

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held at 7:00pm in the Village Hall, Stanningfield on Tuesday 17 May 2016

In accordance with law, the Chairman of the Parish Council, David Staff took the Chair.

Present: Parish Councillors (Cllrs) Mark Duchesne, Mike Grimmer, Mark Hinde, Anthony Langan, Clive Mears, Julia Smith, David Staff (Chair), Andrew Tucker, Colin Walters.

Borough Councillor Sara Mildmay-White, County Councillor Terry Clements and 8 members of the public.

In attendance: Paul MacLachlan (Clerk)

The agenda, together with appendices 1 to 4 will be appended to the signed minutes.

1. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed those present and thanked residents for their interest and attendance.

2. Apologies

There were no apologies for absence.

3. Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 26 May 2015 were agreed a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4. Chairman's Annual Report

The Clerk read the Chairman's report at Appendix 1.
There were no questions arising.

5. Measures to mitigate the impact of flooding in the parish

The following specific areas of flood risk were identified:

- Stone Cottages, The Street, Bradfield Combust;
- Chapel Lane, Stanningfield;
- Bury Road, Stanningfield; and,
- Donkey Lane, Stanningfield;
- Run-off from The Green, Stanningfield.

Residents wished to know what factors, in addition to the high volume of rain, contributed to the flooding.

The Clerk was asked to invite Anglian Water, Suffolk Highways, the Environment Agency and local landowners to a meeting with Parish Councillors to see how the flood risk in these areas might be mitigated.

Cllrs Mears and Hinde offered to take a lead on this issue.

6. Measures to reduce vehicle speeds in the parish

Cllr Mike Grimmer expressed concern about vehicle speed along the Bury Road commenting that the road had a history of road accidents and pet fatalities and that the national 60mph limit was too high.

Cllr Tucker commented that the speed limit along the A134 through Bradfield Combust was 40mph while the limit through other comparable villages towards Bury St Edmunds was 30mph.

County Cllr Terry Clements indicated that the Parish Council would need to demonstrate that certain specific criteria were met in order for the Highways Department to consider changes to existing speed limits. Cllr Clements was asked to forward the list of criteria to the Clerk.

Cllr Grimmer offered to take a lead on this issue.

7. Report of the Safer Neighbourhood Team

No representative from the Safer Neighbourhood Team was able to attend.

8. County Councillor's Report

The County Councillor's report at appendix 2 was received.

There followed some discussion about the lack of a bus service for residents in Bradfield Combust. Although it was felt there was probably insufficient demand for a financially viable service, Cllr Tucker agreed to canvass residents on the matter.

9. Borough Councillor's Report

The Borough Councillor's report at appendix 3 was received.

Arising from discussion about forthcoming events within the parish, Cllr Mildmay-White offered to contribute £100 towards the cost of the Queen's 90th birthday celebrations.

10. Parish Council accounts for the year ending 31 March 2016

The accounts at appendix 4 were received.

Commenting on the accounts the Clerk highlighted the extent of the fund raising undertaken by Parish Councillors in order to improve the services available to residents within the parish.

11. Issued raised by the public

The Chairman responded to a question about the likelihood of housing development along the Bury Road commenting that Orbit Homes had indicated that they were unlikely to develop the area if opposed by the Parish Council.

Borough Councillor Sara Mildmay-Smith commented on the recent passage of the Housing and Planning Bill which offered some uncertain, and legally untested, protections against the right to buy affordable housing in rural areas.

County Councillor Terry Clements responded to enquiries about the implications of devolution for East Anglia commenting that the picture was not yet clear.

The meeting closed at 8.00pm.