

## STOKE FERRY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Wednesday 15 May 2019 at 6.30 pm in the Village Hall

### Minutes

Attendance:	Chairman	Cllr Sue Lintern
	Councillors	Cllr Daphne Clements
		Cllr Mandy Leamon
		Cllr Trudy Mann
		Cllr Gail Reeve
		Cllr Janet Taylor
		Cllr Donna Stocking
		Cllr Jim McNeill
	Parish Clerk & RFO	Helen Richardson

### Public: 7

Cllr Colin Sampson, BCKLWN Councillor  
Cllr Martin Storey, Norfolk County Council Councillor  
Chris Philpott, Footpath Warden

#### 1 Apologies for absence

There were no apologies received but Cllr Kit Hesketh-Harvey's absence was noted.

#### 2 Declaration of Interest

#### 3 Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting 2 May 2018

The minutes were approved and accepted as a true record.

**Proposed:** Cllr Mandy Leamon; **Seconded:** Cllr Trudy Mann, six were in favour, two abstained.

#### 4 Matters Arising

Cllr Jim McNeill advised that the Old Dukes head was still left derelict and empty another year had passed. He highlighted that this would continue to be discussed at Parish Council meetings.

#### 5 Chairman's Report

2018/19 was an eventful year for Stoke Ferry, with news of the 2 Agriculture mill's potential move the dominant feature. Throughout the year we consulted with the relevant expert bodies associated with the Mill, and the numerous mill enquiries, were all reported to the regulators concerned and followed up with satisfactory

reports. The Mill's potential move has had mixed reviews within the village, and we will work to ensure the village gets the very best possible outcome from this. This is an ongoing situation that will continue to be closely monitored.

The village walking group continues to enjoy the monthly walks and we have now published a footpath booklet which has been distributed free of cost to every household. A big Thank You to the Pump for sponsoring this.

In our continuing efforts to improve the walks we aim to make the signposts more clearly labelled and hope to see more people making use of our Public Rights of Way. Our thanks go to all those involved in producing this booklet, especially our Footpath Warden, Chris, and Andy, Karen, Tony and Eileen, members of the walking group, who retraced all the walks to ensure the instructions were clear. Andy's company, Hayward Miller, put together all the notes, photos, comments and my numerous amendments, resulting in the finished product you now all should have. My personal thanks go to Leyla at Hayward Miller for liaising with me on this very long but worthwhile project.

Our grass cutting and maintenance contractor, Mr Sparkle, has continued to do an excellent job. As always, if anyone sees an area that needs to be worked on, please let us know so that it can be improved. Our upgrade of the communal gardens and Cemetery hedge has now been done and thanks to all the volunteers who worked on this, especially Cllr. Jim McNeill for overseeing the works.

Our new Village Sign has been made and is now situated in the main communal garden. This project was a collaboration between the Art Group which exhibits each summer, the Parish Council and Bonnett's. Our thanks to all those who worked on this.

Last year's Summer Fayre was a fantastic success. Who can forget Cllr. Kit Hesketh-Harvey's very own style of bingo, thankfully kept under control by Cllr Trudy Mann. Other highlights included inflatable human football, games for both children and adults, numerous fund-raising activities and of course plenty of food and drinks. Thank you to all those who helped, especially to the Playing Field Committee for their hard work.

All money raised from this event goes to our village charities. Looking forward to this year's event, the village Summer Fayre is scheduled for June 23rd so please mark this date on your calendar to make sure you don't miss out. As always, there will be lots to do for all the family with entertainment continuing until 9pm. Any offers of help to make sure the event is an even greater success, would be much appreciated.

Later this year we will have new entrance gates on all the roads leading into the village. It should be noted these are going to be wooden gates as we have successfully overturned Norfolk County Council policy which allowed only plastic gates to be used. Well done to Cllr. Mann and the Clerk for your work on this.

The PC website is where you will continue to find all the agenda's, minutes and other useful documents. We also include news items to keep you up-to-date, so please take a look at this from time to time!

Village charities and organisations will continue to be supported and I take this opportunity to thank the many volunteers who keep them running. Their help makes all the difference.

I must also thank our Clerk who has worked diligently for us despite having so much aggressive behaviour levelled at her, the Clerk of the year nomination was very well deserved and we feel lucky to have Helen working for us.

Finally, the aim of the PC is to make Stoke Ferry an even better place in which to live. We have just had an election which shows us how the village feels towards the work we have done and will continue to do. Please do tell us of any ideas which you would like us to consider and we will look at any proposal you put forward. So, don't hesitate. Keep them coming! We will continue to be prudent with our finances and look for ways to implement works around the village in the best possible way. This means we have once again been able to reduce the precept by 1000 pounds.

## **6 Reports from Village Organisations**

A verbal report was provided by Cllr Gail Reeve on behalf of the Stoke Ferry Village Hall. The Village Hall wished to confirm that the Hall had never intended on closing at any point in the last year and was open always with events running through the week, including weekly bingo. There were Committee members that had been on the trustee board for many years. The Chair advised that it was good news that the hall was going to be staying open.

The Chair read the following reports (attached as appendices to these minutes):

- Stoke Ferry Common Room Youth Club.
- Stoke Ferry Playing Field Trust

It was noted that the Youth Club had only been running six months and therefore had not provided a report.

## **7 Any Other Business**

- A member of public congratulated those Councillors of the Parish Council on being re-elected and newly elected, and they felt it provided a well-balanced Parish Council. They added that the village should be proud of its two wonderful assets the village hall and the playing field. They further wished to congratulate the Borough Councillor Cllr Colin Sampson and Councillor Martin Storey on their Borough Council re-elections, and lastly the Parish Clerk Helen Richardson for her nomination for Norfolk Association of Local Council's Clerk of the Year.
- A Councillor commented that the help provided by the Parish Council to the Playing Field Committee Trust through a grant payment of insurance fees was

something that they felt a Parish Council should continue to do, as it was an important amenity and facility for all to enjoy ] for free. They added that the Village Hall and the Common Room were also good facilities and felt that the Parish Council should be supportive also to these causes in any way that it can.

- A member of public advised they had historic documents concerning the playing field they would be sharing with the Playing Field Trust.

The meeting closed – 6.50 pm.