

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held on Wednesday 17th April 2013 at 7.30pm at the Arkenstall Village Centre, Station Road, Haddenham, Cambs.

Cllr Julie Parr, Chairman of Haddenham Parish Council welcomed fourteen members of the public, eleven Parish Councillors, County Cllr Bill Hunt and District Cllr Ian Allen.

- 1. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** were taken as read. Cllr Fairchild proposed and Cllr G Wilson seconded that the minutes should be signed as a true record of the meeting. All those present agreed.

- 2. MATTERS ARISING**

There were none.

- 3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Ann Biggs, Mike Smith and Cllr Robert Bush.

Cllr Parr advised that Mr Paul Duggan of WISER Recycling, who had been due to attend and give a presentation on the planned parish recycling event in June, had unfortunately been taken ill and was unable to attend.

- 4. GUEST SPEAKERS**

Cllr Parr welcomed Mr Brian Ashton, Deputy Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Commissioner who gave a very interesting and informative talk about his role and the aims of the Police & Crime Commissioners Office. He also reported on new innovations being introduced to the police force to streamline ways to report crimes. Mr Ashton then answered questions from the audience.

Cllr Parr then welcomed Ms Sue Loaker, East Cambridgeshire Crime Reduction Officer who also gave a very interesting and informative presentation on her role in advising victims of crime, particularly burglary and how homes and property can be made safer. She also advised on a service, which is available to over 65s whose homes could be vulnerable to burglary. Ms Loaker was happy to answer questions from the audience.

Cllr Parr thanked both speakers for attending the meeting.

- 5. PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS**

Chairman's Report: This year is my last as Chairman, I have almost completed 5 years and it is now time for someone else to take the helm. We will have an election at the May meeting. It's been a relatively quiet year for me without the major dramas of previous years thank goodness. I would like to thank all of my fellow councillors for all their support and advice during the past 5 years, without which I could not have done the job as Chairman. I wish the new chairman (whoever that may be) good luck and offer my wholehearted support.

Allotments: At the present time we are reasonably able to keep up with demand with only one new person on the waiting list for each site. All plots are to receive new number posts and these will be placed on the front edge, not where some people have dug into the roadway. Where tenants have dug too far they will be expected to reinstate the roadway.

Arkenstall Centre: During the year the WI took over the planting and maintenance of the front flowerbed. Quotations have been received to upgrade both sets of toilets, which should cost around £40,000 for which grant funding is being sought. A web page is being developed, which will include all bookings. We also have a new bookings secretary. This year Blossoms & Bygones, which is on Sunday 12th May, will include part closure of the High Street. The Annual Public Meeting is on Tuesday 15th May at 7pm, when any parishioner may attend and volunteer to join the Committee and this will be followed by the AGM of the Management Committee. This year they will be electing a new Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary.

Burial Areas: The burial committee meets to inspect the cemetery and discuss any relevant issues, checking the area to make sure it is looking clean and tidy and the grass is being cut regularly. We have tried leaving the cut 3 weeks, but with all the rain last year members of the public complained that it looked over grown.

In the year 2012/13 we have had the following: