs are the mainstay of bookings. with the aim for regular bookings to cover overheads. Regular clubs include: - short mat balls club, Table tennis, palates classes, badminton, bridge club and Friday film nights.. Still a need a need for fund raising to cover any contingencies such as building maintenance and repair. Live music events have proven to proven to be successful fund raising events as have bridge drives. The

most successful event of the year was the bonfire and fireworks night with an attendance of over 400 people and approximate £1200 raised. The Pantomime was very well attended and the plan is to use same company this year for a production snow white and The Railway Children. There are plans to redecorate kitchen and toilets, and deep clean kitchen this year. Also, there are plans to improve the gate with instillation of a high bar gate to help avoid parking issues in the surround areas. Mrs Lindenbaun thanked the committee members and welcomed to Kate Bates. Mrs Lindenbaun thanked all those who have supported the Village hall over the year. The Current bank balance is approximately £20,000 a healthy amount for contingencies and testament to the support and fund-raising efforts of all involved.

#### **The White Horse, Stuart Wright**

Mr Wright is really enjoying being part of the community and getting involved. Has had an excellent year. Shared that the pub is endeavoring to be more selective and considerate towards the village when booking events. Also, explained why they applied for formal planning for the marquee even though it wasn't technically necessary. This was done as a means of being transparent with the community even though they do not need planning. Due to objections from once source creating issues with the planning but a well-supported petition signed by many members of the community in support of the marquee they decided to withdraw the unnecessary formal planning process. The pub needs additional events to maintain a viable business. In order to ensure any events have minimal impact on neighbors a decibel meter has been purchased which will automatically cap the volume of the music. Four events are currently scheduled for the year. Three private bookings and Beerfest!. Mr Wright thanked the village for its ongoing support and commented that it's a pleasure to run a pub in village with a real sense of community.

#### **Amanda Baldwin Walgrave Wellbeing Centre**

The Wellbeing Centre been running since 2014. It is community interested nonprofit organisation. It covers the whole Ward. The Remit is to provide support, activities and services for the wellbeing of villagers in conjunction with other organisations. Community mini bus is a facility open to all villages. The centre runs trips to a variety of locations such as market towns and events such as Melton Morbarry cheese fair. Would like to work with the community and village organisations to widen their reach. Currently their biggest need is for communication of events and services to maximize public benefit.

#### **Comments.**

Cllr P Baldwin asked Amanda to email her so she can include Wellbeing Centre communications in any email groups. White Horse pub invited Amanda to send them any information and they will post it to the pub notice board. Cllr R Baldwin invited her to do the same for the Parish Council notice board.

Old Parish Charities shared that Community Centre is available subject to availability and if for benefit of the community there is no hire fee.

#### **Women of Wold, Bridget Fairway**

Sarah Hampden-Smith taken over from Pam and Ann who ran the Women of Wold for many years. Attendance is not necessary every month people can dip in and out depending on whether the topic of the meeting is of interest. Currently there are 20 members average of 12-15 at any one event. All new members welcome.

Wold meets every 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday in the month. Topics include book reviews and a variety of guest speakers. Also, there are a variety of trips planned. The meetings offer an opportunity t catch up with friends and meet new women with a glass of wine or two!

The meeting closed at 9.35pm

Signed by Chair:

Date: