

Hemblington Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Hemblington Parish, held at Heathlands Community Centre on Monday 14th May 2018 at 7:30pm.

Present: Andrew Burtenshaw, George Pickersgill, Bryan Slater, Anthony Howe, Caroline Ramsay, Richard Sargeant, Steven Ford (Clerk). One parishioner was present.

Apologies: None.

1. The Chairman, Anthony Howe, welcomed those present.

2. TO AGREE THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH HELD ON 30 MAY 2017.

The minutes were approved as a true record by all present and duly signed by the chair.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT PRESENTED BY ANTHONY HOWE.

The work of the Parish Council has continued throughout the year with meetings held in alternate months. Having lost one councillor by resignation in May, we were pleased to co-opt Richard Sargeant to the Council as a member in January. We still have one vacancy to fill.

Over the past year the Parish Council has received a number of local planning applications to evaluate and comment on. The most contentious of these has concerned Lilac Farm, Cuttons Corner where the Council expressed its objections in the strongest possible terms at the Committee meeting held in August. Disappointingly, Broadland Council approved the revised application. Since that decision, the District Council has fulfilled its land supply target for house-building so that the extraordinary regulations under which this application went through will not hold good in the future. The Council is also grateful to District Councillor Frank O'Neill for his advice and support on this and other issues.

Hemblington Parish Council receives the bulk of its funding from local council tax, via the Parish Precept. For 2018/19 this will be £2798, an increase of £28. However, the Council would also like to acknowledge the generous receipt of £955.45p. raised by the successful Pedham Green picnic held in July, and earmarked for use in Pedham. The Council is extremely grateful to Caroline Ramsay for organising this excellent community occasion. A grant from the Transparency Fund administered by Norfolk ALC has enabled the Council to purchase a desk top computer and software.

The Council is now ready to go ahead with the village sign and this will be discussed at the annual meeting as will the possibility of a Neighbourhood Plan which the Council has discussed extensively.

Last year, the Council purchased the telephone kiosk at Pedham Green and this is now installed with defibrillator equipment with the support of the British Heart Foundation, and volunteers have received training in its use. This is an important community resource and the Council is once again grateful to Caroline Ramsay for leading this initiative with the enthusiastic support of Pedham residents.

Next year will mark the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Parish Council, which was first elected in May 1969 and held its first meeting on 16 July. The Council will discuss in the coming year a suitable way to commemorate this occasion.

I would like to thank Steven Ford for his sterling work as Parish Clerk.

Finally, I would also like to thank all the Parish Councillors for their commitment and support throughout the year.

4. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Councillor Frank O'Neill gave a comprehensive report on his work during the year and is attached as an addendum to the minutes.

5. TO CONSIDER THE PREPERATION OF A NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Parish Council had been carefully considering the drawing up of a Neighbourhood Plan for Hemblington. It was considered that as the District Council now had achieved a 5 Year Supply of new homes for Broadland development opportunities would be governed by the District Council's Local Plan which limited development in the parish. That being the case it was agreed not to go ahead with preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan.

6. TO HEAR AND DISCUSS ANY MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

None raised.

7. CLOSING COMMENTS

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7:41pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....