

Bressingham and Fersfield Parish Council

Clerk: Mike Mortimer, Lime Tree Farmhouse, Common Road, Shelfanger, Norfolk IP22 2DR
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Annual Parish Meeting 2014 Tuesday 22nd April 2014 at the Village Hall at 7.30pm

AGENDA

- 1 Apologies for Absence
- 2 Approval of the Minutes of 2013 Annual Parish Meeting
- 3 Matters arising from the minutes
- 4 To receive the Annual report of the Council
- 5 To receive a Statement of the Parish Council's Accounts for the year to 31st March 2014
- 6 To receive the reports of the Charities:
- 7 To receive a report from Bressingham School
- 8 Reports from organizations within the parish: Bressingham PCC, Fersfield PCC, The Drama Group, The Ladies Group, The Village hall and Recreation Association, The Allotment Association, The Footpath Warden and The Website.
- 9 Report from Norfolk County Council
- 10 Report from South Norfolk District Council
- 11 Any Other Business

Mike Mortimer
Parish Clerk

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Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in the Village Hall on the 22nd of April 2014

Chair of the Parish Council, Mr Ian Cattermole opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed members of the public

Present:

Councillors, Mr B Claybrook, Mrs J Delasalle, Ms P Dowling, Mr R Hewitt, Mrs T Marshall, Mr K Traynier, Mrs L Pearce, District Councillor, Mr K Weeks, County Councillor, Mr B Spratt, and a number of representatives from village groups and the Clerk Mr M Mortimer.

1. Apologies for absence

Mrs L Holly

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 23rd of April 2013

Copies had been made available at the meeting and the minutes were approved and signed

3. Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising

4. Annual Report of the Parish Council

Mr Cattermole began by stressing concern over the state of the highways in the parish. On a more positive note he reported the transfer of the running of the allotments to the Allotment Association and the combining of three of the village charities into one. He expressed disappointment that the recommendation of the PC not to approve the planning request for the anaerobic digester at The Oaks had been ignored.

Finally Mr Cattermole announced his resignation from the Parish Council with immediate effect.

A copy of the report is in the minute book.

5. Statement of Accounts for the year to 31st March 2013

The Parish Clerk presented a statement of the Parish Council's Accounts for the year to 31st March 2014.

A copy of the statement is included in the minute book.

6. Reports from Charities

Elizabeth Barker.

Mr Canfer reported on the Elizabeth Barker Charity announcing that that Mrs Pearce had joined the trustees. In the year it arranged a donation to the school and for the purchase of a time lock for the church so that it could remain open during the day.

Report in the minute book.

The Fuel Charity.

Mrs Pearce reported the new name for the charity as “The Fuel Allotment” and that the land was now registered at the Land Registry. She explained that the terms of the charity had been changed to allow fuller use of its resources in the parish.

Mrs Delasalle reported for the sub-committee charged with making the day to day decisions. Payments had been made to the school and the Village Hall. She thanked Mrs Handy for the enormous amount of work she had done to make the combining of the charities possible.

There is a report in the minute book.

7. To receive a report from Bressingham School.

No report was provided.

8. Reports from Parish Organizations:

Bressingham PCC

Mrs Burroughes gave a sad account of the year with the deaths of Rodger and Millie Aves, and with Brenda Oates moving away. It was, she said, the end of an era. She expressed real fears for the future of the church. She reminded those present of the concert at Diss church to raise money for repairs to the porch.

Report in the minute book.

Fersfield PCC

Mr Hewitt gave the report as a new Church Warden saying it had paid its parish share and was having heating put in thanks largely to good local support with 140 in the congregation for the carol service.

He was pleased to announce that Sir Richard Du Bois was back in place after his travels to Norwich where he had been one of the top ten attractions.

Bressingham Village Drama Group

Mrs Webb reported yet another highly successful year having raised nearly £2000 for the Village Hall, with a number of productions including a murder mystery night called Death by Chocolate and the panto, Cinders, in which, for once, Buttons got the girl! She thanked the Parish Council and The Fuel Charity for donations towards the cost of new staging.

Report in the minute book.

Bressingham & District Ladies' Club

Mrs Peachey gave a report on a busy year with 35 members and ten meetings. Jewellery design, camera history, an African charity and Christmas arrangements were just some of the topics and activities enjoyed. The club held a raffle at its birthday party and donated £150 to Cancer Research. Jean Harvey has agreed to be Chair for the year ahead.

A full report is in the minute book

Bressingham and Fersfield Village Hall and Recreation Association

Mr Byrne, had provided a report stating pleasure at the number of groups and organisations using the hall and the playing field. He did express concern over the difficulty of attracting committee members and appealed to anyone interested to join. Mr Byrne's report pointed out the play equipment would need updating and that the committee would be approaching the Parish Council and Charity in the future.

There is a report in the minute book

Allotment Association

Michelle Lanchester reported progress in the maintenance of the site and that an agreement between the AA and PC had been signed. All the allotments had been let and there was a waiting list.
Report in the minute book.

Footpaths

Mr Traynier reported that during the winter some of the parish footpaths had been very muddy and inaccessible due to flooding. He thanked those who were helping with the numbering system he had devised by walking the paths and expected the work to be completed during the summer.
A report is in the minute book.

The Village Website

Mrs Harris provided a report giving figures and context to visits to the site in the past month - 637. It described the many areas of the site and their popularity including a history page by Mrs Handy, the Market Place section, news and photo gallery. The huge amount of work put in by Mrs Harris and Mrs Handy was recognised and they were thanked for their dedication.
Report in the minute book.

9. Report from Norfolk County Council

Councillor Spratt reported that the council still had to make millions of pounds in cuts over the next three years made worse by the eight million pound cost of cancelling the construction of the incinerator at Kings Lynn though a further 3.7 million pounds had been made available for the roads.. He explained that the Cabinet system was to be replaced by a committee system. Mr Hewitt asked who was making decisions at the council and Mr Spratt answered that though the Conservatives had 40 of the 84 seats the county was being run by an alliance of other parties. A decision to cut back on recycling facilities had been opposed by his committee but the cuts were still going ahead.

10. Report from South Norfolk District Council

District Councillor Weeks reported on the conclusion of several large projects. The council's 67 sewage works had finally been passed on to Anglian Water or Saffron, the revision of planning policies had been completed and the Site Specific development plans had been concluded. Changes to the provision of waste collection had resulted in a more efficient service meaning that the cost per household had come down to around £20.

Finally he announced that he would not be standing at next year's election and encouraged others to come forward.

11. Any Other Business

Mrs Burroughes offered thanks and congratulations to Mr Cattermole for his work in a difficult year, a sentiment echoed by all.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.