



STRATFORD ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF AN ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 24 APRIL 2017 COMMENCING AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE INSTITUTE, HIGHAM ROAD, STRATFORD ST MARY

Present:

Parish Councillors Bill Davies (Chairman); Cllr Roger Barrell (Vice-Chairman). Hilary Cairns; Shaun Baker; Lorry Shead; Brian Such; Richard Tilbrook; Kevin Cassell; Jenny O'Hanlon (Clerk); County Councillor Gordon Jones; District Councillor Fenella Swan

Members of the Public: 17

1. Apologies:

District Councillor Sue Carpendale, Graham Pearce, Phil Wyncoll

The Chairman began by welcoming everyone to the meeting.

2. Approval of Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 25 April 2016

The Chairman summarised the Minutes and there being no comment from either members of the public or councillors, the Minutes were passed.

3. Chairman's Report

The Chairman gave an overview of the past year's activities as detailed below: -

1. Closure of the Village Shop/Post Office and Sorting office. The transfer of the Shop and Post Office to the Vale Garage is due to happen shortly.
2. Strickmere Estate Pavements: Although the pavements have at long last been resurfaced, there do seem to be a few problems.
3. Children's Play Area: The play area is currently being installed at a cost of £23,000 (£6,000 from the Parish Council, £12,000 from Tesco's and £5,000 from BDC) There is a zip wire for older children
4. Mobile Phone mast: The mast at Stratford Hills was upgraded for a better reception following a petition organised by MP James Cartledge which gathered over 3700 signatures.
5. Removal of Public Telephone boxes: Upper Street and A12 layby – out of 52 in South Suffolk, Upper Street was the 3rd most used in the last 12 months so we asked for it to be retained, especially in view of the "patchy" mobile phone coverage. Subsequently vandalised on 3rd March and restored costing up to £1000, so we assume it will be retained.
6. Recent work has been completed on Stratford Lock by River Stour Trust, so they are hoping to install new lock gates soon.
7. Villagelife and the Firework committee both held well attended events in 2016.
8. Mentioned last year, we had a vacancy on the Parish Council. This was filled by Kevin Cassell at our November meeting.

9. New Village Archivist: David Pooley of Tavernside, Higham Road has been appointed.
10. Slip Roads on A12: Provisional date of 13/7/17 for MP James Cartlidge to visit area to assess them, followed by a meeting in Holton St Mary Village Hall for residents to attend.
11. Planning Applications: a few applications mainly extensions – The Old Maltings nearing completion.

Thanks to:

All my fellow parish councillors for their contributions during the past year. Our litter picker, Natasha Davies. Rob Baker for grass cutting of the Millennium Avenue and Church, Brenda Such for the Millennium Garden and Jenny, our Parish Clerk. And County Councillor Gordon Jones, District Councillors Sue Carpendale and Fenella Swan.

4. **Report from ABC preschool read out by Cllr Davies**

Report for Annual Parish Meeting - 2017

The Preschool is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, which has Trustees and members and is a registered Charity.

As a charity our aim is to benefit our children, not to make money so all monies raised through fees and fundraising goes directly back into the preschool. We currently have six members of staff and are recruiting for two posts, one of which is a new Manager.

Financially we are impacted by the increase in the Living Wage, the implementation of auto enrolment pensions and the decrease in our hourly funded rate from Suffolk County Council to £3.86 an hour, per child, for three and four year olds.

We currently have 29 children registered with us, with some sessions nearly at full capacity.

There are two children due to start in September 2017, but 14 of our current children will be leaving to start at their Primary School at that time too.

We continue our great links with the Primary School. Those children starting school in September visit the Reception class every Monday to help with their transition to School.

We had another successful Christmas Fair in November 2017, which we held in conjunction with the Primary School. All monies raised go towards resources for the children.

5. **Report from Stratford St Mary Primary School read out by Cllr Davies**

Thirteen new children joined our reception class at the beginning of the academic year, with 4 further children joining mid-year. We currently have 81 children on roll, taught in 4 classes.

The Spring Term brought a phone call and less than 24 hours later, a visit from Ofsted. The Ofsted Inspector joined us on January 18th and spent the whole day with Mrs Bilner. They looked at relevant data, assessments, paperwork, children's books as well as having various meetings and discussions with parents, children, staff and governors. There is always a high priority on progress and achievement in all age groups, where data is collected and collated by the Local Authority; however, our children are taught by highly skilled, motivated and creative teachers, supported by teaching assistants where we 'place a strong emphasis on the developing pupils' physical and mental well-being'. (Ofsted findings January 2017). The Inspector left, with what we thought, a true reflection of our school and the journey which has taken place since Mrs Bilner took up the Head's post in September 2015. Ofsted judged us to be a 'good' school. It was a complete team effort and all members of the school community contributed to this grading. The full inspection letter can be found on 'reports.ofsted.gov.uk' and then typing in our school name.

Our school website continues to be used to inform visitors of what has been happening in the school and this can be found in the 'news' section. In addition to this, a further plethora of useful and interesting information can be found on the website.

Children have been actively involved in their roles as councillors and have been working towards some accredited awards. The Junior Road Safety Officers received a 'silver' award for their work on helping to educate our children on keeping safe on the roads; they conducted a live interview on Radio Suffolk to promote the 'Be Bright, Be Seen' campaign and regularly keep the community informed by providing regular reports in the local Quartet magazine. Our Eco-schools team have achieved a 'silver' award and are in the process of applying for 'gold'. Linking in with this, we are now a Food for Life school and have achieved a bronze status. December saw us achieve a

bronze 'linguamarque' for our work and commitment on teaching French and we are also working towards our 'Silver' Artsmark.

In July, last year, we were awarded a 'gold' sports mark – which only a small amount of schools have achieved; children have the opportunity to play sport, both during school time and in after-school clubs, as well as representing our school in a variety of sports tournaments and festivals. We hope to achieve 'gold' again this year. The school is proud of what it is doing in terms of sport and healthy living and this was noted by the Ofsted Inspector.

Children have also represented the school in other events; our JRSO's presented at the Council Chamber at Endeavour House and explained their work on Scooter Club, a group of children took part in a Crumble Bot competition at BT, a choir group visited the O2 as part of 'Young Voices', where they joined approximately 7,500 other school children and sang in a massive choir and 4 children are due to attend East Bergholt High School as part of a spelling competition.

Children have been out and about with various visits and trips, in the local area – to the church, Hall Farm and the vets and to other locations further afield – Pizza Express, Colchester Zoo, New Wolsey theatre, Schools Farm and Country Show, Snape Maltings, The Royal Hospital School, East Bergholt High, St Joseph's College and Inspire Suffolk. Further trips are planned to 'Latitude' for our Year 3's & 4's, a residential trip for our Year 5's and 6's, and also trips to Christchurch Mansion and Flatford Mill as part of our topic on local artists.

We continue to have links with our local community; last June the school hosted a Queen's birthday party and in October, we hosted the annual firework event. ABC Pre-School (who share the grounds) joined us for Christmas lunch as well as attended the traditional Nativity play together with Orchard Barns. We are planning to open our school grounds as part of the Village Open Gardens and, as part of our Art Week in June, we intend to open the school to the community on our 'Exhibition Day'.

Our whole school community works together in a positive fashion, we celebrate our strengths and achievements, 'where staff work extremely hard to ensure each child achieves their potential both academically and socially' (Ofsted January 2017) and where 'children enjoy coming to school', (Ofsted January 2017), however we are very realistic in the areas we want to develop, and these 'wheels' are already in motion and the hard work continues.

Karen Bilner
Headteacher

6. **Report from Orchard Barns Kindergarten**

A verbal report was given by Orchard Barns

It has been another busy year at Orchard Barns Kindergarten, in Higham Road.

It was the last year for Partner Susan Moss- Thomas who has now retired.

We have applied for planning permission for a garden room which we will be hearing about soon.

We will be able to take babies under two which will feed younger children into the existing nursery which will help with sustainability.

The next year will be very interesting. We have the opportunity to implement the Government's new 30 hour offer to parents of 3 and 4 year olds. This is going to be a challenge especially as Suffolk County Council has reduced the hourly rate we receive to provide free hours. For those that don't know about how this will affect preschools, we will provide free childcare for an amount which does not cover quality childcare.

We are currently refurbishing and buying equipment ready for the arrival of our babies. Villagers will see babies enjoying a walk in the village from mid- May.

7. **Report from Stratford St Mary Community First Responders.**

2016-2017 has been an unusual year in which any call out to the village was attended by an East Bergholt CFR and not a Stratford one.

The local team has been plagued by ill-health or car trouble.

We currently have 4 active Responders having had Sam join our team in November. Georgina has been the most reliable but her car has been less so. Jacqui has been unable to offer many hours and I have been marred by a knee injury resulting in restrictions and not being active since September.

On a positive note we have had another villager apply to become a Responder and he is now undergoing the vetting screen.

We have training booked on a monthly basis and meet with the Nayland team for these sessions. Nayland provide the Trainer and we provide the facilities.

Last year the CFR committee had contemplated siting a defibrillator in the Telephone box on Upper Street had it been removed from service, however it became apparent that this would not

happen.

In October we were approached by John and Myra at Hall Farm stating that they were being donated a Defibrillator and that they wished to make it available for the use of the entire village. The potential to create a Community Public Access Defibrillator site (CPAD) was a challenge we felt we had to develop, so following liaison with the ambulance service a new project started.

Following a door knock of the entire village advertising this development and selling raffle tickets we were overwhelmed by the support received. We had substantial donations from individuals, the Parish council and the Village life team, so much gratitude goes to them. Equally thank you to those who donated raffle prizes.

Hall Farm have sited the Defibrillator in the wall mounted Safe on the external wall near the shop exit. It has now been adopted by the ambulance service and is available for use by us all. The access code will be given when you dial 999. So a MASSIVE THANK YOU to Hall Farm.

The next mission is to ensure all the villagers are confident in using the defibrillator. We have identified an initial 5 training dates over the next 2 months for villagers to attend. More dates will be forthcoming and we would love neighbours to get together and host training dates supported by the CFRs.

The following dates have been booked at the Parish rooms: Tues 16th May (19:00-21:00hrs), Sat 20th May (10:00-12:00hrs), Tues 30th May (19:00-21:00hrs), Fri 16th June (19:00-21:00hrs), Tues 27th June (19:00-21:00hrs). Feel free to contact Me for additional training.

8. **Report from Youth Club**

No report received and apologies have been noted.

9. **Report from Stratford St Mary Ramblers**

A report was received from Don Umfreville and read out by Cllr Davies

10. **Report from the Stratford St Mary Welfare Trust**

A verbal report was received from Michael Gotelee, he urged those present to make people aware of the Trust and thanked the new trustees of Shaun Baker, Roger Barrell, Brian Such, Sarah Brass and David Issacs.

A copy of the annual accounts of the Charity can be obtained from the clerk.

11. **Report from the VillageLife Organisation**

VillageLife (VL) is a volunteer organization in Stratford St Mary, formed some four years ago with the objective of enhancing community life in the village.

VL is not primarily a fund raising organisation. Its purpose is to provide opportunities for greater community interaction for those living, working or playing, in and around the village. The only financial objective is that, as far as may be possible, events should be organised so as to fund themselves at the lowest possible cost to individual participants, to the end, that no one who wants to attend will be prevented from doing so by the cost. In this context, anything that has the potential to enhance community life in the village is considered to be within VL's remit.

To date, VL has been responsible for:

- a Summer Fair each year since its inception;
- the annual Quintuple (pub-games) Challenge at the Swan;
- various social events including two successful traditional country dancing evenings and the periodic 'Stories by the Fire' evenings;
- taking on the ongoing maintenance of the Millennium Garden in Stratford St Mary;
- the 'Christmas Light-up' event with tree illuminations at the Millennium Garden, carols, mulled wine, Father Christmas, and gifts for the children, at the Swan.

Activities that we intend to continue for as long as the community continues to demonstrate its interest and support. However, as reported in last month's Quartet, the summer fair has been dropped for 2017, in favour of contributing to the planned **Open Gardens Day** on 24th June.

This year for the first time, VillageLife, arranged a social event with a fundraising objective. The Race Night on April 1st, was held in part to provide funds to underpin the above events, but particularly to support the Stratford St Mary First Responders with their planned community defibrillator training. This is intended to ensure the availability of confident, competent users for the community accessible defibrillator now installed at Hall Farm. More than 50 people attended and participated in the racing through which they generously contributed £300 to the First

Responders with, in addition, a sufficient sum being added to VLs reserves to guarantee events through to next year. These will include the **Quintuple Challenge** on 16th September and the **Christmas Light-up** on 16th December. We are very grateful to the **Stratford St Mary Post Office** and **Hall Farm Shop** for their help with ticket sales and our thanks are especially due to 'Postman Bob' for his support and provision of invaluable Race-Night knowhow, without which this successful outcome would not have been possible. VL also received support from **Grier and Partners, R & D Schofield Removals, Dedham Vineyard, and Greg Ranson Plumbing and Heating**, in the form of race sponsorship. To Mark, Jane and their team at **The Swan**, as always, thanks for your hospitality, encouragement and ongoing support.

We also gratefully acknowledge the financial contribution by the Parish Council to the Summer Fairs 2014/2016 and the ongoing maintenance of the Millennium Garden.

12. **Report from the Parochial Church Council**

A verbal report was given by Paul Alexander on behalf of the PCC. He advised that the church roof will be replaced by steel and not lead. Attempts had been made to steal and remove the remainder of the lead from the roof. There is a new alarm system fitted which is a requirement of the insurance company. The work on the roof should start in the Autumn as the tarpaulin is not ideal for another Winter. CCTV is in place but it is unknown when the attempted burglary happened. Drones are now used by the thieves to check where sensors are to avoid them. The Clerk had not received a written report from the PCC.

13. **Report from the Institute Committee**

The Institute Hall continues to be well used throughout the year although income from all hire at £4,950 was lower than the record amount of £5,422 in 2015. However, our overall financial position remains healthy with total funds at 31st December 2016 standing at £21,875 compared with £24,378 at 31st December 2015.

Total expenditure for 2016 was £8,366 compared with £2,523 in 2015 as a result of repairs to the building and car park, erection of a new fence between the car park entrance and Orchard Barns Nursery, repainting of the kitchen and adjoining room as well as increased cleaning charges and other miscellaneous running costs.

It has, however, been established that in future, this committee is only responsible for maintaining the building and fences on the site and not the car park. This is clearly stated in the conveyance dated 4th January 1928 drawn up between the donor of the land, Miss A F B Fisher and Stratford St Mary Parish Council. This was acknowledged and agreed by the Parish Council at their meeting on 14th November 2016.

The 100 Club has donated £500 to Institute funds and I would like to thank all 100 Club members for their continued support.

As always I thank my fellow committee members for their support throughout the year, Jenny Symons, Anna Shead, Bobbie Kite, Emily Barrell and in particular Norman Woodard, who has the dual roles of Institute Booking Secretary and 100 Club Organiser.

14. **Report on Community Speedwatch.**

A verbal report was received from Bill Davies.

15. **Police Report and Neighbourhood Watch Report.**

A verbal report was received from Bill Davies.

A discussion was had about fly tipping being an issue, particularly with charges being made at the Council dump. There has been a mattress dumped outside the church stall in Upper Street, Sue Lawrence volunteered to take it to the dump herself.

16. **District Councillors' Report.**

Cllrs Carpendale report was received and a hard copy can be obtained from the clerk. Cllr Fenella Swan gave a verbal report

17. **County Councillor's Report.**

Cllr Jones report was received and a hard copy can be obtained from the clerk. Cllr Jones commented that this would be his last report before the local election on the 4th May and thanked the Parish Council.

18. **Report on Parish Council and Lettice Dykes Accounts.**

Income from the last financial year has been generated by a Precept of £15,800 plus Babergh District Council's tax grant of £108.08. Other sources of income have been VAT refund of £463.00. Interest earned amounted to £138.46. We have also this year been receiving a cleansing grant from BDC relating to litter picking for £255.13 each quarter.

We have also embarked the refurbishment of the play area and have so far received a Tesco's grant for £9000.00 and are awaiting grants from BDC to help us complete the work. The Parish Council in previous years had reserved £6000.00 for this project and as this will now be used need to consider building up a new reserve for future projects.

Major expenditure for this last year, as for other years, has been general administration, which amounted to £6439.04, village maintenance of £2450.54 and energy and lighting costs of £1176.46

The Parish Council made its annual donations to the Parochial Church Council, Suffolk Accident Rescue Service, the Dedham Vale and Stour Valley Partnership, the River Stour Trust, the Royal British Legion and the Suffolk Preservation Society. We have made donations to the Village Life Organisation, The Hopper Bus and the Fireworks Committee plus a £300.00 donation for the defibrillator at Hall Farm via SSM First Responders. Total donations are £2437.00

The Parish Council agreed at their meeting in January this year to set the precept for the next financial year (2017/18) at £15,800. This gives a Council Tax Band D amount of £49.52 which, according to Babergh is a 1.84% decrease on last year's figure.

Lettice Dykes Charity Trust

This Trust was established in 1911 to provide assistance to pupil's resident in Stratford St Mary, to attend schools, classes or educational establishments other than pre-school, by payment of fees, travelling or other expenses or maintenance allowances. As at 1st April this year, funds currently stand at £1,373.59.

19. **Report about SSM Open Garden Day**

A verbal report was given by Julie Alexander. There are 10 gardens opening up and showing off their skills and talent on 24th June 2017 at an all-day event. There will be refreshments, an arts exhibition with 10 artists, music and the school will be involved too. Classic car show, boat rides, and a scarecrow trail for the children. The Dedham songbirds will be performing and there will be a party in the evening. The planning meetings have had a good response so far, but they will need more helpers on the day. 3rd May is the next planning meeting. The event will help to raise funds for the church roof fund and the Villagelife as a 50/50 split.

20. **Report on Suffolk Accident & Rescue Service.**

UPDATE ON SARS ACTIVITY

Call-outs

During the last 12 months, SARS volunteer doctors and paramedics responded to nearly 300 call outs requesting specialist medical assistance for patients before they reached hospital. In many locations, in and around Suffolk, we have attended several incidents during the course of the year. This includes the Stratford St Mary area and its surrounding parishes where we are/have been regularly called out.

SARS specialist volunteers are mobilised to a wide variety of serious medical incidents, but responding to serious road traffic collisions and to patients suffering cardiac arrests remain our

most common call-outs. In 16% of the incidents attended by SARS responders we were the first medical resource on scene.

This highlights the value of a local volunteer network with an expertise in emergency medicine, and it is a testament to the commitment of our clinicians that they continue to give their time and expertise without charge to the patient, the ambulance service or the tax payer.

Preventive work and best practice

Apart from our direct activity, we also increased our focus on preventative initiatives during this period. It is unfortunate that the number of people willing to give bystander CPR in the UK remains way below areas such as Scandinavia and the USA. SARS is mobilized, on average, to at least one patient in cardiac arrest a week. Therefore, we are keen to raise awareness of how important this basic life-saving skill can be in reducing the level of fatal cardiac arrests in our local communities. We have been in contact with several Suffolk schools and colleges during this period and have undertaken sessions with students around the county. The aim was to demonstrate that anyone can learn this skill and help save a life!

We also continue to collaborate on road safety projects to try and reduce the numbers of people being killed on our roads. This includes working with Suffolk Fire & Rescue Service and again talking to young people. We provided Basic Lifesaving Skills and Road Safety sessions for nearly 300 students last year. As with everything else we do these sessions were conducted free of charge and in our volunteers' spare time.

What do we spend donations on?

SARS receives no statutory funding and we rely on voluntary grants and donations to help maintain our life-saving activity across Suffolk. Your donation can help fund vital equipment and training for our volunteer doctors and paramedics. The benefit of our voluntary resource is that our specialist responders carry equipment and drugs which are not available on front-line ambulances. It is equipment costs which forms the most significant area of our expenditure. In the last 12 months we have purchased a second automated chest compression system to use on patients suffering prolonged cardiac arrests. We have also funded new personal protective equipment, specialist painkilling drugs, essential monitoring equipment and also a second rapid-response vehicle for our team-based resource. This will prove an invaluable investment and enable us to grow this relatively recent part of our clinical activity in the coming years.

This equipment combined with a SARS specialist's additional skills and experience means that our volunteers can make interventions at the scene of an incident which wouldn't normally be possible outside the hospital environment.

Our local responders include some of the most highly skilled prehospital clinicians in the region and the benefit they can bring to an incident scene saves lives, reduces the chances of patients suffering permanent disability and facilitates a patient's speedy transfer to hospital.

2017

Over the next year, we want to purchase more life-saving equipment and continue to upgrade and replace the equipment and drugs which are used by our responders, on a day-to-day basis, as they help treat patients in need within their local community. We are also continuing to bring new clinical volunteers into the charity who need specific training in the prehospital environment we work in.

We cannot make investments in our volunteers without the support of all sectors of the local community including our local councils. Grants from this sector make an important difference for a small charity like SARS which doesn't outsource fundraising to professional companies and doesn't employ teams of fundraising staff.

The voluntary commitment given by our doctors and paramedics equates to thousands of pounds in time and expertise. They give up their time because they are passionate about providing additional pre-hospital care for people in need in Suffolk and the wider East of England region. There will always be patients who will benefit from the enhanced medical care that a SARS volunteer can provide and we want to help as many of them as possible.

Thank you for any help you can give us to help achieve this objective.

We have attached a testimonial from one of our former patients who became one of our trustees in 2016. We hope that his words help reiterate the long term value of our service.

If you would like some more information about SARS please visit our website www.sars999.org.uk or facebook page (Suffolk Accident Rescue Service).

You can also download our annual report at the charity commission site www.charitycommission.gov.uk – charity number 263238.

Suffolk Accident Rescue Service – Testimonial

“As a trustee of Suffolk Accident Rescue Service I occupy a very privileged position. By observing the tireless endeavours of the clinicians who so generously dedicate their time and skills to serve the wider people in Suffolk, I am fortunate enough to gain an insight into the positive impact they

have. But my involvement with SARS and their emergency responders is not merely a passive one.

My first contact with Suffolk Accident Rescue Service took place on a relatively calm autumn afternoon on Tuesday 15th October 2013. Dr Andy Mason, a retired GP and SARS's honorary president, was the first clinical responder to a roadside incident in which my car, travelling at a high speed, collided with a tree. I sustained numerous life-threatening injuries, including several fractures to my femur, pelvis, and elbow; a ruptured spleen that was subsequently surgically removed; and three separate pneumothoraxes. These injuries left me in an induced coma for two weeks and in a wheelchair for a further two months following my discharge from hospital.

Yet I was unmistakably lucky in my accident. The rural location of the collision underlines the essential importance of an organisation like Suffolk Accident Rescue Service. Narrow, winding lanes and terrible phone signals make it extremely difficult for ambulance crews and paramedics to reach life-threatening emergencies quickly, especially when they are dispatched from hubs often several miles away from the site of the incident.

To this end, the extensive local knowledge and wide-ranging clinical skills of SARS responders can be the difference between life and death. Utilising a network of solo responders working in the community, or collaborating in a team in our rapid response vehicle, SARS is often the first on the scene. I am not the only one to benefit from SARS's outstanding work: we will normally provide treatment to between 250-300 patients a year, or approximately 5-6 people every week.

But while SARS continues to undertake important interventions such as these, the charity itself has a number of challenges ahead of it. We don't receive any support from the government, so we are entirely dependent on donations. Even the smallest sum can contribute to life-saving equipment and training. With an annual income of approximately £100,000pa we are solely reliant on the generosity of others. Despite this relatively constrained financial situation, this has not prevented SARS from making a tangible impact on patient outcomes. I have experienced first-hand how the presence of a SARS responder has the potential to dramatically affect the prospects and well-being of those who, by no fault of their own, find themselves in desperate need of help.

It is this very simple, very striking fact that motivated my decision to become a trustee of SARS.

There will always be more patients that need our assistance and it is our ambition to see that these become a rarity. We benefit from having a committed team of talented volunteers without whom we could not operate, but I am under no illusions as to the obstacles to expanding the scale of the charity's undertaking. I hope, therefore, that I have provided an insight example of the extraordinary and vital work that Suffolk Accident Rescue Service performs every year, and I personally would be very grateful for any assistance that you can provide to support this unique organisation and secure its future. "

Harry Richardson 2016

21. Parishioners Questions and Answers.

Cllr Davies went back through the questions raised at the APM in 2016 to revisit them.

Q: The pathways on Strickmere Estate have been done, but there are yellow markings **SS** painted on, what is this for?

A: Cllr Jones said that this has already been raised and that a meeting is being arranged for Highways to come out and inspect the work, Cllr Cassell to be advised when this is taking place to enable him to be present.

Q: The grass cutting is done at great speed and not particularly well or regularly enough, and the cuttings left to blow everywhere, what can be done about this?

A: Fenella Swan will find out what the protocol is for timings and collection of the grass from BDC.

Q: We recently had an issue with our bin collection and the refuse collectors removed polystyrene and black bags from our black bin, has anyone else had a problem?

A: Cllr Davies will obtain a copy of the recycle list and Fenella Swan will check the details on BDC website.

Q: The hedge by Matthews Close and Swan is terrible, what is being done about it?

A: Cllr Gordon Jones is already dealing with this ongoing problem.

A member of the public proposed an official thank you to the Parish Council for the work that they do for the village.

Close of Meeting

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.15pm. Refreshments followed.