

MESSINGHAM ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2007

At the Annual Parish Meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 20th June 2007 commencing at 7.30pm.

PRESENT: Chairman of the Parish Council – N Poole; Clerk to the Parish Council – Mrs J Walker; Kevin Delaney of Independent Living, Jim Harding and Brian Booker of Senior Forums and Sandra Lingard from Fresh Start; and 8 members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received from Parish Councillors P Wright, W Elsome, J R Walker, Mrs J Briggs and J Mountain.

2. MINUTES OF THE 2006 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The minutes were circulated to those present and time was allowed for reading. The minutes passed as a true record – proposed by M Caley and seconded by J England – carried.

3. MATTERS ARISING

a) Min 3 Handyman

The chairman advised that Mr D Wright of Ashby had been appointed in 2006

b) Min 4d Youth Provision

Enquiries are ongoing for a teen shelter but no decision has been made with regard to location

c) Min 4e Village Signs

The new village signs had been completed at a cost of £4200 and had received favourable comments from the public.

d) Min 7 Local Development Framework

The Chairman advised that the Parish Council had submitted a very detailed response on this matter.

4. PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

a) School Parking

A meeting had been held with representatives from the Parish Council, the School, North Lincolnshire Council and the Road Safety Team to discuss the many problems with school time parking. The school are now in the process of formulating a School Travel Plan with the support of North Lincolnshire Council.

b) Holme Meadow

The field continues to be well used by Junior Football and the Crown Inn football teams, plus the Scunthorpe & District Pony Owners Club and of course Messingham Show. Dog walkers use the field on a regular basis but dog fouling continues to be a problem – it was noted that Streetright are in the process of establishing a new dog control order for the whole of North Lincolnshire which will include all recreation areas.

c) Village Hall

The upstairs room has been converted for the exclusive use of the Parish Council and regular rent is now paid in response to a request from the Village Hall.

d) Allotment Woodland

On a suggestion from an allotment holder, an area of woodland has been created within the Butterwick Road allotments to encourage wildlife and create a pleasant environment.

e) War Memorial

The base has been refurbished and the Parish Council thank all the local people and suppliers who helped to make this possible with minimum expenditure, namely Mick Swaby; N & P Burrows; Jackson Shipley; Robert and Richard Benson and Messrs Drakes and Robinson.

f) Childrens Play Area

To further improve the facilities a new footpath has been installed together with a french drain to counteract the flooding problems after heavy rainfall.

g) New Council

Following the recent elections in May, thirteen parish councillors were elected, including new councillor, Mr John Bassindale. There are currently two casual vacancies to take the parish council to full strength.

5. FINANCES FOR THE YEAR 2006/7

The accounts for above financial year, with minute books, bank statements, chequebooks, bank book, insurance documents etc. had been placed on display 45 minutes prior to the commencement of the meeting to allow members of the public to inspect these documents. A financial statement was circulated to all those present. It was agreed to accept these accounts subject to annual audit. Proposed T Foster; seconded J England.

6. SPEAKERS: BRIAN BOOKER & JIM HARDING – SENIOR FORUMS

Mr Booker explained the purpose of the Senior Forums, which is to raise awareness of the issues affecting older people. The five existing forums in North Lincolnshire have been in existence since 2002 and by working with both North Lincolnshire Council and all external agencies, DWP and Inland Revenue etc, many improvements have been made in Health Service Provision, free public transport, crime, and fear of crime.

7. SPEAKER: KEVIN DELANEY – INDEPENDENT LIVING

Mr Delaney explained the services offered by Independent Living North Lincolnshire which includes home and garden maintenance; home safety and security; befriending and general information for the elderly, the disabled, carers and the isolated to improve the quality of life and to support independent living within the community.

8. SPEAKER: SANDRA LINGARD – FRESH START

Mrs Lingard explained the services of the Fresh Start organisation, which works closely with Independent Living North Lincolnshire and Senior Forums. She suggested that something along the lines of a workshop could possibly be combined with the regular Tuesday Coffee Morning in the Village Hall to promote involvement in a local Senior Forum.

Mr John Bassindale reported that, in his involvement with the Royal British Legion, he could confirm that pensions are in disarray. Mr Booker also reported that millions of pounds worth of benefits are unclaimed due to lack of information for those that need them. Mr Bassindale agreed to discuss these matters further with a view to promoting a Seniors Forum for Messingham.

8. VILLAGE ORGANISATION REPORTS

a) MESSINGHAM SCOUT GROUP – Written Report

In this centenary year of Scouting the Messingham group remains strong in numbers with waiting lists for the cub pack and also for the new Beaver colony that opened in September 2006. A number of ex scouts have come back into the group as young leaders and helping at Beavers and Scouts. All sections have participated in a balanced programme with an emphasis on outdoor Scouting and several trophies have been won for camping standards and sports events..

b) VILLAGE MAGAZINE – Written Report from Gina Spacie - Editor

The magazine continues to flourish with the support of advertisers and team of volunteer deliverers. Thanks also given to Janet Levitt who sells about 100 magazines a months from the newsagents which will hopefully continue with the new owner.

c) SUNBEAMS PLAYGROUP – Represented by Vicki Raddish - Chairman

Sunbeams has just celebrated 40 years and continues to be run in a traditional rather than modern style. It is an OFSTED registered and non profit making organisation and currently has 24 children, with 5 staff and supported by a very strong committee of volunteers. Thanks were given to the Parish Council for their financial support.

- d) MESSINGHAM VILLAGE HALL – Represented by Mrs Cynthia Smailes - Chairman
Thanks were given to the Parish Council for their continued financial support. New fascias and soffits have been installed this year. Security is currently being reassessed following a spate of break-ins.

- e) MESSINGHAM HORSE & FOAL SHOW – Represented by John England - Secretary
The 2006 Show was an outstanding success – glorious weather contributed to financial success and a number of donations were made to childrens organisations in the village. The 2007 Show was even better with 10,000 people visiting the Show making it one of the top shows in North Lincolnshire. It was noted that the ground was in excellent condition making the best jumping arenas to be found.

- g) MESSINGHAM IN BLOOM GROUP – Represented by N Poole
Planting is going from strength to strength but more volunteers are needed. Particular thanks were expressed to Mick Walker, the Parish Council gardener, for his work on the Memorial and the Brigg Road and Benson Close flowerbeds and to John and Sue England for their work at the Co-op garden. The Yorkshire in Bloom spring judging results were excellent and it was noted that there was very little litter. Summer judging to take place on 13th July.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance.