

MESSINGHAM ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2008

At the Annual Parish Meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 30th April 2008 commencing at 7.30pm.

PRESENT: Chairman of the Parish Council – N Poole; Clerk to the Parish Council – Mrs J Walker; 43 members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received from Parish Councillors T Foster, J McKellar Main & R Nixon.

2. MINUTES OF THE 2007 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 Mrs B Todd and seconded by J England – carried.

3. MATTERS ARISING

a) Min 4a School Parking

The Chairman advised that a School Travel Plan is now in place.

b) Min 4g Council Casual Vacancies

Councillors Vicki Raddish and Mike Proctor were co-opted in August 2007.

4. PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

a) Casual Vacancy

The untimely death of Councillor John Bassindale in November 2007 created a vacancy for a Parish Councillor, which was filled by Councillor James McKellar Main who was co-opted in February 2008.

b) Village Enhancement

As well as the flowerbeds maintained by the Parish Council gardener and the In Bloom volunteers, grass cutting on Holme Meadow, Playing Field and Village Hall, the Parish Council have also agreed to include maintenance of the Holy Trinity churchyard in the 2008/9 budget.

c) Police Matters

The attendance of PC Tracey Teal to Parish Council meetings in the last few months has been very welcome. The Parish Council regularly report speeding and parking issues throughout the village, but particularly Brigg Road. It was disappointing to note that there has been an increase in crime in Messingham during the last year. Representatives from the Parish Council regularly attend the Police Neighbourhood Action Team meetings.

d) General

The Chairman commented that 2007/8 has had no controversial issues but was pleased to see the larger than average attendance at this meeting, due in the main to the door to door leaflet advertising.

5. FINANCES FOR THE YEAR 2007/8

The Chairman explained that the accounting records, minute books, bank statements, chequebooks, insurance documents etc. could not be displayed as the internal audit is currently being carried out. A financial statement was circulated to all those present. It was agreed to accept these accounts subject to annual audit. Proposed J England; seconded Mrs J Briggs.

6. VILLAGE HALL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Mrs Debbie Gelder addressed the meeting on behalf of the Village Hall Management Committee. She gave an overview of the current activities in the Village Hall, which is used regularly almost 7 days a week from 8am to 10pm, and explained that further regular bookings are not possible and that one-off bookings for children's parties are much sought after.

The growing need for space to accommodate new groups and activities has led to the current plans to extend the village hall. Grants are currently available, from various sources for community buildings. A Development Committee has been formed but needs more members, the next meeting being scheduled for Monday 30th June 2008.

Various members of the public made comments - Jo Fillingham who is a netball coach, referred to the need to develop sport for girls particularly as there is very little activity for girls in the village; George Burrows suggested that something along the lines of a boxing club would be popular with boys; Jo Metcalfe, a multi sports coach, advised that the ceiling of the current hall is too low for some sports and also that sports partnerships are available to help and assist with design; John England advised that North Lincolnshire Council officers, and Voluntary Action for North Lincs are available to help with grant applications.

7. TRAFFIC CONTROL

Mr D Radford voiced his concerns for the standard of driving and speed throughout the village. He commented that traffic-calming measures are needed including warning lights, sleeping policemen and road markings. He also suggested that poor parking on High Street could lead to an accident, particularly outside the fish and chip shop.

Various members of the public made comments to support these concerns including – speeding motorbikes; incidents at the mini roundabout; drivers not stopping at the pedestrian crossing; lorries on Brigg Road due to satellite navigation directions; and heavy goods vehicles being a problem with parked cars on High Street.

The Chairman commented that the Parish Council has limited influence although traffic issues are constantly referred to North Lincolnshire Council Highways Department. Many of the problems are acknowledged and monitoring of speed is taking place with traffic calming measures imminent for Brigg Road due to the safety data collected. As the High Street is a main road, the A159, the police do not favour double yellow lines to restrict parking as the parked cars on either side of the road serve as a traffic calming measure. It is acknowledged that the pedestrian crossing is not in the ideal place, but it was the ONLY suitable location for various reasons – the Police and Highways have been informed of the problems and further signage has been suggested to make motorists more aware of the crossing.

John England reported that a 40mph buffer zone on approaches to 30mph limits are being considered by North Lincolnshire Council as part of a regional review. It was noted that the 30mph limit has been extended beyond the mini roundabout on Northfield Road.

John Walker reported that Corus had been contacted in respect of the lorries being wrongly directed to Brigg Road, Messingham instead of Brigg Road, Scunthorpe and that they had agreed to contact regular hauliers to advise of the problem. It was suggested that shipping agents should also be made aware.

This concluded the business of the meeting so the Chairman thanked everyone for attending. The meeting closed at 8.25pm.