

# PARISH OF SNETTISHAM

## MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

**8<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2019 IN THE MEMORIAL HALL**

Chair – Cllr Ros Pugh [RP] (Chairman, Snettisham Parish Council)

Taking minutes – Simon Bower (Clerk, SPC)

Also present approximately 35 Members of the Public

Clerk noted that this was not a PC meeting, and that only electors of Snettisham could ask questions. The Chairman then welcomed those present.

The meeting began at 7.01 pm

- 1 An **apology** for absence was received from County Cllr Stuart Dark.
- 2 The **minutes** of the previous meeting (16<sup>th</sup> May, 2018) were available for those present<sup>1</sup>. There being no objections, the Chairman signed these as a true record.
- 3 **Parish Council** Report – The Chairman read from prepared notes - attached<sup>2</sup>.
- 4 Reports from **Groups** etc:
  - a. **Borough Council**: Cllr Ian Devereux [ID] reported that he was the Cabinet Member for the Environment: "I am your bin man". There had been issues with the falling quality of recycled material, and monitoring of bin contents had caused upset – a "more sympathetic" approach was being adopted. As Chair of the Wash East Coast Management Strategy he commented on the Beach recycling (20,000 m<sup>3</sup> of sand being moved) which protected the shingle ridge, without which the flood risk reached beyond the A149. The Community Interest Company led by Mike McDonnell had raised about 42% of the funding needed so far. In 5-7 years' time, there may be need for major works, including pumping sand from offshore, costing £1-2m. As a member of the local RFFC (Coastal and Tidal Influence Member) he is involved in a 75-year plan dealing with the future of the Fens; a one metre rise in sea level is expected in 50, or even 30, years. He had attended 38 of the graveside commemorations in the Snett45 project, and commented on its success. On Council tax, he noted that the Borough's Band D cost (£72p.a. excluding the Internal Drainage Board levy of £54) was one of the lowest in the country, and they were working to maintain this while planning for now and the future.
  - b. **Memorial Hall**: written report – attached – read by the Clerk.
  - c. **W.I.**: written report – attached – read by Janet Lane. She added comments about a book she had read referring to the W.I. taking rubbish from the Village to the

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<sup>1</sup> Draft minutes had been on-line since the time of this meeting.

<sup>2</sup> Where notes are attached, they may not have been read exactly as written; substantive additions are noted in the main body of the minutes.

Signed:

(Chairman) Date:

Common, the Keep Britain Tidy campaign of the 50s and 60s, and wishing to encourage new members.

- d. **TORC Newsletter:** written report – attached – read by Janet Lane.
- e. **Heacham Group Practice:** written report – attached – read by Janet Lane. Clerk noted that he had heard the surgery would be increasing its hours in the near future.
- f. **Classical Music Rocks:** Peter Barker reported that CMR had been founded in 2016 to deliver top quality live classical music in schools. It was heavily focused on Snettisham (and Heacham) having received much support from the schools there – 9 of the 80 or so events in the last two years had been in the Village. It had been gratifying to see 70+ children at St Mary’s enjoying “difficult” music, and with an impressive level of engagement. [RP added that it had been “awesome”]. Leaflets were available.
- g. **Common Volunteers:** Diane Westwood-Rowland noted a visit by Helen from Norfolk Wildlife Trust (who was currently revising the Management Plan she had originally prepared). Of local commons, “ours is the best” and had been nominated for an award. A meeting is being held on 25<sup>th</sup> September, and work will begin again in October, in Diane’s limited time off. There is a need for more volunteers; though the work is repetitive, keeping trees from encroaching on the heather is vital; it is a rare habitat. Biodiversity is increasing; there may be a glow-worm vigil in June.
- h. **Gardening Club:** written report – attached – read by Addie Thompson.
- i. **Snettisham Village Events Committee:** written report – attached - read by the Clerk.
- j. **Townlands:** written report – attached – read by the Clerk.
- k. As other **reports** - attached - were included in a pack available to all present, they were not read out. The Clerk noted he had been asked specifically to draw attention to the proposed work at the Church, and the Sailing Club Open Day.
  - i. **Friends of St Mary’s**
  - ii. **Allotments**
  - iii. **Bowls Club**
  - iv. **Halls Foundation**
  - v. **Sailing Club**

The Clerk commented on the impressive number of varied and active groups within the Village.

5 **Questions** from the floor:

**Gerry Byrne:** commented on a job description for a Sports Facility Manager stating the PC would be employer. Clerk noted he had seen this, but it was not a PC document. Gerry further asked about potential conflicts of interest on the new Council; Clerk had been taking advice, this having been requested.

**Cynthia Groom:** referred to dog mess, specifically in Canada Close. RP referred to this being the most common complaint to councils country-wide; the Borough Council had been helpful and the utmost was being done. ID added that there were moves to appoint a dog warden in the Borough, and the Marine Partnership were looking at improving best practice in this area. Monitoring is the difficulty, but report to the Parish or Borough (online form).

Signed:

(Chairman) Date:

**Carol Mardon:** asked on progress on Townlands and the need to “get on with it”; RP commented that much hard work had been done.

**Heather Blackburn:** could photos of new Council be added to the TORC; TORC team to consider.

**George Deverick:** gave an informal report from the Scouts: these were exciting times, with the raised brick base of the new hut being complete. The kit building was arriving and would be built by the end of the summer. The increase in numbers of youngsters was highlighting the need for more volunteers. Money had been raised for the materials but there was more difficulty raising the funding for construction. The support of the 50 Villagers who took part in the lottery was invaluable.

**Avril Almey:** questioned the independence of the TORC from the Parish Council if the Clerk was paid while engaged as representative. Clerk explained involvement was minimal, mainly limited to that required for administration of finance, printing and PC section in the Newsletter.

The meeting ended at 7.58, after which refreshments were served by the W.I.

Signed:

(Chairman) Date:

Snettisham Parish Council

During the last year the Parish Council has achieved many good things for our village. These include the following:

The adoption of our Neighborhood Plan which will protect us from over-development and give us control over the type of finish used (to stay in keeping with our traditional homes). This has already been achieved with the proposed four homes next to the old garden centre. Should the planned development off Poppyfields Drive take place this will provide 8 rented, 4 shared ownership and 8 discount to market (80% of market value) homes for people with connections to the village. Additionally we will be gifted two areas of open space, one of which it is hoped, will be designated as a village green to protect it from future development. This project will be subject to 25% of the Community Infrastructure Levy being given to the Parish Council, a great deal of money to be spent on infrastructure in the Parish.

The village sign on the Market Square has been replaced due to the deterioration of the original.

New road signs have been installed in Station Rd to give clear indications of access to Southgate Lane.

New safety signs have been installed at the top of the pit at the Common. Regrettably these have been removed on several occasions which has cost unnecessary expense to replace.

An additional length of Trod has been laid towards the beach, partly funded by the Parish Partnership scheme.

Two new street lights and one replacement have been provided.

Repairs to play equipment on the Memorial field have been made.

Two telephone boxes have been purchased (for £1 each) to be kept as part of village history. Such a shame that the one on the Market Square has been vandalised on several occasions, again costing money to repair.

The bus shelter on the Market Square has been re-roofed due to damage, my thanks to the Scouts for the new lick of paint they did so beautifully. And to County Cllr Dark who provided funding.

New benches have been installed in Lodge Walk, Newbridge and in front of St Mary's church. It is to be hoped that the new Council will approve the replacement/repair of other benches around the village.

The Parish Council has organised and run three very successful village Fetes for the enjoyment of all.

Dangerous trees at the common have been felled and the protected lime trees at Lodge Walk have been trimmed and made safe.

The Snettisham 45 project brought village organisations, our school and St Mary's together and also raised a huge amount of money for the two chosen charities. All of the graves of our fallen heroes of WW1 were visited and the one lost at sea was commemorated from the beach. The Remembrance service was attended by relatives of our fallen and it seemed the whole of the village turned out to pay their respects. An exhibition with refreshments was held following the service for all to attend. The

village joined in the nationwide tribute at 7pm. With the lighting of the beacon, the playing of the last post and the ringing of the church bells. As you will recall, our efforts were covered extensively by Sky TV and held by the British Legion as a best example to all, an accolade for our small village! I would like to express my thanks to Cllr Dark who spent over 500 hrs researching our fallen heroes and to all who visited graves in France, Belgium and Germany. Rev Veronica, Cllr Dark and I had the great pleasure of traveling to Canada (again at our own expense) to attend the annual memorial service for Colin Coleridge (and others) in Deseronto. All this because I had the idea that as a village we should 'do something' to commemorate the end of WW1. This was achieved far beyond my wildest dreams and at a very modest cost to the Parish Council.

For the last three years our precept has been slightly reduced but regrettably this year has had a small increase (less than the cost of a cup of coffee per week) to cover unexpected expenditure such as the replacement bridge near the water mill as well as the annoying repairs due to vandalism.

My thanks also go to Simon Bower, our Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer who does such an excellent job of keeping a tight reign on spending and making sure that we, as Councillors, adhere to the law and rules and regulations!

Ros Pugh

Chairman

## Report from the Trustees of Snettisham Memorial Hall & Playing Field

The Trustees have been very committed during this past year to raising money by applying for grants; local stores loyalty schemes and even begging letters to local businesses and residents. We were hoping by now to be moving forward with our plans to build a MUGA but at present we have nothing to report on this project. However, we are excited about our plans to refurbish and extend the Pavilion and we will keep the villagers up to date on this project via our new website and in the editions of TORC.

Alongside this, we are hoping to see a wider variety of sports being played for all abilities and ages including a walking football team for the over 50's.

We are currently working with local schools to find ways to run a youth club twice a week – having spoken to the children it would appear this would be a popular and well attended event.

We are also in the process of setting up a weekly “pop in” café and the first will be this Friday from 10.00am to 12.00 and all are welcome to come along for a cup of tea and cake. If anyone is interested in helping with the running of this we would be grateful and also for any donations of cakes or biscuits please.

We do need to utilise the use of the Hall and to this end we would welcome any suggestions for new functions/groups or ideas. We still run bingo every Friday but the attendance has greatly reduced recently to such an extent we have considered stopping but for many of the regulars it provides a sociable evening and a bit of company so for now we are plodding on.

Finally, if anybody has time to spare to volunteer to help at our functions or if you have a suggestion on how we can do things better then do please contact us via the website [www.snettishammemorialhall.com](http://www.snettishammemorialhall.com) or speak to a Trustee.

Thank you

## **Snettisham Women's Institute**

### ***A brief presentation to the Snettisham Village Annual Meeting***

Snettisham WI meets every month on the second Thursday evening at the British Legion Hall, with guest speakers and regular social events as well as our monthly Book Club, Tenpin Bowling group and Ladies Lunch Club. We have attended many other functions across the county, in particular this year helping celebrate the centenary of the Norfolk Federation.

Locally we continue to enjoy being part of village life, having stalls at the Summer Fete and the Christmas Market, as well as those at the Salvation Army and Village School. This year we were part of the catering team for the Remembrance Day events, as well as helping the British Legion ladies decorate the village with poppies.

Visitors are always welcome - look out for posters around the village with details of forthcoming meetings. We have a web page on the National WI website, and also our own Facebook page. Details can also be found in the Torc newsletter - please do get in touch if you want to know any more about us.

**Janet Lane**  
President 2019

## The Torc - Snettisham Newsletter

### Report for Snettisham Annual Meeting - May 2019

The Torc is published three times a year, and is produced by a team of volunteers independently from the Council. It is delivered to every home and business in the village, and is funded by the sale of advertising space, using facilities provided by the Council.

We ask that village organisations send their articles in good time as we are now very tight for space each time, and would not like to disappoint people if their items arrive too late for inclusion. We may consider increasing the size of the publication in the future, though that would mean more work for the volunteers both in production and in getting more adverts to cover the costs. However, we do review the situation regularly.

If there is anybody in the village who would like to get involved, especially if you have experience with using Publisher software, you would be most welcome.

Janet Lane, editor

## Report for Snettisham Parish Meeting - May 2019

### Exciting News from Heacham Group Practice Amenity Fund

**HBGAF** is a registered charity, administered by eight trustees, and is independent of Heacham Group Practice. It is made up of donations and bequests over many years, and the money is to be used for patients of the practice for equipment or services not usually provided by the NHS.

**Project Hope** is the name given to a new service provided by Heacham Group Practice to the care homes in our area, with the financial support of the Heacham Group Practice Amenity Fund. The project commenced in February 2018 with the appointment of Carolyn Rix to the post of Matron to support the residents and staff of the Care Homes. Carolyn has experience of working with diabetic patients in a general practice setting and as a Community Matron.

#### What has Project Hope achieved?

Project Hope has enabled a more timely response to care home residents, and also improved continuity of care for those patients who often have complex health care needs. This in turn has supported the care home staff, in particular helping them make the most appropriate decisions for their residents. Residents themselves have expressed their approval of having someone that they can identify with by name who will support them with their health. Carolyn has also provided **medication reviews** as part of a systematic review of patients and also support in care planning.

Project Hope has allowed Carolyn as Matron to be able to see residents **on average 4 times as often as the previous system** where the GP was the main clinician. She has been able to assess patients and, with the help of the carers, form a care plan to enable them to know how to respond when those emergencies arise. It has resulted in a **third fewer admissions to hospital** compared to the previous year before the project.

The rest of the practice has also benefitted indirectly as Carolyn's work has reduced the pressure on the Day Duty Doctor system that runs each day to respond to those patients needing same day attention or urgent care. The GP workload to care home patients has been reduced to about **a third of its previous activity**.

#### The Future of Project Hope

The Amenity trustees have been able to approve funding for Project Hope for a further two years. We are delighted with the success of this project, and believe it will continue to make a difference in the support provided to patients and staff of the Care Homes in Heacham and Snettisham.

#### Heacham Group Practice Amenity Fund

*A registered charity supporting the patients of Heacham Group Practice  
Reg. Charity No. 1090530*

## SNETTISHAM GARDENING CLUB



We celebrated 25 years in 2017 and we are pleased to report membership is still increasing.

Held in the Memorial Hall usually on the last Wednesday of each month at 7.30 pm. the aim of our club aim is to promote gardening and related social events. We have a wide variety of speakers, some well known in the gardening world and some not quite so famous, but none the more interesting. We hold Open Gardens regularly, in 2019 this will be on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June and it is not too late to enter your garden, further entries can be made up to the 4<sup>th</sup> June to give time to produce the map which will gain entry to any or all of the gardens open. This event is to raise funds for our nominated charities for 2019 - West Norfolk MIND and Norfolk Stroke Association.



With the co-operation of the Memorial hall we also hold an annual Open Show for all members of the village with classes for adults and younger members of the village varying from fruit and vegetables through to cookery and preserves, crafts from sewing to painting. We have already promoted this in the Torc magazine with entries closing on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July for the show on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July. All exhibits will be on show to the public after judging at 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm, with a raffle ticket included as entry. There is prize money for all adult classes and a small charge for adult entries, but free to children. We look forward to as many entries as possible so people of the village can see for themselves what a talented parish we have!

We will also as usual support the village fete, again to raise funds for our nominated charities for 2019.

A team and indeed many members help to produce plants for an annual entry at the Sandringham Show in the competition for a small garden held in the Marquee. We have always won an award and more than once the "best in show" trophy, which in fact we did in 2018 for our garden portraying a Shakespeare play Midsummer Night's Dream.



We have day trips out to various gardens, indeed one is going to Stamford and Barnsdale Gardens near Oakham on 15<sup>th</sup> May. There is a trip to Yorkshire organized for September which will include a visit to Harlow Carr RHS garden and other interesting venues during our 5 days in Yorkshire.

Since its' inception we have always taken a stall at the annual Christmas Fair held on the Market Place in December when as with all the events we take part in we get tremendous support and co-operation from all our members.

“Snettisham Village Events Committee had a mixed year last year. The Christmas events and quizzes were very much enjoyed, however, the new marquee was damaged during a storm that wreaked havoc at the end of July forcing the jazz and hog roast evening to be cancelled. Furthermore, in the absence any new helpers stepping forward, the committee has invited the Friends of Snettisham Primary School to run the Christmas events this year. We are very grateful to them for saving these popular events and look forward to assisting them in the handover.”

# Snettisham Parish Council

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## **Townlands report for Annual Parish Meeting**

Following negotiation with Ken Hill Estates, they have now ceased to be the tenant on this land. The legal document confirming this is with the Parish Council for signature.

As a result, there is currently no income accruing to the Charity. The Clerk has written to the Charity Commission to inform them of the current position, and that, with a new Council in place, it will be up to them, acting as the Trustee, to determine the next course of action. They have accepted this update.

There has been some income from rent during the year, but also considerable expenditure on fencing the field off from the adjacent land. This was done at cost of materials, but with the labour provided by Ken Hill, for which the Charity records its thanks.

The current financial position of the Charity, as of today's date, is cash assets of £2,942.78, plus the land on Bircham Road.

Simon Bower  
As Secretary, Townlands



**Lots going on up the road!**

The Friends of St Mary's group continues to attract ever increasing numbers to the varied and numerous concerts and recitals held each year in church and 2019 is proving to be another busy and interesting year. Please see our red leaflet giving you full details of music events. We are grateful to the council for their contribution towards the cost of hiring the Memorial Hall for The Village Cinema and we are pleased to announce that in 2019 attendance has dramatically increased which means there is the need for such a social event and that each time we attract new people to the film screening.

It would be good to have permanent signage in the village indicating this historic parish church and The Friends are happy to pay for such a sign. There was indication that the parish itself were going to further promote our beautiful village with signage on by pass?? As you will have seen we have a banner promoting our concerts on private land adjacent to the by pass and have applied to NCC Highways to have such signage too near the Ken Hill roundabout.

The events at St Mary's attract people from many miles away and it gradually St Mary's is being known as a centre for excellent classical music. Good to have this sort of reputation for such a small community.

## **The church itself**

Many changes are happening too to the life of the church and also to its proposed fabric. Veronica Wilson ceases to be our rector as of May 19. We cease to be part of the The Western Shore Team that day and the two parishes of Heacham and Snettisham will split. We are hoping to appoint a part time vicar who will be solely for our village shortly after that. We are interviewing on May 20<sup>th</sup>. It will be good to have someone whose sole responsibility is Snettisham and indeed we are very fortunate that the Diocese is providing a vicar that is exclusively for us especially in the times when most incumbent have at least five churches to look after.

At our annual church meeting we launched an exciting and major plan to enhance the interior of the church and currently these drawings are on display in church. The church is open each day from 9am to around 5pm but we shall be having a more formal launch on July 6<sup>th</sup> for the whole community. The aim is to make St Mary's a church for the future with new seating, heating lighting and new areas for community, heritage and educational space. There is such a wealth of history within the church and on our doorstep that St Mary's aims to be the centre where anyone can come to find out more about our heritage. The present heritage boards and display folders have been up for some time and the proposed plan is to further promote our history.

Do come and enjoy your beautiful parish church and perhaps come to concerts too.

Marian Abramovich

**Church warden and Chair of The Friends of St Mary's**

## Annual Parish Council Reports

### 1. Snettisham Allotment Association

The allotments have now been on the Bircham Road site for 10 years. The 50 plots now have over 60 plot holders on Full or Half allotments. Although under the Parish Council it is successfully run by the Committee of the Snettisham Allotment Association who manage and supervise them.

This community has gone from strength to strength, producing a whole gamut of crops, participating in Village shows, opening up to the public on the Open Garden days and above all helping each other in a very friendly community. Our annual B.B.Q in Aug/Sept is the highlight of our year and not to missed!

We do have plots that become periodically available so if you are interested in joining us, and have the commitment to take on a plot or half plot then contact **Dave Bocking (541208)**.

### 2. Snettisham Excelsior Bowls Club

Snettisham Excelsior Bowls Club is one of the hidden gems of the village. The club's green is situated 100m down Southgate Lane from the Parish Council Office. We have around 20 members and would welcome anyone from beginners to experienced bowlers to come and join us. We participate in two Leagues. The Countryside League ( a friendly less competitive league) and (the more competitive), West Norfolk League. If you would like to come and see us you are always welcome. For more information contact **Chris Holt (541534) or Barry Sutherns (545903)**

### 3. Snettisham Halls Exhibition Foundation

The Halls Foundation is an educational charity set up to offer financial grants to all the children of Snettisham between the ages of 11 and 25, provided you have been resident in Snettisham for a minimum of 1 year.

Grants are awarded at three stages of a child's education.

At age of 11+ all pupils are, at present, awarded a grant of £250.00 when they move from Primary to Secondary education

At 16+ Pupils staying on to study A Level to the age of 18 (Further Education) or follow technical or apprentice courses, are also awarded £250.00 for EACH of the years of their study at this level.

At 18+ students applying to Universities or Colleges of Higher Education for degrees and equivalent awards are awarded £1600.00 for each year of their study.

The charity also considers grant applications for educational purposes outside the above awards from individuals or organisations.

All awards are at the discretion of the 10 Trustees who manage the charity and who set the grant levels at their Annual Meeting in July.

Last year the charity awarded a total of £45,130 in grants.

For further information contact the Administrator, **Chris Holt 541534**, or log onto our website [www.hallsfoundation.co.uk](http://www.hallsfoundation.co.uk)

## Snettisham Beach Sailing Club

Report to Snettisham Parish Council May 2019

2018 was another successful year for the club, consolidating the development from previous years and further developing the club assets, facilities and sailors. I will be reporting the activity and successes later in this report, but I would like to start this report by talking about an 'unseen' aspect of the club. While we still reap the benefits of the new clubhouse work this year has focused on the club bungalow. The building required refurbishment and initial investigations indicated that we had some potential issues centering around asbestos. Following environmental assessment we were, fortunately, within safety margins and so users had not been at risk, but there was no guarantee that this would remain so. The asbestos causing the issues was, therefore, removed as soon as could be arranged. This delayed progress on the refurbishment but plans are now completed and the work will hopefully be completed for next season. Thanks go to Guy Playford, Mike Cooper, Peter Ramsdale and Tim Browne for their work on this. Once completed the building will provide disabled toilet and changing facilities, bunk room accommodation and break facilities for all those working for the Training Centre. Other work over winter saw a re-profiling of the bank on the lake side of the bungalow. This now allows us to store the club boats more effectively and has reduced unnecessary movement of boats etc.

It is my ambition that we further extend the clubhouse to increase the available changing facilities, particularly the ladies changing rooms, as well as providing further disabled access facilities. A two-story extension would also provide larger galley and bar facilities. The cost of this – up to £50000 – is currently outside our available budget and we are seeking creative financing ideas to support any grant applications that we might make. If anyone has experience in this field and would like to assist the club both myself and the committee would love to hear from you!

I would emphasise that we are, and will remain a sailing club. We ran another highly successful Open day in 2018 and this year we have two planned as part of the RYA 'Push the Boat Out' initiative. The first of these takes place from 10am on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May, the second at 10am on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July. These events help us to introduce new people to sailing – the age range of participants last year was 5 to 74 years of age!

Cadet Week 2018 was Becky Playford's swan song as organizer, so finishing her stint as Cadet week Supremo with the busiest ever was suitably fitting. My thanks to her for all her efforts over the last few years. Cadet Week 2019 runs from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> August until Friday 9<sup>th</sup> August, most of the 100+ places are already filled.

We continue to host open meetings, bringing sailors from around the country to the club. Our sailors continue to represent us away from Snettisham, with Robbie Bell becoming National and European Champion and Colin Dacy finishing 3rd in the RS700 class, Jack Napolitano winning the New talent prize at the same event. Rose Edmonds represented the UK at the Topper Worlds in China, Ben Charnley finishing 6<sup>th</sup> in the Aero 9 Worlds at Weymouth. Alongside this were open meeting and regatta wins for Jasper and Laura Barnham and Guy and Rosie Tasker.

Of significance to the longevity and reputation of the club we have seen our junior sailors develop in leaps and bounds over the last couple of seasons. We have had our Topper sailors representing the club, competing as far South as Weymouth for both the Winter Nationals and main National Championships to as far north as Derwent Water, Newcastle and taking part in the RYA British Youth Sailing Regional Championships at Grafham Water. The dedication and commitment displayed by these sailors has been fantastic to witness!

As a result of this we have Eva Miller selected for the U15 and U16 RYA UK Junior squad in Toppers, Rose Edmonds in the UK 420 Squad and Matt Lloyd selected for the ITCA 5.3 Squad.

Other events during the year included hosting a memorial service for Harold Meek as part of Snettisham Parish Council's Snettisham 45 project of remembrance for the 45 local men who fell during WW1.

I would also emphasise that we are, for the most part, a volunteer run club. While participation rates remain high, there is still an opportunity for more members to become involved in the running of the club and in supporting activities and duties with manpower.

An innovation this year has been organised Social Sailing, with trips to Heacham Dam, Bulldog Sand beacon, the Ouse entrance and Wolferton pumping station. This has been well received and is expanding its scope this year, supported by some coaching sessions.

The fact that we are the most dynamic sailing club on the coast is down to the activities and success of our Training Centre, which remains the only one operating full time on the coast.

Changes this year saw Howard Hawkes take over as Centre Principal and Jane standing down as Chief Instructor during the season on maternity leave. We were fortunate enough to have James Trim take over as Chief Instructor, providing a seamless progression. A total of 400 individuals participated in centre activities during 2018. School groups and ladies sailing continue to

expand. Our instructor development programme continues to produce more assistant and qualified instructors from our junior (and senior) sailors, supporting the work of the training centre and cadet week.

John Eaton and Howard Hawkes spearheaded our application for RYA British Youth Sailing Recognised Club status, which we achieved in September 2018. This new designation replaces the old RYA Champion Club designation and recognizes our achievements in junior sailing development.

Peter Hutchinson stood down from the role of Acting Rear Commodore. It is fair to say that without his input the club would be a much poorer place to sail. I would again like to extend the thanks of the club to Peter for his service, support and advice. He will be continuing to produce the newsletter and support our new Bosun, Julian Murphy, as he beds in to the new role he has taken on.

Membership has shown an upward trend since 2014 and looks likely to continue in this direction, although nothing is guaranteed. A requirement of the Sport England development grant is to record and report all sailing and watersport participation. We have been collecting these figures since the first grant application in 2013. 'Participation' is measured by Sport England as "Each activity event undertaken by one person". At SBSC we include all club racing, Open meeting numbers, RYA Training Centre course attendances, Hunstanton Watersports classes and an estimate of social sailing numbers. Participation totals are very encouraging:

April 2016 to April 2017	6107
April 2017 to April 2018	6696

Guy Playford, Vice Commodore, continues to put in efforts over and above the call of duty. His stewardship of the clubhouse, bar and catering provision is a significant factor in the success of SBSC. My thanks go to Guy for this work. Suffice to say that the toilets are unblocked, the drains clear and the bar takings up again!

I would like to thank all of the members of the committee for their efforts during the year. Without them the serene swan you see as the club would look more like a dabbling duck!

Thank you for your patience.

Adrian Tebbutt  
Commodore  
Snettisham Beach Sailing Club