

ISLEHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING HELD MONDAY 16th MARCH 2015

Those present:- Chairman Cllr D Beckett, The Clerk,
21 Parishioners (including councillors)
Apologies: Mrs P Wilkes;

THE PARISH MEETING MAY BY LAW DISCUSS ALL PARISH AFFAIRS AND PASS RESOLUTIONS ABOUT THEM.

If you are on the electoral role for Isleham you are invited to take part.

1. Chairman's Introduction and Report

Good evening ladies and gentlemen; Welcome to Isleham Annual Parish Meeting which may by law discuss all parish affairs and pass resolutions about them. If you are on the electoral role for Isleham you are invited to take part.

The items included on tonight's agenda are:

1. Chairman's Introduction and Report
2. Election Presentation/Information
3. Minutes of the last meeting
4. Reports from Local Interest Groups
5. Treasurers Reports
Annual Return 2014
Dunstall Charity
Lady Maynard Charity
Deborah Fletcher Charity
Fen or Fifty
Lady Peyton Charity (Optional)
6. Dunstall Apprentice Grant
7. Opportunity for Questions from Members of the Public

As we come to the end of another year and another parish council - elections will be held in May, we have seen many significant changes on the recreation ground. These include installation of a play area, very well used by the children of the village, the near completion of a new skate park for the older children and a car park well used by Isleham school. This all adds together with the community centre to make this an attractive village to live in. I have heard reports that house prices have risen in the village by 15% since we started the whole project.

Other things in the village include the start of new streetlights throughout the village and sadly the closure of the garage which has been there all of my life.

The cemetery is still kept very well thanks to Mr Tim Wilding and the recreation ground looked after by Mr Ray Sheldrick who both deserve our thanks.

Again the allotments and orchard are well used and add value to the village.

Mr Ed Mayall continues to litter pick for us and some parishioners also help. Many thanks to them.

For all the councillors who have worked hard through many difficult projects, many thanks for your help and support throughout the year.

Finally my thanks go to the Parish Clerk for all her help and support through the year.

2. Election Presentation/Information

An election is to be held on 7th May. Not all of the current parish councillors will be standing again and so new people will be needed to come forward. Information is available on the District Council website or from the Parish Clerk.

3. Reports from Local Interest Groups

The Clerk wrote this year to most of the village interest groups asking if they would like to submit a report to this meeting.

Reports were given by Glenda Preece - WI; Chris Maxfield - Isleham Gardeners; Alison Oliver - Scouts; Doreen Spiers (Book Club); Alistair Burn (Nature Reserve); Mr V Place (Isleham Society); Jeanette Malkin (Orchard); Louise Hounsome (The Beeches);

The Beeches will have an official opening ceremony on Saturday May 2nd.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting

It was proposed by Glenda Preece and seconded by Lionel Neal that the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held Monday 28th April 2014 are approved.

ALL IN FAVOUR

5. Matters Arising

- The Dial-a-Ride service will cease at the end of March but will be taken over by the Fenland Dial-a-Ride scheme.
- The no-through road sign has been placed at the top of Limestone Close.
- Signs have been requested from the Highways Department for the Nature Reserve but there has been no response so far.
- Gateways into the village are not possible because of the width of the verges.
- Access to the Marina has not been addressed.
- The bench will be placed on the recreation ground in the next few days.

6. Treasurers Reports

- a. The audited financial statement for the year ended March 31st 2014 was presented to the meeting by the clerk.

ALL IN FAVOUR

The accounts for the Dunstall Charity Accounts showing a balance of £11,470.01 for the year ended 31st March 2014 were presented to the meeting by the Clerk.

The accounts for the Lady Maynard's & Others charity showing a balance of £ were presented to the meeting by Mr Derrick Beckett.

The accounts for the Deborah Fletcher charity showing a balance of £261.89 were presented to the meeting by Mrs Hazel Thompson.

The Fen or Fifty accounts showing a balance of £5,064.26 were presented to the meeting by

Mr Bob Mitchell.

The Lady Peyton's Charity Accounts were not presented at this meeting. The accounts are on the charity commission website.

It was proposed by Mr Paul Chaplin and seconded by Mr Richard Radcliffe that the treasurer's reports are accepted and approved by the meeting.

ALL IN FAVOUR

7. **Dunstall Apprentice Grant**

It was proposed by Mr Tim Wilding and seconded by Mr Paul Chaplin that the Dunstall Apprentice Grant is increased to £250.

ALL IN FAVOUR

8. **Questions from Members of the Public**

It was proposed by Mr Alistair Burn and seconded by Mr Vernon Place that the parish meeting add its support to the Parish Council's application for signage for the Nature Reserve on the Fordham Road.

CARRIED

Mr Burn expressed the need for a footpath from the village to the nature reserve as currently people have to drive as it cannot be accessed safely on foot.

It was proposed by Mr Alistair Burn and seconded by Mrs Jeanette Malkin that the Parish Council approaches the County Council and request that there should be a clear cycleway/footpath to the nature reserve which then continues on to Fordham in order to access public transport.

CARRIED

Mr Chris Maxfield requested that gates/drop barrier might be erected on the Lady Maynard Allotment.

As the District Councillor for Isleham Mr Beckett often gets involved with issues of local housing. A house on Fordham Road recently been put on the market (part buy). Mr Beckett pointed out that if you wish to apply to part buy a property in the village you must be on the housing register at East Cambs District Council.

Mrs Malkin has two trees needing sponsors in the orchard.

The Chairman thanked all the parishioners for attending and making the meeting interesting and informative.

Meeting closed at 8.52pm