

RATTLESDEN ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 19 May 2015 at 7.30pm in Rattlesden Village Hall

Present: Parish Councillors: Cllr Ms Pauline Baker, Cllr Mrs Kerry Burn, Cllr Dan Jewers and Cllr Russell Morley;
County and District Councillor: Cllr Mrs Penny Otton;
Suffolk Constabulary: PC 421 Annelly Miles;
20 members of the public; and
Parish Clerk: Mr Doug Reed (who took the minutes).

2015/01 Welcome and Introductions

Those in attendance were welcomed formally by Cllr Pauline Baker, Chairman of the Parish Council, who chaired the meeting.

2015/02 Apologies for Absence

Received from: Mrs Bridget Burke (CEVC Primary School), Mrs Jenny Corbyn (Badminton Club), Mr Adam Fayers (Football Club), Ms Joan Sibley (Playgroup) and Mrs Carol Williamson (Tree Officer).

2015/03 Minutes of the Last Annual Parish Meeting

It was proposed by Cllr Russell Morley, seconded by Mr Chard Wadley, that the minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting, held on 20 May 2014, be approved as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman. The proposal was carried. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

2015/04 County and District Council: Cllr Mrs Penny Otton provided a comprehensive report on both Councils and on matters relevant to the village [see the written report provided which is attached to these minutes].

2015/05 Suffolk Constabulary: PC 421 Annelly Miles noted that she was leaving the county and that this would, therefore, be her last meeting in Rattlesden. She briefed those present on an increased crime rate in 2014-2015 [see the written report provided which is attached to these minutes].

2015/06 Parish Council: Mr Robert Griggs, who had recently stood down as parish councillor having been Chairman of the Council in 2014-2015, offered a full breakdown on the activities of the Parish Council in the past year [see the written report provided which is attached to these minutes].

2015/07 Village Organisations and Activities

The meeting enabled the organisations, bodies and groups which serve Rattlesden to provide brief reports on their activities in the past year, to inform others about any plans for 2015-2016, and to highlight any issues they had or to submit requests for help. The following took the opportunity, and were both information and entertaining:

Allotment Association (Mr Mike Smith)

Bike Show (Mr Gary Sainty)

Friends of Rattlesden Church (Mr Kevin Widdick)

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Community Council (Mr Martin Evans)
Community Shop (Mrs Camilla Keeling)) [written report also provided]
Gardening Club (Mr Brian Balaam)
History Group (Mrs Bridget Goodchild)) [written report also provided]
Oil Co-operative (Mrs Esther Jewson)
Post Office (Mrs Judy Angus)
Primary School (Mrs Esther Jewson)
River Working Group (Mr Chard Wadley)
Village Charity (Mr Brian Balaam)
Village Hall (Ms Sue Thomas)
Web Site (Mrs Kerry Burn) [written report also provided]

In addition, written reports were provided by:

Football Club (Mr Adam Fayers)
Tree Officer for the Parish Council (Mrs Carol Williamson)

It was clear yet again that the village benefited from a significant range of services and activities, and that there was an abundance of facilities, and a host opportunities for everyone to get involved in the community. Again, however, most speakers reported that their groups and organisations would welcome new members; and others, that more volunteers continued to be needed.

It was emphasised by a number of speakers that difficulties remained with organising activities and, especially, those whose objective was fundraising. It was reiterated that event co-ordination would benefit all. To that end, Sue Thomas (Village Hall Management Committee) offered to organise a meeting, in July if possible, to try to establish some form of co-ordination amongst organisations. The offer was very much welcomed.

Overall, the audience was pleased to hear of the many successes achieved by groups which evidenced the commitment, energy and enthusiasm of those involved and were a testament to a vibrant village.

Written reports, as supplied for the meeting, are held with and form part of the minutes.

2015/08 Open Forum
No further matters were raised.

2015/09 Close
The Chairman thanked everyone for their time in attending, for their presentations, and for their positive and helpful contributions to the evening, before duly closing the meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.