

FINCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly, duly convened on Wednesday, 22nd March 2017 at Fincham Memorial Hall. Commenced at 7.00 pm with Councillor John Delderfield in the Chair.

Attending:

Cllr. Jacqueline Anderson
Cllr. Shaun Blackmur
Cllr. John Delderfield
Cllr. Alan Foreman
Cllr. Cathy O'Brien
Cllr. Christine Perry
Cllr. Barbara Ponder
Cllr. Joe Underhill

Clerk – Sarah Thorpe

At the start of the meeting the Chairman drew everyone's attention to the terror attack which had occurred earlier that day in Westminster. He offered condolences to the families of the victims and wished a speedy recovery to the injured.

1. Attendance

Mrs Sue Westwood and one member of the public was present.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Borough Councillor Sandra Squire

3. Minutes of the last Parish Assembly on 27th April 2016

Draft minutes from the meeting had been circulated to all prior to the meeting. It was agreed by all present at that meeting that the minutes were an accurate account of the proceedings.

4. Report of the Chairman.

Cllr. Delderfield read out the following report:

It is just over a year since the long serving Parish Council Chairman, Stewart Waterston, moved away, and since that time there have been three more resignations from Parish Councillors. John Lynskey, Roger Farmer and Tony Chivers have all finished their various periods of service to the local community, for which we sincerely thank them.

Those four Councillors have been replaced by Jackie Anderson, Alan Foreman, Barbara Ponder and myself. Councillor Joe Underhill had undertaken the Chairman's role for five months, until I took over in June. During the year since the last Annual Parish Assembly, the Parish Council have had nine meetings, dealing with many issues on behalf of Fincham residents.

We are consulted as part of the Borough Council's planning application process, and the three major issues this year were;

(a) the proposal to build 22 properties on land off Churchill Crescent, which was then withdrawn;

(b) approval was given to build 4 properties on the former site of Bexwell Tractors in the High Street; and

(c) approval was given to build 5 houses in Marham Road, adjacent to the Telephone Exchange.

An application has been made to acquire a Speed Activated Messaging Sign (SAM2), to be shared with Crimplesham Parish Council. It is hoped that this will be available within weeks, and should encourage drivers to reduce their speed through the village.

Finally, good relations are being established with RAF Marham, and they have agreed to meet the Parish Council to discuss their development plans at the airfield, and to listen to any other issues the Council wish to raise. They also intend to have an "open day" for the area

Signed as a true record of the meeting: _____

Date: _____

soon, and residents of Fincham will be able to visit the site. Fincham residents are also welcome at Parish Council meetings, and are encouraged to report any issues they are concerned about to the Parish Council.

5. Report of the Borough Councillor.

Cllr. Squire was not present but had provided the following report which was read out by the Clerk:

Another year passes and it's now almost two years since I took over from Trevor and became your Borough Councillor. I'm sorry I can't be with you this evening, I always enjoy parish meetings, it is by far the most enjoyable part of being a Councillor - being able to meet so many residents and find out what issues or worries you have.

We've had a new Leader at the Borough Council for nearly a year now and I've enjoyed working closely with Brian, both as our council leader and the County Councillor for this ward. In the past year at the Borough, we've come from not having a five-year land supply, to having one, the implementation of our Local Plan and now we're in the process of looking at sites to update it. In mid-February, the long awaited CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) was also implemented, meaning that from then on, planning applications which are subject to CIL, 15% of the levy fee will come to the Parish for parish improvements. (25% for those villages with a Neighbourhood Plan). This could be an exciting development and gives parishes the ability to have a say and spend money on really making a difference for their residents.

As always, please feel free to contact me with any concerns you have & I look forward to seeing you all again soon

6. Report of the County Councillor.

Cllr. Long was not present and no report had been provided.

7. Open Forum

Cllr. Delderfield called for questions from the Public.

No questions were raised or comments made.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.10pm.

Signed as a true record of the meeting: _____

Date: _____