

Minutes of the BRUISYARD ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held on Tuesday, 16th May 2006, at 7.0 0 in St Peter's Church, Bruisyard.

Apologies for absence There were no apologies for absence.

Chairman's Report:-

The Chairman, Mr Peter Robinson, welcomed those present and introduced the serving councillors. If there are any Parish problems the public are invited to contact any of the Council Members or the Clerk.

1) The Vestry: the PCC were thanked for the use of the Vestry for meetings.

2) Precept: the Council has kept this to £1000 this year in order

3) Social Amenities Committee: this committee was formed after the last Parish Meeting to organise social functions in the village and to fundraise for and build the village hall. A summer barbeque was held on a very wet Saturday and a Christmas party was held at Bruisyard Hall.

The village hall project has had a setback as a new flood risk assessment is now required before planning permission is asked for.

David Smith is looking into the funding for the village hall and has drawn up a constitution to be adopted which will be accepted by the Charities Commission.

The committee has £1000 of funds to date.

4) The Parish Plan: Jeremy Holland-Howes has investigated the local school to ascertain which ones are being used by the residents of Bruisyard and sent the results to the local education authorities. They have let him know that there will be a major schools review and reorganisation in the near future and a change in catchment area cannot be considered until that has been carried out.

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

6) Parish Park: There has been a change of contractors for the grass cutting and the Pound is also being cut on a regular basis.

Mrs Sue Williams put flowers in the park last summer and they looked very attractive. She will do the same next year.

7) Tree warden: Mr John McKee is the parishes new tree warden.

8) Planning: There have not been any controversial planning applications in the parish during the year. Bridge works is being refurbished and should be ready late summer for occupation. It will be used for trailer manufacture.

9) Transport: The Wednesday bus to Saxmundham has been discontinued but the user of that service now use Town Travel and find it very satisfactory. There is also a very frequent bus service the 190 stopping in Cransford.

10) Litter Pick: A litter pick was carried out around the village in March and Suffolk Coastal removed and disposed of the rubbish

11) Rural Coffee Caravan: The Park will be the venue for the Rural Coffee Caravan on 8th June 2 – 4 pm. Anyone requiring advice can pick up information leaflets from many agencies as well as enjoying a drink and homemade cake.

12) Village Website: Mrs Margaret West has set up a website for Bruisyard, this can be added to.

Community Responder Scheme:-

Mr John Matthews from Rendham has trained as community responder. He goes to the aid of anybody sick or injured to give them treatment and reassurance until an ambulance with the paramedics on board arrives. He wants to form a group of responders to serve the villages of Rendham, Bruisyard and Sweffling to give 24/7 cover. Fund raising will also be necessary for a **defibrillator kit** and this will be owned by the Alde Community Council on behalf of the three villages. The cost of the equipment will be £2000.

An article will be published in the Bridge announcing a joint meeting at 7:30 Tuesday 13th June. There will also be a stall at Rendham Village Fete on 8th July.

Those present at the meeting supported the scheme. Information will be published in the newsletter to advertise the meeting and the scheme.

Questions from the floor:-

There has been a request for picnic benches to be put in the Park for residents and visitors to use. This will be brought up at the parish council meeting and funding for the proposal will be sourced.

Sergeant Metherell, Community Police Sergeant for the Leiston police sector gave her police report to the meeting as there is no replacement for Pc Miller.

The sector has just had a change of commander to Inspector Graham Underwood. The style of community policing is due to change to Neighbourhood Policing teams scheduled to be in place by April 2007.

Sergeant Metherell outlined policing priorities as, violence in public places, counter terrorism, detecting offenders for supplying class A drugs, targeting offences of criminal damage and theft from motor vehicles and updating victims and witnesses on case progression.

The general detection rate has steadily improved and there has been a 6.8% reduction in recorded crime. There was an increase in criminal damage and theft from motor vehicles.

Operation Nightsafe ran a high profile campaign focusing on alcohol- related violence in the seven weeks leading up to new year. A weapons amnesty was successful in taking a large number of weapons and ammunition out of circulation.

Pub Watch is running in the four towns with Leiston operating a banning system for problem customers.

There are eight persons with anti social behaviour orders against them and other applications are still being processed. Other anti- social behaviour incidents have been dealt with by fixed penalties as an alternative to a lengthy court process.

Since last April there have been four recorded crimes and neighbouring villages have suffered theft from motor vehicles.

The Chairman thanked Sergeant Metherell for her report.

Mr Colin Hart, District and County Councillor made his report to the meeting.

Finance has been the dominant issue this year but the resulting council tax increase across the district will be about 4.5%. The district Council has been successful in limiting its increase by efficiencies and increased charges for services without making cuts in services. Some services will be improved such as waste collection where a 3 bin wheelie bin system will come into operation.

The County Council has had to make cuts of £24 million impacting adult services, child care, road maintenance and public transport because of the very poor settlement from central government. Efficiencies will have to be made or the Council will face being capped if the tax is too high probably above 5%. Local government spends most of its time carrying out central government policy but without adequate resources to do so.

Mr Harts view is that there needs to be a fundamental reform of the local government system. Local government finance and local taxation is currently being reviewed and a white paper comes out this summer on the restructuring of local government. It is believed that district and county councils will be abolished and replaced by unitary councils. This would mean that planning and development decisions would be taken at an even more remote level.

He resigned from this post as Cabinet Member for Environment, Waste and Economic Development over the county supporting the wind turbines at Parham and has since served as Vice Chairman of the Resource, Finance and Performance scrutiny committee.

Locally he has got route restrictions and reductions in the lorry movements to the new waste composting plant at Parham. He is pursuing road safety initiatives throughout the division and got the county to look again to the A12 bypass projects.

He has supported a number of projects throughout the division through the locality budget and is happy to discuss and applications from Bruisyard including supporting the responder scheme.

The Chairman thank Mr Colin Hart for coming to the meeting and giving his address.

There was a vote of thanks to the Council for there work by Mr Ian Berwick.

The date of the next Council meeting will be 18th July in the Vestry. There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8:30 pm