

East Drayton Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting

Held on Tuesday, 16th April 2013 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

Present:

Cllr N Stanley (Chairman), Cllrs A Stanley, R Small, M Goddard and I Stephens. Also present: CCllr J Hemsall and Mrs S Pickard (Clerk). Members of the Public: 6

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1 Apologies for Absence: Cllr H Mackintosh, Mr S Ellis, Mrs J Goddard and PC Bailey.

2 Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 17th April 2012 - Approved.

3 Matters Arising- There were no matters arising.

4 Annual Reports

a) Parish Council – The Chairman, Cllr Stanley, said the planning rules had tightened up and this was affecting all villages deemed for non-development. Unfortunately the Parish Council had to take the step of increasing the precept this year because the Government will stop all funding to the villages in the near future. The Parish Council also suspended donations this year to the Sports Club, Fledgelings and Village Hall Trust fund in favour of making a larger donation to the roof fund for St Peter's Church for the sake of village heritage. This had been done in agreement with the aforementioned organisations. The Parish Council has pledged a total of £1,500 for the roof fund, with an initial donation of £500 made in the financial year 2012-2013. Road defects and repairs to potholes had been a major problem this year and this had culminated in a letter being sent by the Parish Council to complain about the standard of repairs. As a result, the Highways Department have agreed to make more highway inspections and take the matter further. The village entered the Best Kept Village competition and the Chairman said he had been disappointed with the response for volunteers to help tidy around the village. Largely, this had been left to himself and further insult had been sustained when receiving the derogatory comments from the Judges. These did not seem constructive and the Chairman challenged their views. The deadline date for entry this year is Friday, 24th May and the Chairman asked if they were interested in helping prepare the village, to get in touch beforehand. Mr Bingham commented that it was a shame the Chairman had had to do all this – surely if everyone looked after 'their own patch' it would not be such a big job?

b) Police – PC Bailey was unable to attend the meeting, but had submitted a brief report as follows:

“East Drayton was looking very positive on the crime-front with no crime reported yet this year, up until last week, when two offences were recorded in two days:

7th April – Low Street – Assault

8th April – Low Street – Dwelling burglary

Our main concern in the rural areas is still heating oil thefts..... the seasonal trend for the Spring is typically burglary at sheds and garages as gardening equipment becomes more saleable.”

c) Bassetlaw District Councillor - No representation from the District Council.

- d) Nottinghamshire County Councillor - Cllr Hempsall, who retires from the County Council next month offered leaflets on the pledges his party hope to make over the next four years. He said congratulated East Drayton Parish Council on its business-like fashion and friendliness. The Chairman thanked Cllr Hempsall and wished him all the best in his retirement.
- e) Website Co-ordinator – Mr Steve Ellis was unable to attend the meeting, but the Chairman praised him for the way in which he maintains the website and keeps everything up-to-date with current, newsworthy information.
- f) Village Hall Committee - Mrs Ogle said the village hall was ticking over quite nicely. However due to a neighbouring overgrown hedge they now required a new roof over the toilet block. Once estimates are to hand they can apply for a grant. A disappointing situation.
- g) PCC Churchyard Fund - Mrs Ogle thanked the Parish Council for its donation of £150 which will be put towards the upkeep of the mower and purchase of petrol. Cllr Ogle thanked the Parish Council for the £500 donation towards the roof fund and advised that a new roof will cost £172,000. Grant funding of £137,000 has been agreed by English Heritage and they have to raise £38,000 between now and when they start the work in September. A figure of £13,700 has already been raised, but this had been spent on preparatory work. VAT can be claimed back, but only after the project has been completed. Recently there has been a funding event and this raised £570 and there are two further fundraisers organised on 4th May and one in June. The Chairman thanked Mrs Ogle and said he was thinking of organising a clay shoot towards the end of the year.
- h) PCC Clock Fund - Mrs Goddard was unable to attend the meeting but sent a brief report to say that the clock is keeping good time and thanked the Parish Council for its donation of £50. The account holds funds of £998.77.
- i) Neighbourhood Watch - Chairman, Mr Neil Stanley referred to the recent reorganisation; and confirmed that this no longer existed. It had been replaced by the Police Alert system and anyone interested in registering to receive such alerts should log on to the Nottinghamshire Police website. There is also a Farm Alert facility. At present he is receiving advice about garden security and night lighting. The Chairman added that he had heard thefts of catalytic converters were on the increase again and they were being offered to parts people as spares. Cllr Mackintosh could be asked to mention the Alert system in the next village newsletter.
- j) East Drayton Educational Charity - Mr Ellis was unable to attending the meeting. Again there have been no beneficiaries from the fund over the past year and it is actually now seven years since an award has been made. If anyone knew of anybody who may fit the criteria, to get in touch. The objects of the charity are to promote the education of persons under the age of 25 years, who are resident in East Drayton and who are in need of financial assistance to purchase books for College/University.
- k) Constable Charity – Mr Bingham said they were in a similar situation and could offer financial assistance to anyone in need, be it physical or social. Thanks to Mr Goddard they are now charged a more realistic rent and there is therefore more money available

and indeed awards were made at last night's meeting. Possible recipients could be second/third year university students or someone starting an apprenticeship. The Chairman suggested Mr Bingham contact Cllr Mackintosh to request a note be included in the village newsletter. Mr Bingham added that his nephew works at Tuxford Academy and he was making enquiries.

- l) Dunham-on-Trent School – Mrs G Rann and Mrs K Watkinson gave an informative report about the primary school. At the beginning of the school year there were 103 children on roll and the school has capacity for 105. The standard of education the children receive is very good. This is confirmed by the end of KS2 SATS results and over the last five years attainment (standards) in English and Maths have been well above the national average. Attendance is very good and it is rare to get unauthorised absences. The children benefit from a range of educational visits/visitors and compete in various PE activities.

Mrs Rann also commented that Fledgelings was doing very well financially. Currently they had low numbers (around 10) and three out of the four staff were leaving. Children from East Drayton attend Fledgelings (possibly four youngsters) and about ten children attend Dunham Primary.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Rann and Mrs Watkinson for their report and for attending the meeting.

- m) Sports Club - Mrs Bingham said that the cricket team were in Division 5 of the Bassetlaw League and it had been a difficult seasons; losing 11 games to the weather. The Gainsborough Football League folded this year, but they now play football with the Lincoln League. It was however said that many teams seem to be finishing; there seemed to be a problem with attendance on Saturdays. Mr and Mrs Bingham continue to look at improve the facilities at the sports club, but had to refuse a Games Changer legacy of £25,000 because of a service level requirement. A brick built building would cost in the region of £140,000 whereas a modular building would be around £38,000. They hope to run the Kwik Cricket again in the summer holidays and welcome anyone who would like to get involved. Mrs Bingham concluded by saying they have always been grateful for the support they have received from the Parish Council in previous years.

5 Inspection of Parish Council Accounts - No questions with regard to the accounts tabled.

6 Any Other Business

- i) Mrs Ogle commented that she still held all the paperwork and building society account for the lychgate project. There is approximately £394 (plus interest) in the account. After discussion, it was AGREED that everything be retained by Mrs Ogle for the time being.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and for their contributions. The meeting was declared closed at 8.45 pm. The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Council meeting to be held on Tuesday, 21st May 2013.

Signed _____ Date _____ 2014