



ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Wednesday 9 May 2018 at 7.30pm

Community Centre, Playingfield Lane, Martham

Minutes

Councillors Present: Paul Hooper (Chair), Cllrs Gates, Hurkett and Watson.

S.Kent - Clerk.

There were four members of the public in attendance.

Apologies were received from representatives of the Scarecrow Festival, Scouts, Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and the Bowls Club.

The minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting held on 10 May 2017 were agreed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

1. Parish Council Chairman's Statement 2017/18.

The Chairman gave a presentation on the activity of the Council over the previous year. Cllr Hooper wanted to thank Janet Henning and Lee Sutton who served as Parish Councillors in the year and since resigned, for their contribution to the Council.

Cllr Hooper stated that the majority of Council income is precepted money which for a third-year running had seen a 0% increase. There was further update on the 'Village Greens' with full support from the Parish Council with the variety of activities fully supported. Villagers continued to organise and contribute to a high number of activities throughout the year.

Both ponds within the village have been monitored for maintenance or improvement with quotes being obtained to rectify the slippage in the main pond and improvements to the smaller pond located close to the chip shop.

Extensive tree work had taken place with the planting of three new trees which are now flourishing. Nine tree preservation orders are in place across the parish and further Tree Protection Orders can be made to Great Yarmouth Borough Council website.

The Parish Council is responsible for an extensive range of footpaths which includes permissive paths with either Norfolk County Council or Landowners responsible for the remaining paths.

Martham Parish Council is not a Planning authority and can only comment on applications as a consultee, however all planning is monitored closely with the inclusion of affordable housing and improved highways a priority for Council representing the village. Councillors have been working hard behind the scenes with Norfolk County Council to change the zebra crossing into a demand crossing.

A Memorial Bench to commemorate lives lost in the war was purchased in partnership with the Scarecrow Festival and dedicated on Memorial Sunday.

The annual litter pick took place on a rainy Saturday with support from the Brownies and villagers with children acting as great role models for their peers. Councillors continue to support work on the Allotments with some plots available upon request to the Clerk.

Larger events held within the village included the Carnival and the Scarecrow Festival with recognition given to village events organised for villagers and by villagers. The Chairman wanted to give thanks on behalf of the Parish Council to Julie, Steven, Liz and Peter for all of their hard work over the last eleven years organising the Scarecrow festival and will continue to offer support to the Carnival and the new organisers of the festival.

2. Presentations and reports were received from Village organisations which included: -

- Good Neighbour Scheme
- Scarecrow Festival
- Martham Boat Dyke Charity
- History Group

3. General Parish Comments

Refreshments were served at the close of the meeting.