



WEST BERGHOLT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting Held in the John Lampon Hall

Wednesday 25th May 2011 at 7p.m.

In the Chair: John Gili-Ross
Members Present: Jenny Church, Bernard Colbron, David Short, Chris Stevenson, Harry Stone, Bob Tyrrell
Clerk: Val Walsom
Present: PCSO Dave Jones, Councillor Harrington, Councillor Willetts, Lloyd Fenton - County Broadband
8 members of the public
Apologies: Sue Day, Andrew Savage

Reports from the committees and the minutes of last year's Annual Parish Meeting were distributed in a booklet.

Before the meeting started refreshments were served.

1. Welcome and introduction from the Chairman – Mr John Gili-Ross

John Gili-Ross welcomed all including Mrs Liz Harrington onto the Parish Council. He thanked Peter Sleigh and Sally Butcher, retiring members of the Parish Council. He then introduced PCSO Dave Jones who distributed the criminal activity statistics within the village over the last year.

Marcus Harrington introduced himself as the newly elected representative for West Bergholt on the Borough Council who highlighted the following areas he will be looking at:

- Flooding problems on Newbridge Hill
- Speedwatch - volunteers from Eight Ash Green will be invited to join those from West Bergholt
- Congestion around the Co-op
- Poor road surfaces
- Access to Hill House Barns
- Bradbrook Cottages
- Horkesley Heritage Park

2. County Broadband update - Lloyd Felton

Many residents are now connected with many more waiting for their connection. A further access point is about to be erected onto the school chimney. This should then give coverage across most of the village. A high speed link has been ordered to give a larger band width. This should provide County Broadband members with access a faster speed.

3. Presentation of the Final Draft Village Design Statement

Bob Tyrrell presented the Final Draft Village Design Statement. Councillor Willetts spoke of the importance of a Village Design Statement to the community. Chris Stevenson gave a report on the progress of the Parish Plan.

4. The future of the MUGA - Harry Stone

For the last 10 years the MUGA has been run by the West Bergholt Millennium Sports Club. However, the Parish Council has now agreed to take over running the MUGA. An advisory group of residents and Parish Councillors has been formed, which will report to the Premises and Recreation Committee. Chris Stevenson will chair the advisory group.

A yearly membership scheme will continue. Currently it costs £45 for a family membership with unlimited use. There will also be the facility for casual hire at £4 per hour. A notice board has

been erected next to the MUGA. The Co-op has agreed to manage a booking service and casual users will be able to make bookings and payments there. The entrance to the MUGA will have a combination lock. The number will be changed regularly by Mrs Mayhew who will be responsible for monitoring the bookings diary and collecting any money received at the Co-op. Flood light tokens will also be purchased at the Co-op at £1 for 30 minutes. Changes to the number of the combination lock will be emailed to members as they occur.

It is hoped that this system will make the MUGA more accessible to village users and any sports clubs which may like to hire it.

Funds handed over to the Parish Council by the WBMSC may be sufficient to resurface the MUGA should it become necessary. It is hoped that the facility will make money for the village in the long term.

Mr Stone thanked the members of the WBMSC for their commitment to the MUGA over the last 10 years.

5. Any issues raised from the floor

There were no issues raised.

6. Concluding Remarks

A letter sent by a young resident to local MPs had eventually been received by the Parish Council. It was, in fact, a school project but highlighted the need for activities for the youth of the village. It was noted that there are several activities available but these may not be known to the youngsters. The Bergholt Youth Group (BYG) caters for youngsters up to the age of 16, and between 50 and 60 members turn up regularly on club nights. The website could be used for feedback from the young people but there is also the need for a communications officer which will be a future development for the Parish Council.

John Gili-Ross thanked all the Parish Councillors for their hard work and dedication during the year. He also thanked the Parish Clerk, Hall Administrator and both Village Handymen for all their hard work.

A prize draw was made at the end of the meeting and was won by Liz Harrington and a resident present at the meeting. Each winner will receive a pleasure flight for two people.

The meeting closed at 8.30p.m.