

## 2012 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

This was held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 7.30 p.m. in the village hall with the clerk, John Smith, in the Chair. Present were Cllrs. Ankretts', Chadd, Cossey, Green, James, Kirkpatrick, Mulley & Weston. Also present were county Cllr. Tomkinson, PCSO Nightingale, Judith Masters (south Norfolk Games promoter) two members of the public and nine young people.

Election of Chair. Cllr. Green was proposed by Cllr. Mulley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cllr. Ankrett to chair the meeting and with no other nominations unanimously elected. He thanked those present and said that the youngsters would be given the opportunity to put points later when the meeting would be temporarily adjourned to allow this.

1. The minutes of the 2011 annual parish meeting were confirmed & signed.
2. Business arising had been dealt with during the year.
3. Chairman's Report. Cllr. Green told of the changes in council working practices that he had instigated and spoke of the thinking behind the increased precept. He expressed his thanks for the support from councillors and paid tribute to the clerk for his efforts during the busy year. Recognising these new working practices the Chair then requested that the Chair's of the new working parties presented individual reports.
4. Working Party Reports:
  - Planning & Highways chairman, Cllr. Weston, gave a comprehensive report with the main items concerning the Local Dev. Framework, the Maltings and S106 monies & the way planning applications had been dealt with.
  - Local Development chairman Cllr. Chadd spoke of the efforts being made with regards to grants and the problems experienced with youngsters gathering around the village concerning residents. No interest had been generated with regards to a possible Twinning with a French village.
  - Maintenance & Environment chairman Cllr. Kirkpatrick detailed equipment totalling some 20K as a wish list providing grants could be obtained although S106 money might well be used. A necessary see-saw replacement (£5640) would be a priority. The annual inspection was imminent. Allotments were in good order as were the burial ground and the village in general.
5. PCSO Nightingale(deputising for PC Farrow who apologised for absence) detailed crime statistics and spoke of anti-social behaviour.

The chairman then adjourned the meeting proper in order that the young people present could put their views concerning more activities for them. Joshua Scotton gave a particularly good presentation in relation as to how a skate park area might be developed. A discussion about the proposed provision of a youth shelter followed with the young people present keen to have one, possibly sited near the skate park.

A broad ranging discussion then followed and while positive about proposals 165 concerns were expressed over past experiences with deposited rubbish and misuse.

The young people present acknowledged their responsibility in the community and expressed their appreciation of the parish Council's approach to their circumstances.

Judith Masters (a Broome resident) then gave information on her work with promoting sport in the community and how she could assist in giving residents (including young people) incentives to fill their leisure time in a more constructive manner. One suggestion concerning Archery was readily accepted and would be furthered.

The inter village games for 2012 were too close to organise entry but during the year "taster" sessions could be organised with free coaches and full support for 2013. The young people then left together with PCSO Nightingale and the Chairman reconvened the meeting.

6. County Cllr. Tomkinson, prior to his report, congratulated councillors for what was a really positive step to involve youngsters and help cure anti-social behaviour. He spoke of not standing for re-election next year and expected to become Armed Forces Commissioner. He was appreciative of the courtesy always extended to him by both council & clerk, and he followed this with a very comprehensive report.

7. District councillor Allen, having apologised for her absence, had sent a detailed report which the chairman read out in full. She had relinquished the school governorship and had enjoyed her happy relationship with this parish council. She reported Affordable Housing was nearing fruition as was the start of the Maltings project and she had welcomed the chance of working on them with councillors. In all, her year had been both fruitful and demanding.

8. No representatives from Community Groups were present.

9. Ditchingham United Charities chairman, Keith Weston, was able to report the usual successful year with interest from COIF funds enabling all requests for grants to be met.

Accounts were available for perusal.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05 p.m.