

## **Beckingham Parish Council**

### **Draft Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting, on Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2010 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.**

**Membership** Councillor B Day (Chairman)  
Councillor G Else (Treasurer)  
Councillor P Hallam  
Councillor K Ashworth (part time)

**Present** J Lyon (Parish Clerk)  
District Councillor Pat Woodman MBE  
District Councillor Sue Howe  
5 members of the public  
PCSO Vicky Czajkowski

#### **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillor T Fox (Vice Chairman), Cllr K Ashworth who would be late, and County Councillor Ray Philips

#### **Minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting, 5<sup>th</sup> May 2009**

The minutes were circulated and it was proposed and seconded as a true and correct record of the meeting, and signed as such.

#### **Matters Arising**

It was questioned whether the Playing Field Report and Chairman's Report had been received as these had not been published in the Bugle, as agreed. Neither report has been received.

#### **Report from Police**

PCSO Vicky Czajkowski reported that since the last Parish Council meeting there have been four crimes reported. One theft of an oil tank, one incident of drugs possession, and two criminal damage incidents - these were on two separate occasions – one outside the Pack Horse and one to a works vehicle possibly for tools.

PC M Roberts has now been transferred away from the area, and is now working at Headquarters, and a replacement has not been appointed.

The annual crime figures for the year include;

Violent crime has reduced from 9 incidents to 4, sexual offences down 50%, burglaries down by 26%, drug related crimes has stayed the same, criminal damage has risen by 19% and fraud has stayed the same. Overall crime figures are up by 26% although still at a very low level, and sanction detection up by 1.8%. The figures are for the area, not just Beckingham which makes it difficult to compare figures to the previous year.

The SID is in operation on Sutton Road.

There has been an increase in the theft of lead.

PCSO Vicky Czajkowski reported that this would be her last meeting, due to reorganisation. Beckingham will now be policed with the Cliff Villages, by a team of 3 PCSO and 1 PC. Final details will be sent to the Clerk once known.

County Cllr Ray Philips has expressed his dissatisfaction with the situation. Crime levels have remained low due to the high policing levels. Letters need to be written to the Chief Constable to express frustration and discontent. The SID will remain with PCSO Boyle and Czajkowski, but it is unsure how Beckingham will be serviced. The Clerk to write on behalf of the Parish Council.

The Parish Council thanked PCSO Czajkowski for all that she had done in Beckingham. She then left the meeting.

#### **Report from Chairman**

The year started with Andrew Young deciding to stand down, leaving a vacancy to fill. There were three applicants which resulted in the village having to hold an election. When the votes were counted Karen Ashworth was the victor. Since coming onto the Council she has got involved with the Parish Plan and has settled in well.

The playing field is now getting more use with the village forming a new cricket team. I wish them well for the forth coming season, but we and the playing field committee still need to try and sort out the drainage problems on site. Also we need to see if we can get the large swings back in use and the derelict cabins on the field need removing.

It is nice to see some more restoration work done on the Church.

Lots of people turned up to help put up the Christmas Tree and decorate it, and everybody seemed to have a good time.

Finally I would like to thank Peter, Terry and Karen, Graham as Treasurer and Judith as clerk for their work over the last twelve months.

## **Reports from Councillors**

### **Report from the District Councillors**

District Councillor Sue Howe introduced herself as our Conservative District Councillor and Vice Chairman of North Kesteven District Council and reported the following on behalf of the District Council;

Amongst NKDC's achievements this year are;

The District Council have been classified as 'performing well' and the second best local authority framework.

In January 2010 the Council were reaccredited with the Chartermark, and in December 2009 they achieved reaccreditation of development that reflects on services to residents.

NKDC priorities include

- 1) Sustainable future of NK – this includes the building of new council houses, including the straw built houses.  
Energy Efficiency and waste minimisation
- 2) Community well being – the 'Over 45' group has been set up, as well as a 'Youth Council'. There has also been a Senior Forum set up for the Over 50s  
Anti Social Behaviour strategy devised  
NK enjoy a very low crime ratio
- 3) Managing Change  
Decent Homes standard achieved for Council houses, with another 37 to be built  
Planning On Line – enabling planning applications to be viewed through the website
- 4) Vibrant Economy  
Whisby Nature Park has increased visitor attendance with over 6000 visitors in the first two months  
Delivery of the Pathways to Work programme  
Planning consent for Teal Park Business Park to ensure the availability of employment land for growth up to 2025.
- 5) Better Connections  
Dial A Ride bus service  
Better Transport forum has been developed

The Council tax has been set at 1.76%

District Councillor Pat Woodman MBE added the following on behalf of the District Council;

The 'straw' houses are near completion at Waddington, and will be officially opened in June by the Duke of Gloucester. There are to be two more in Martin.

NK are continuing to target Benefit Thieves – there have been 19 prosecutions and 9 more ongoing, recovering £104K.

Footway lighting maintenance issues is all to be reported to Lincs CC as from 1<sup>st</sup> April.

The paper and can banks are being removed as a cost saving exercise, but the glass banks will remain until August 2011. The removal of the banks will save the District Council approx £44K.

There is to be an energy saving forum on 30<sup>th</sup> April at the Memorial Hall, North Hykeham, and another on 1<sup>st</sup> May at the Source, Sleaford about renewable energy.

Over 60's can now only use tokens on taxis and Dial a Ride.

## **Reports from Charities/Sub Committees**

Randolph Pattinson Charity (Poor Gardens) provided the Council with a copy of the years accounts but it is not clear who the field is let to – the Clerk to ask Mr Ashworth for that information.

Highways Trust Accounts were provided – costs have increased due to fencing costs and also solicitor's fees to register the land. It was asked how the trustees were decided upon – trustees are invited to sit on the Trust – usually with an agricultural background.

Playing Field Committee – no report or accounts received – the clerk to chase

Village Hall – a copy of the years accounts has been presented to the Council. After receiving a water bill for £1100 the Parish Council lent £500 to cover the cost and £825 has subsequently been recovered from Anglian Water. Other costs are approx the same level as last year. £400 is to be repaid to the Parish Council.

There were 4 lettings – 2 elections and 2 private parties generating an income of £269. The Wind in the Willows performance made an additional £100. The Village Hall Open Day raised £150, Bingo nights £141, and loan from the Parish Council £500. Cllr Pat Woodman MBE requested a copy of the accounts – Cllr Else agreed to forward these to her. Mikki Young said she would put her Chairpersons report on the village website.

### **Accounts**

Copies of the accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010 were distributed to all present. The main differences between this year and last year are the double entry of the clerk's salary, so that the salary is included in the years accounts to which it relates. Also election costs of £691 are included. It was proposed and seconded from the floor to accept the accounts.

### **Any Other Business**

The Chairman then requested comments from the village.

It was asked how frequently the dog waste bins are emptied – it is thought to be on a two weekly cycle, but if it is full, there is a number on the bin to request it is emptied earlier. The new dog waste bin will be put up by the bus shelter.

Community Led Planning – a request was made for a letter of support from the Parish Council – this will be discussed in the Parish Council meeting following the Annual Parish Meeting.

Recycling – the garden waste is converted to compost – it was questioned whether the District Council are paid for this or have to pay to have the waste taken away – District Councillor Pat Woodman MBE informed the meeting that all the waste is taken to Mountains at Caythorpe, and the District Council have to pay for this.

LIVES – a the recent cluster meeting a presentation was given by LIVES – this is when there are trainer first responders living in the community and can attend very quickly – the alternative is to wait for the fire brigade from Brant Broughton, but this will take longer as the appliance has to wait until there are four personnel on board before being deployed. It is also possible to obtain a defibrillator to be housed in a lockable box in an accessible place. It is unsure whether you have to be part of the LIVES network to be trained to operate the defibrillator.

It was suggested that LIVES should be invited to a Parish Council meeting to discuss with the village. Cllr Else said he would investigate more.

There being no further comments, the meeting was closed at 8.15pm