

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2017

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of the Village of Snettisham held on
Wednesday, 10th May, 2017 at 7.00 p.m. in the Memorial Hall

Present:

CLlr R Pugh [RP] – in the Chair (as SPC Chairman)

Avril Almey, Peter Barker, Richard Barker, John and Shirley Bateson, Mel and Heather Billington, Thelma & Stuart Bradley, Roger Clark, Stuart Dark, Julie Godfrey, Chris Holt, Janet Lane, Lesley Marriage, Pat Morton, Diane Westwood
[NB list may not be complete]

Minutes taken by Simon Bower (as Clerk to the Council)

- 1 The **Chairman** welcomed all those present.
- 2 There were **apologies** for absence from Borough Cllrs Avril Wright and Ian Devereux.¹
- 3 There being no objection, the **minutes** of the meeting on 18th May, 2016 were signed as a true record.
- 4 **Chairman's** Remarks. RP thanks councillors for their hard work. She extended this to all volunteers, mentioning the Memorial Hall trustees specifically for helping with BC grant. She moved on to the new Play Areas, thanking Alf Todd for his work, and that she too had been involved. The precept had been lowered – a little, but still lowered. Snettisham was "lucky" to have Lorne Greene as PCC, and Ward/Division Cllrs Dark, Wright and Devereux all living here and working hard for the Village. She thanked John Dobson for his time on NCC. As to funding the flood defences, the PC felt this was not a Parish issue, and was working with other parishes to argue this point. Last year had seen a packed hall with concerns over the silica sand proposals, and she thanked the WASPs and Stuart Dark for defeating the plans. The Neighbourhood Plan was coming together well, despite a few extra requirements causing hiccups – thanks to Mel Billington and Pat Morton, along with the non-councillor team members. The fete would again be run by the PC – last year had been wet but successful. "Barney" Sheldon was organising and arrangements well under way – request made to sell raffle tickets. Southgate Lane had been cleared, and thanks were made to Diane Westwood, and Station Road residents for work there. Snettisham had gained a supermarket, which had been generous – a cheque earlier that day for £1,000 for Lodge Walk – and the Post Office move was still going ahead, probably in September. Speeding in the Village had been addressed, but was possibly not as bad as elsewhere. The double yellow lines at the School had again been held up – legal technicalities – but should be in place within a month or so. There had been a lovely commemoration ceremony at the Common, with a bench made by David Lamplugh in memory of his late wife, Ann – a tribute to her lasting legacy. She had done so much with Open Days, work at the Common and so on – and she is much missed. A bench had also been placed near Heacham Dam², from her

¹ Cllr D Snelgrove had also apologised by email opened later.

² Subsequently discovered that this was in memory of another Ann.

Signed:



(Chair)

Date:16/5/2018

"doggie-walking friends". RP thanked her predecessor Richard Barker, who had worked hard and "never put a foot wrong", considering every contribution very carefully. Thanks to the Clerk for his support, and his wife³ for her support of the Village.

5 New **NCC Cllr** Stuart Dark referred to his early days on NCC and thanked residents for their "high level of trust" shown in his c.2000 majority. He said it was "easy to look good with good people around" and thanked John Dobson, the PC and the WASP team and BC Cllrs Wright and Devereux. He felt a message had been sent locally to NCC with the overall results. Priorities were fly-tipping and the flood defence funding issue. He and fellow NCC Cllr Jamieson would be "defending the front line", e.g. local services including highways, policing, fire station, libraries etc.

6 Other reports:

- Peter Barker (**Classical Music Rocks**) – thanked PC for support. One concert had taken place at Primary School. A free concert at St Mary's on 22/7/17 would be open to all, and maybe a slot at the fete. Overall aim was to bring classical music to Primary School children – with 10 schools – 1200+ children - visited in a year. Hopefully this would grow, subject to funding. Chairman referred to her shock on hearing that this was the first experience of classical music for so many. S Dark remarked this was also true of many parents and live music.
- Thelma Bradley (**Heritage Group**) – referred to Open Meetings garnering three enquiries about helping Group. There are panels at the back of the Church with info from the Stone Age to the 21st century, and new folders were in preparation – three completed on wartime, village photos and floods – but more stories and info, both personal and from organisations, welcome. (RSPB, WI, Freebridge and the Hospice had already agreed to contribute.) More on sport and farming needed – contact Clerk or Penny Taylor at the Church Office. Chair referred to the "valuable resource" for visitors and residents alike.
- Janet Lane (**Women's Institute**) – a "friendly group" which meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month. They had a range of speakers and social events (mentioned book club, 10-pin bowling, demonstrations of glass blowing and spinning etc.). 2015 national centenary marked with a new tree, and 1923 foundation of Village WI coming up. Heritage folder project (as above) referred to.
- Chris Holt (**Allotments**) – There are 64 holders on 50 plots and no spaces for the first time in many years, with a small waiting list. Holders praying for rain! An inspection had been held two weeks prior and allotments looking pretty much at their best. PC holds lease, with management committee of allotment holders. Problems with rats, deer etc. and Storm Doris. An Open Allotment day in tandem with the Open Gardens would be held in the Summer.
- Chris Holt (**Bowls Club**) – had a well-hidden green, looking at its best for 25 years. Teams competed from May-Sept in leagues, though with 3-4 matches

³ As Borough Deputy Mayor

Signed:



(Chair)

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per week sometimes difficult to fill. Visitors welcome, and new members at whatever level. Contact Chris Holt or Barry Sutherns.

- Chris Holt (**Hall's Foundation**) – all present were aware of the Foundation. Possible the Village's best kept secret, and strange that estate agents didn't make more of it. Founded in 1705 for 12 "poor boys", and had grown to give out £72,000 in 15/16 and £44,000 in 16/17. Currently there were 27 at 11+, and 28 at 16+ receiving £200pa. There were a further 30 in Higher Education. £300 had been donated to the School to help with the publication of "Gold"⁴. Chair wondered what Mr Holt did in his spare time. Suggestion from Janet Lane of more info about the book in the TORC.
- Clerk/Chairman (**Townlands Charity**) – summarised Annual report: Income from letting of land and wayleaves. Income in 15/16 was £573, and balance at 25/9/16 was £3,550. Lack of donations had been raised with Charity Commission but possible expenses had to be provided for. Chairman remarked that there was a dispute over the lease, and specialist advice was being sought. It was "wonderful" that a group of councillors acting as trustees were now enabling the resurrection of the Charity, to make more than the current £500pa, and maintain its valuable heritage function.
- Janet Lane (**TORC newsletter**) – delivered to all in Village. Runs with a small surplus, which allows occasional colour edition. Requests for advertising exceed space. Possible change to A5 size with smaller pages being considered. Thanks to all for support.
- Stuart Dark (**Primary School**) – Apologies from Chair of Governors Andy Gee – OFSTED had visited earlier! School now part of the WNA Trust – this to safeguard the future of the School given the small size. Feeds Springwood and Smithdon. Executive Head Nicky Darley also covers Heacham, and School had a full-time Deputy. 1970s classrooms with ten-year life (!) finally replaced with £280,000 new build. Bobtails pre-school moved there – hopefully will encourage Village children to stay in the School. SATS levels going well. Lots of extra-curricular activity - £800 recently awarded due to 64+ taking part in Great Anglian Run. School 5th/6th in County out of 400 small schools in football and netball. Roger Clark asked how many on roll – currently 86. With new houses in Village this should rise.
- Diane Westwood (**Snettisham Conservation Volunteers**) – to be formed to engage in practical work at Common and elsewhere to maintain Ann Lamplugh's legacy. Heathland very important – rarer than hedgerows – need to avoid overrunning by silver birches. A meeting will be held in September, with a view to starting work in October, through to February. Photographs would help to establish what wildlife is there – especially as there is "indicator" species of beetle present. Diane could also help identify species.

7 Question/Comments:

- Roger Clark – would be raising a point relating to Neighbourhood Plan with councillors – already mentioned to M Billington and Clerk.
- Avril Almey x 2 – thanks to Halls Foundation for support of family member totalling £8,000+

⁴ "Gold from Norfolk" – by pupils of Snettisham Primary School with John Hadden [ISBN – 978 1 906542 95 5]

Signed: 

(Chair)

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- Roger Clark – asked what reserves of Halls Foundation were. Foundation does not state this. The carrstone had run out so funding came from capital investment, now at record levels. Higher Education grants reduced to £1,600 from £2,000 two years ago, to cover 3-4 years of shortfalls.
- Roger Clark – remarked on the “wonderful story” of Mr Halls. Then commented that things in the Village were “running in order” after being “rocky”.
- Avril Almey - Clerk to pass on thanks to Cllr Devereux for speedy response to overflowing bin.
- Ros Pugh – we are lucky to live in a beautiful Village, and proud to do so.
- Avril Almey – re: Townlands – questions over lease (RP – working to restore charity for benefit as stated for “all mankind” – trustees determined to bring back to life), had provided shoes, heating and coal, should not be “given away” (RP – group believes the same).
- Avril Almey – were people aware a footpath ran from parish Office to Sandringham? Money spent on path, though not PC responsibility – but Villagers also working together. On footpaths generally, whose job was it to advertise (maybe tourist board should be involved). Footpath guide to be more thorough and clearer; only so much time in which these things can be done.
- Finally, a request for anyone who would like to sell raffle tickets for the fete to take some books.

RP thanked all for coming, declaring the meeting closed at 8.06pm, after which those present partook of refreshments organised by the WI.

Abbreviations: BC(KLWN) – Borough Council; NCC – County Council; (S)PC – (Snettisham) Parish Council

Signed:

R Pugh

(Chair)

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