

WAKES COLNE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY
OF WAKES COLNE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 20th April 2015 AT 7.30PM
AT CHAPPEL & WAKES COLNE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllr. S. Scrase, Cllr. M. Bowden, Cllr M. Taylor, Cllr. K.Brown
Apologies: Cllr. S. Hounslow, Cllr. A. Hannington and Cllr. H. Cresswell
Also Present: Two members of public present and invited guest speakers

Guest Speakers from organisations within the Community gave reports on their activities throughout the year.

15/0001 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD ON 19th May 2014

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Bowden, seconded by Cllr M. Taylor all in favour, that the minutes from the Annual Parish Assembly Meeting held on 19th May 2014 be approved, as a correct record and were signed by Cllr. S. Scrase, resolution passed.

15/0002 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr. S. Scrase read out the Chairman's report - see attached Chairman's Report

15/0003 DATE OF NEXT ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The meeting closed at 8.50pm and the next meeting date to be confirmed.

Signed:

Date 13th May 2015

This was a very informal meeting, and reports were read out by Representatives of the following organisations, outlining their activities, and events throughout the year.

- ❖ Women's Institute
- ❖ Village Hall Management Committee
- ❖ East Anglian Railway Museum
- ❖ Millennium Green Trust
- ❖ Chappel Parish Council



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Wakes Colne Parish Council

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YOUR PARISH COUNCIL WORKING FOR YOUR PARISH

CHAIRMANS REPORT 2015

All 7 Parish Councillors have been re-elected onto the Parish Council without opposition. With this good news, the Parish Council will continue with its business as usual.

The last year has been busy, there are always many items to cover on agendas. All agendas and minutes are published on the Wakes Colne Parish Council website.

Wakes Colne Parish Council receive requests from organisations within the parish requiring donations. Donations have been awarded to Chappel Parish Council towards the upkeep of the play park, a facility enjoyed by both parishes, to Wakes Colne Church for upkeep of the churchyard and to the Village Hall.

This year Diane Jacob, our clerk, has put in a lot of work and achieved on our behalf, The Quality Council Award. The logo for this award will be added to our letter headed paper. Many thanks to Diane for the work and dedication during the past year.

Ward Councillor Peter Chillingworth and Borough Councillor Anne Brown attend meetings as much as their schedules allow, and are able to update the Parish Council on information and events

The past year has seen Councillors carrying on with projects and responsibilities all of which require a lot of time and dedication:

Public Footpaths : Working party Monica Taylor, Maggie Bowden, Stephen Scrase Kathy Brown, 2 members of the public David and Shirley Green.

The LHP Local Highways Panel Working party: Monica Taylor, Allan Hannington, Stella Hounslow with 1 member of the public Aaron Dixey

Funding Streams Working party: Monica Taylor, Maggie Bowden and Hilda Cresswell.

Personnel Committee Maggie Bowden, Allan Hannington and Stella Hounslow

Planning and Liaison Allan Hannington

Housing Needs Kathy Brown and Maggie Bowden

Village Hall Representative Hilda Cresswell

Millennium Green Representative Monica Taylor

Superfast Broadband Working group: Stephen Scrase, Kathy Brown and Allan Hannington.

Wakes Colne Book Exchange The Book Exchange has been running successfully for several months and is proving to be popular. The book exchange was officially opened earlier in the new year with coverage of the “new life” for a telephone box reported in the local press. Stephen Scrase has spent a lot of personal time to make sure that the books are presented properly by erecting shelves and arranging books, he also oversees the running of the book exchange and has this to say:

“The Telephone Book Exchange is proving to be a worthwhile venture for the Council with over three hundred books on offer at the present time; Villagers from both Chappel and Wakes Colne are making full use of the facility, which has only been in place for less than six months. During the next few weeks the current stock of books other than the children’s books will be replaced with a fresh Summer collection and any surplus books will be donated to the RSPCC Book Fair held in the autumn. If you have any books to donate to the Telephone Book Exchange than telephone Councillor Stephen Scrase on 01787 222145, to arrange collection.”

Many thanks to Stephen for the many hours spent in getting the Book Exchange running successfully.

Public Footpaths within Wakes Colne Many thanks to the working group that have given up their time to walk the public footpaths to identify any problems that may have occurred and/or suggest ways in which to improve the footpaths that we hope you enjoy walking. The Public Footpath working group are in constant touch with Public Rights of Way Officers at ECC and liaise with them on projects. If you see problems on public footpaths and you would like to report them please contact our clerk Dianne Jacobs.

Local Highways Panel (LHP) Safety for pedestrians using Station Road and traffic calming measures. The Parish Council continue to keep in touch with the LHP about the progress of measures to be taken for the safety for pedestrians, and traffic calming for Station Road. Earlier in the year members of the working party attended a LHP meeting in Colchester and asked the panel what progress was being made. We were advised that a traffic count had taken place and that a Safety Audit was the next step. This was carried out after Christmas and we have just received the report. The next step is to analyse the results and decide what the next step is in lobbying the LHP for a decision on what measures will be taken.

Proposed Public Footpath: Station Approach to Spring Gardens Rd. The Parish Council are on the verge of purchasing a strip of land from the East Anglian Railway Museum (EARM) with the aim of creating a new public footpath from Station Approach to Spring Gardens Road. This will enable us to eventually dedicate the route and secure the public footpath officially with ECC Public Rights of Way (PROW). However the negotiations with the EARM have been long and at times testing. The end result of this much needed footpath has been held up by problems that still have not had satisfactory agreement between both parties. We hope that agreement will be reached before our funding for the purchase of the footpath and fencing runs out in mid-May.

Finally I would like to thank Councillors for support and commitment and many hours spent in undertaking these many projects which have required expertise and much energy and for giving generously so much of their spare time.

The enthusiasm shown in tackling these projects must be very encouraging for the community.

Stella Hounslow Chair Wakes Colne Parish Council