

Wreningham Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 13th March 2012 at 6.30pm in the Margaret Preston Room, Wreningham Village Hall

Present

Cllrs. Michael Hill (Chair), Elizabeth Brake, Sheldon Durant, Gill Page, DC Laura Webster, the Clerk and 12 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllrs Barry Jarvis and Donald Whiterod

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Parish Council - Michael Hill

Michael reported as the Chair of the Parish Council (PC). His report is attached to the signed minutes.

Home Watch and Local Policing- Ian Dobson / PCSO Dan Shelley

Ian Dobson reported that the village has 6 co-ordinators at the moment. During 2011 they have met with Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) Dan Shelly three times, and Ian Dobson attends training meetings at Police Headquarters and SNC to ensure he is up to date with current legislation. PCSO Dan Shelly reported that there have only been two reported crimes in Wreningham in the last year, neither of which have been serious, however they are unsolved. He is aware of parking issues outside the school, and re-marking the zig-zags will happen in the next financial year. Extra Homewatch signage was discussed, and if needed the Parish Council will consider financing their purchase.

Play Ground Group - Gill Hustler / Claire Cormack

The project has been running now for two years, and the committee were pleased to receive a grant of £9,300 from SNC helping swell the total to just under £17,000. The Group will begin by installing equipment for the younger children (phase one of the project) and then continue to fund raise for money for phase two which is equipment for older children. This seems the best way forward at the present time rather than waiting to install all the equipment until we have secured funding for the whole project as this could take a while longer. Mr Durant is working with the committee on ground preparation and moving existing equipment. The plans are available for anyone who wishes to see them.

Last Wednesday Coffee Mornings - Irene Moore

Irene Moore was unable to attend but wrote a report. They have had a very successful year with more people joining since the last report. All the people who came along when they first started continue to support the coffee morning. Due to the kind donation from the Parish Council in paying for the hall hire, they now have a surplus of money which will be donated to charity. The choice of charities will be decided by the group as a whole. They are now selling jams and chutneys and hope to expand on this as the season progresses by inviting people to bring along their garden produce. They would like to include anyone living alone who find it difficult going out, by offering a car collected service. However, at the moment they do not know if this is required and it would be good to hear from others in the village regarding this. The helpers enjoy the morning and continue to believe that it is a good way to get to know others and develop relationships.

Wreningham Website - Barry Jarvis

Mr Jarvis was not able to attend the meeting.

Tree Warden - Ian Dobson

Mr Dobson reported that this is an unpaid position and he is available to give advice for residents regarding tree matters. He also reported on the Community Orchard, reading from the website.

Village Hall Management Committee - John Bligh

Mr Bligh (Chair of the Committee) reported that the Village Hall is one of the two main social centres in the village and at least 10 of the groups reporting this evening meet there. He informed the meeting that the wind turbine is now working more effectively, and with continued monitoring it is hoped that this will improve further. He explained the fundraising events which are planned to ensure the fabric of the building is maintained, and the current project of reducing the damp is ongoing.

Wreningham Social Club

There was no Social Club representative at the meeting.

Ashwren Players - Val Keel

Mrs Keel reported that the players were initially a joint venture between Ashwellthorpe and Wreningham, but now includes Mulbarton. There is a core of people but more volunteers are always needed for both performance and behind the scenes work. This year the pantomime was Treasure Island and involved 30 local performers of all ages, and 15 front of house and back stage assistants. There was also increased publicity, including Long John Silver being interviewed on Radio Norfolk. The group raised money to be split equally between Star Throwers and East Road Truckers local charities. The next planned show is likely to be Dick Wittington, and will be written specifically for the Players.

Wreningham Fuel Trust - Christine Minns

Ms Minns reported as the Clerk to the Fuel Trust. Her report is attached to the signed minutes.

Wreningham Church - Christine Minns

Ms Minns reported as Church Warden. Her report is attached to the signed minutes.

Mother and Toddler Group - Claire Cormack

Mrs Cormack reported that numbers are generally low in September and pick up around now resulting in a vibrant group at this time of year. They are grateful for the grant of £125 from the Parish council which has enabled them to pay for the necessary insurance. Unfortunately they have to pay the same amount for insurance as a larger group who meet more regularly as the insurance options are limited.

Youth Club - Bill Billam

There was not a representative from Youth Club at the meeting.

Flower club - Sue Rudd

Mrs Rudd could not attend but provided a written report which the Chair read out. The Club have had a very active and successful year during which they held their usual monthly meetings, where some very interesting talks and demonstrations were given. In addition, the club enjoyed an outing to the gardens at East Ruston and held a successful fundraising tea afternoon at a member's garden in Wreningham. The Harvest Lunch in September was one of the most successful and the Christmas fundraiser helped the club maintain a good level of

funds. Membership levels were maintained. They are looking forward to celebrating their 50th anniversary in March 2012 and plans are well in hand. They would like to take this opportunity to thank the Parish Council again for their donation towards the purchase of seat cushions which have been most appreciated by the members.

Short mat bowls - Sue Sayers

Mrs Sayers could not attend the meeting.

Wreningham School - Rob Jones, Headmaster

Mr Jones did not attend the meeting

Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Celebrations - Ian Dobson

A committee has been formed and plans including a stained glass window, booklet, DVD and village party including festivities and beacon lighting have been planned. There will be a beer festival over the weekend, and a songs of praise service and children's art display in the Church. Various grants have been applied for, and £450 has been given by the Parish Council towards the memento booklet and £200 towards the street party. Monday 4th June will be the main celebration day, and Mill Lane will be closed to traffic all day with the Village Hall being the wet weather alternative.

South Norfolk District Councillor - Laura Webster

Laura Webster reported that it has been a very busy year with changes in Planning Policy and the Localism Bill. The budget has been approved and council tax will be frozen for the fourth time in five years whilst reserves have been increased. On 1st April SNC will join a partnership with NP Law, aiming to increase expertise in specialist areas, as well as saving money. The Local Development Framework is still under consultation, and in June 2012 the preferred sites will be announced. The Localism Bill has changed the focus towards a lower tier of government which is demonstrated by money which has been given to Neighbourhood Boards to try and increase the community power and spread of funding at a parish level.

County Councillor - John Herbert

Mr Herbert was not present at the meeting.

Closing - Michael Hill

Michael thanked all for attending.

A record of this meeting will be posted on the Wreningham websites.

Meeting closed at 7.47pm