

## **BILLINGFORD PARISH**

Minutes of the Annual Billingford Parish meeting held on Tuesday 15th May 2018 at 7.00 p.m. in Billingford Village Hall.

Present:- Mrs Stephanie Harris, Mrs Mary Reeve, Major William Reeve, Mr Arthur Lake, Mrs Carolyn Lake, Mr Andrew Skinn, Miss Dawn Roper, Mrs Valerie Wilson, Mr Ian Warren, Mrs Angela Baldwin, Mr Melvyn Baldwin, Mrs Juliet Henderson, Mr Graham Pugh, Mrs Annette Pugh and Cllr Gordon Bambridge

### **1. Welcome and to accept Apologies for Absence**

Mr Lake, the Chairman of the Parish Council, welcomed those present to the meeting. There were apologies for absence received from Mrs Philippa Payne.

### **2. To confirm minutes of Meeting of Parish held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

The minutes had been circulated and read. Mr Baldwin proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of the last meeting, seconded by Mrs Reeve and Mr Lake signed them.

### **3. To report on any matters arising from the minutes**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

### **4. To receive reports from the District Councillor and County Councillor**

Cllr Bambridge stated he is always willing to help in any way he can with issues and he is still in Cabinet. Over the year in total he has attended 260 meetings. He was thanked for his 100% attendance at the Parish Council meetings. He said the Local Plan is going through. He had produced a very informative report which will be attached to the minutes.

### **5. To receive a report from the Chairman of the Parish Council**

The Chairman thanked all his 6 colleagues for their hard work during the year. During the year a Community Speedwatch group has worked hard to try to reduce the speeding problem, the Parish Council owns a fifth of a SAM2 speed sign and the sign will be placed in the village for periods of time, litter picking regularly takes place, Bingo and Auction takes place and the Parish Council pays for grass cutting of the South side of the path in the Church Yard. Yet despite all the efforts put in by the Parish Councillors there are still people in the village that want to discredit the Parish Council and that is a sad state of affairs.

### **6. To receive reports from organisations connected to the village**

Bingo takes place but it is not a Bingo Group exactly, it is fund raising for the Church. It is a small group of about 10 people that are involved.

Table tennis takes place during the winter.

Regular auctions take place.

Twice a year a Quiz takes place

The Clerk had received a newsletter from Swanton Morley School for anyone interested to read.

**7. To receive a report including accounts on the Billingford Fuel Allotment Charity**

The Charity's accounts had been audited. The Charity receives a rent from the land and £6,000.00 a year is received. 19 families received a money grant. The money is collected and distributed. What is left is invested. Norfolk Community Foundation was contacted and a meeting took place. Billingford village own the land. The Charity is part of the Charity Commission and hands are tied by the Trust Deed. If the money could be transferred to the Norfolk Community Foundation then the money can be used for other projects at the discretion of the Trustees. After a change of management at the Norfolk Community Foundation they eventually contacted the trustees to say they thought the Billingford Fuel Allotment Charity was not something they were any longer interested in helping to manage. The Rector was originally involved as was Lord Leicester. The dispute over the ownership of the land has two options. It may be necessary to go to a tribunal but it will be very expensive. The land was officially registered with the official custodian.

**8. To discuss briefly the draft Parish Council accounts**

The draft Parish Council accounts were briefly discussed. The Clerk explained that £4,977.09 had been received in income, expenditure amounted to £4,959.07 and at the end of the year the Parish Council had £4,923.75 in its bank account.

**9. To discuss any future village plans**

Over the last year a lot of work has been done regarding renewing the play equipment. A final quote is being waited for to replace the outdated swings.

A drunk driver finally appeared in Court and received a £200.00 fine and a year ban.

Litter picking took place but there is still some fly tipping taking place and the resident speaking about this matter was advised to report the situation to Breckland. Another Litter Pick will take place in the winter. A resident present offered to carry out a litter pick on the playing field.

**10. Any Other Business**

There was some discussion regarding where the village boundary is and why some trees were being cut down.

**11. To set the date and time for next year's Annual Parish meeting**

The provisional date of the Parish meeting was set for Tuesday 14th May 2019 at 7.00 p.m.

Mr Lake thanked everyone for attending. There being no other business to discuss, he declared the meeting closed at 7.45 p.m.

Chairman .....Date .....

Clerk .....Date .....