

**Minutes of the BRUISYARD ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held on Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> May 2010, at 7:30 in the Village Hall, Bruisyard.**

**Apologies for absence:-** apologies were received from Sonia Richards, James Ingmire and Pc Mary Thompson .

Peter Robinson, Chairman of the Parish Council took the Chair. Eleanor Berwick proposed that the minutes of Bruisyard Annual Parish Meeting for 2009 be accepted as a true record. John McKee seconded the proposal and all agreed.

**1) Parish Council Chairman's Report:-**

He welcomed everybody to the new venue.

**a) The Chairman** introduced the Clerk and Councillors, Eleanor Berwick, Sonia Richards, Jeremy Holland-Howes, John McKee and James Ingmire and pointed out that any of them can be contacted if anybody had any concerns about the village. He informed the meeting that there was a vacancy for a councillor at the moment with the resignation of Margaret West and if anybody was interested they could put themselves forward for the position by contacting him or the Clerk.

**b) Charity Donations:** The Council makes donations to those charities that are able to help resident in the village. This year support was given to Suffolk Accident Rescue Service, the CAB, Age Concern and the Disability Advice Service.

**c) Boundary Commission:** After a lot of discussion as to which of the Boundary Commission's proposed changes for Suffolk would be the best for Bruisyard, the whole scheme has been dropped.

**d) Planning:** There have been no major planning applications for the last 12 months.

**e) Precept:** The precept has been increased this year by £100 to £1700 mainly in order to keep to the minimum cash reserves we are obliged to hold.

**f) Rural Coffee Caravan:** During the year there were two visits from the Rural coffee Caravan who supply information over a cup of coffee and a slice of cake. In the last month they launched another caravan from our Village Hall with coverage by the BBC and other TV channels.

**g) Wine Tasting:** The Parish Council have held 2 wine tastings over the last year, one in the Summer at the Clock House by kind permission of Mr and Mrs Roberts and one here in the Hall, both being well attended and thanks go to Mr and Mrs Berwick for staging the events and imparting some of their knowledge to those attending.

**h) Other events:-** A Coffee Morning and cake sale was held in February and another will be held the coming Saturday with a plant sale as well.

**j) The Vestry:** the PCC were thanked for the use of the Vestry for meetings over the previous years and the Chairman invited them to make use of the Village Hall in the future.

**2) Village Hall report:-** Construction of the Village Hall which started on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2009 was completed and available for use by the end of December 2009. The first event to be held was the 12<sup>th</sup> Night Party which had to be delayed until 13<sup>th</sup> January due to heavy snow. The construction progressed according to plan with no major problems and the quality of the build delivered by Simmons Builders Ltd was of a high standard. In addition, Simmons managed the construction with very little, if any, disturbance to neighbours and the site remained well organised and maintained at all times.

Over the construction period the capital costs increased from £247,786 (which included a contingency of £10k) to £253,472 which left a budget shortfall of £5686. This increase in capital costs arose mainly from the cost of piling (+£2318), plumbing (+£2404), heating and hot water installation (+£1034), supply and installation of kitchen units (+£2033), floor tiling (+£3263), car park entrance and footpath (+£1470). The budget shortfall was addressed by a

grant of £1000 from Councillor Colin Hart which was used towards the cost of buying the chairs, an additional grant of £2000 from BSAC and village hall funds. In addition, the fencing and gate for the car park area was postponed until further funding was secured. An application was submitted to the Adnams Charity in early March and an award of £1253 was granted in May. This grant will cover the cost of installing the fencing and five bar gate as required under the lease agreement for the car park.

Additional work that has been undertaken in the hall since January has been the installation of sound absorbing ceiling panels and a brick plinth below where the plaster plaques will be fixed to prevent damage from chair backs.

The Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffalos, Kenneth Walker Lodge, awarded a grant of £100 in April which has been used to buy a combined microwave oven and grill, and an electric kettle. The Alde Community Council has also agreed to award £250 for the installation of five photovoltaic powered LED floodlights for the car park area.

The Energy Performance Certificate for the hall has now been received. The rating calculated by the energy assessor using the latest software is 'B'. The hall was designed and built for an 'A' rating. The difference is mainly due to the latest software used for assessment which assumes that a heat pump installation also uses air-conditioning and hence additional energy consumption. This is not the case for the hall but there appears to be little merit in challenging the assessment.

### **3) Bruisyard Social Amenities Committee AGM**

**a) Report and Account:-** The committee held a Barbeque and Fete during the summer featuring a Punch and Judy show, races for the children and a very popular crockery smashing stall. Although due to the terrible weather conditions the 12<sup>th</sup> Night Party had to be postponed for a week it was held as the first event in the new hall. This event highlighted the poor acoustics in the hall though it appears everybody had a good time. The acoustic problems have now been solved by installing sound absorbing panels on the ceiling.

The Committee have made a further grant to the Village Hall of £2000 making £3000 in total. The present bank balance stands at £628.20

**b) Elections:-** All members of the committee have agreed to stand again. David Smith proposed that all be re-elected and that Theresa McKee and Glynis Holman elected to serve on the committee. Peter Robinson seconded this proposal and all agreed.

### **4) Bruisyard Young People:-**

The club was formed in March 2010 and meets weekly on a Wednesday evening from 6 to 8pm. There is a summer program for the children's play activity ongoing at the moment. There has been one fund raising event which was a Sausage and Mash Night. The sausages were kindly donated by a Richard Pawle of Hill Farm Bruisyard and the local band from within the village played for free. The event raised £350.00 - which has been spent on outdoor games for the children.

A grant of £200 from Colin Hart's Suffolk County Council Locality Budget has been received for which the club is very grateful.

The club has also had a grant from Suffolk Foundation of £900 for more equipment which will be bought later on in the year. B.Y.P. is being run as a sub-committee of the Bruisyard Village Hall committee.

Please let any children you know in the area about the club as they will be very welcome to attend.

#### **5) Police Report - PCSO Mary Thompson sent a report for the meeting:-**

Between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010 there were 3 reported crimes in Bruisyard

- The theft of heavy lifting machinery between 11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> July
- Criminal damage to a vehicle between 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> July
- A theft between community service workers in the Church Yard.

The previous year there were 4 reported crimes.

#### **Road Safety**

13 schools have taken up the 'Kill Your Speed! Not me!! Campaign' and all took part in the Road Safety/speeding poster competition. The winning entries for each school will be judged for an overall SNT winner and the submissions have been exhibited in Framlingham Co-op for a week as a celebration for all the effort the pupils have put in.

#### **Crime Trend**

There has been some heating oil thefts within the SNT. To guard against this security measures should be taken to frustrate offenders by improved lighting, putting in security measures for pipes and householders making regular checks.

Thefts of scrap metal, copper, lead etc are also occurring she urged all residents to secure any valuables and sheds and outbuildings needing to be secured with locks and consider buying a shed alarm.

She is happy to be contacted by the public about any police matters. Framlingham Police Station number is 01473 613500

#### **6) District and County Councillor Colin Hart's Report:-**

The dominating issue for both District and County Council is finance and will be in the future with costs increasing and demand for services rising. Central government will be limiting funding to local government and there is a limit to the amount local taxpayers will tolerate increases in council tax. Savings and efficiencies have been implemented for some years without serious impact on services and even though the County Council has reduced costs by over £60 million they have increased the amounts spent on road maintenance, care for the elderly and child protection.

Both councils will need to take radical action to bridge budget gaps. The County Council will try and work more efficiently with the rest of public sectors in Suffolk and made it clear to staff that there needs to be a much smaller organisation in the future. The District Council already share Chief Executive and Head of Planning with Waveney District Council and will look into further shared services and working.

The previous Secretary of State decided not to take a decision on the recommendations put forward by Local Government Review concerning putting unitary councils in place of the present system. Colin Hart was not convinced that unitary government would be cheaper and it would have been expensive to implement the changes. It is hoped that no more will be heard of the proposals. One of the greatest concerns with the unitary model was who would be taking decisions about planning. He believes that local Councillors and planning officers know the area. The present system successfully rejected the developer's claim they had made a start on the project for the Parham wind farm and the planning permission lapsing earlier this year.

The previous government gave housing targets for the next 11 years which the District Council has to allow for in the planning policy. This meant potentially 2000 houses around Martlesham and 1000 around Felixstowe but developers are unlikely to build them unless there is the demand for them. Although they have adopted the core strategy of the local government framework it was made clear there should be any change in national planning policy they reserved the right to call a halt to the process and review the proposed local development framework in light of that policy.

He apologised for the gloomy outlook but considered it right to be realistic about the difficulties but he could confirm that the county councillor's locality budgets will continue and invited requests for funds for future projects.

The Chairman thanked all those giving their reports to the meeting and Colin Hart was thanked for all his support throughout the project to building the village hall.

### **7) Questions from the floor:-**

There was a request for a designated bus stop in the village. The driver of the bus will only stop at The Forge. It was suggested that the better place for the bus to stop would be at the entrance to the Village Hall car park on Rendham Road. The clerk volunteered to contact the bus company and ask for the change to be made.

Ian Berwick proposed a vote of thanks to David Smith for all his hard work and input into raising the money and the secretarial work for building the village hall. Shirley Smith Seconded this proposal. Colin Hart also pointed out that the work he carried out as the Parish Plan coordinator gave the village the sort of plan that was appropriate to the village and its needs.

The next phase of development in the Park of creating a play area for the children will address another outcome of the Parish Plan.

The Chairman thanked all those present for coming to the meeting and the meeting closed at 8:20

Adrienne Wakeling of the Royal British Legion gave a talk to those present about the work they carry out in the County and explained who was eligible for help from the Legion. She covered the way the legion is funded and the success of the poppy appeal. Sara Orr has collected for the poppy appeal in the village for more than 20 years and Adrienne Wakeling presented her with a 20 year service certificate and a badge in recognition of her help to the Legion.

The Chairman thanked Adrienne Wakeling for the presentation