

Ellington Parish Council

Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting
Held Monday, 9th May 2016 at 7.30 pm in Ellington Village Hall

Present:

Councillors: Cllr Chapman, Cllr Lumbers, Cllr Porter, Cllr Woods, County Cllr Bywater.

Clerk: Darren Tysoe

Public: 8

Apologies for Absence were received from Cllrs Elliott, King and Walters and District Councillor White.

Chairman's Report.

The Chairman remarked that the Gala in 2015 was a success and looked forward this year's Gala that was being held in the same year as the Queen's 90th birthday.

The local pub, the Mermaid was well supported by members of the public from outside and well as from within the village. The range of food in its restaurant was performing well.

The Playing Field Committee was very active, including organising events for the younger residents of the village and raising funds to support local groups.

Action with Buffaload Logistics was ongoing. An update of the outstanding conditions and breaches was included in the March Parish Council Minutes as well as reproduced for the Ellington Express. The Parish Council were becoming increasingly concerned about the lack of progress of enforcing the breaches. On a positive note, it appears that tree planting at the site had commenced, although the time of year chosen to start this was odd.

The Ben Burgess application had been withdrawn, but was expected to be resubmitted once issues raised by the Planning Department had been remedied.

Two grant applications had been submitted, but unfortunately both were unsuccessful. One was for the village hall roof and the other was for chicanes. Smaller grants for a dropped kerb and a data projector had been successful and the work was completed.

The Chairman thanked Councillors and the Clerk for their contributions during the past year.

Financial Report

The precept for the previous year, 2015/16 was £9000. This figure has been frozen since 2010.

The main items of expenditure (over £500) in 2011/12 were:

- Grass Cutting (£2389 exc VAT). The grass cutting contract will be out to contract in the forthcoming financial year.
- Fenland Leisure £1086 – to repair playground equipment
- Repairs to the bus shelter £1995
- Projector for the village hall £2,391
- Repairs to the village hall roof £1340 + VAT
- Clerk's Salary £2236.

The insurance premium was reduced from £769 to £448. This covers insurance for village assets, excluding the village hall and public liability for the Parish Council and its Members.

Grants were received from the Cambridgeshire Communities Fund (RES) for £2,800 towards village hall roof repairs and a new dropped curb. A further £1,500 was received from a later allocation from the same fund which contributed towards the cost of a projector system.

The Capital Projects and Village Assets Repairs Fund stands at £25,704. This sum is put aside by the Parish Council to pay for major repairs to the Village Hall and other capital assets owned by the Parish Council, including future roof repairs and/or replacement.

As of 31 March 2016, available parish council funds were £7,778.15

Date of next meeting: 8^h May 2017 (TBC)