**BADINGHAM ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**FRIDAY MAY 27th 2016 – 7.15PM**

**BADINGHAM VILLAGE HALL**

**Attendance**

6 members of public. 3 Parish Councillors – Cllr Frost, Cllr McQuade , Cllr Osborne, and Clerk Mrs S Piggott

**Chair** – Cllr S Frost

**Minute taking** – Mrs S Piggott

**1 APOLOGIES**

Bob and Ann Foster, County Cllr S Burroughs and District Cllr C Poulter

**2 MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – 22rd May 2015**

The Minutes were approved and signed.

**3 PARISH COUNCIL REPORT – Chairs Report**

The past year has again been a busy one, with the Parish Council aiming to meet on average once a month.

**VILLAGE HALL**.The Parish Council supported the Village Hall with 4 councillors during a difficult period in 2013-14, but has now one Cllr, Gillian Upton who represents the PC on the VHC and her role is to report back to the Council and keep us up to date. We are very encouraged to understand that ongoing efforts are being made to continue the restoration of the Hall, while it is owned by the Parish Council, it is managed by a village Hall Management Committee, and is held in Trust for the social and educational benefit of the Village.

**FINANCE**: The Parish Council again maintained the Precept at the same level as the previous 3 years at £8000. While we would hope to keep this the same, there will come a time when a small increase has to be considered in order to maintain the obligations and responsibilities we have. Extra costs have been incurred in order to increase the hedge and grass cutting around the village and in Pocket Park.

**POCKET PARK** remains a priority with ongoing maintenance and clearing work to improve the hedgerows and grass play area. The hope is that improved management and regular attention will make this area an enjoyable area to visit. We have installed a new nest swing which was agreed in discussion with residents of New Leigh. Recently, funding from a Grant application to Tesco’s provided £8000.00 towards a castle play climbing frame. This will be supplemented with a kind donation from the Badingham Community Council of £446.86 which was from monies held in Trust for the Pocket Park These items have been chosen to replace some very tired and rotten equipment which has been removed. We are expecting to receive the funds very soon so we can go ahead with installation. It was also felt that safety measures were necessary and an improved gate to the pond, and a rescue life ring has been installed. Further works are planned to make firm access underfoot to the pond. An event to celebrate this was planned for late August last year, on the lines of a ‘Pimms and Punch’ picnic, with a butterfly theme, with special activities for the children. However the heavens opened for several days and we were sadly forced to postpone –we still have these funds in hand and will reconsider another attempt possibly this summer. Many thanks to Cllrs Rob Welham and Tim Barber for their input.

**EMERGENCY PLANNING**

Cllr Tim Barber is leading the Emergency Planning initiative, which all Parish Councils are now required to provide. We have a ‘base’ or ‘Mission Control’ in the Village Hall, and Tim continues to seek Volunteers to help him formulate a tree of telephone contacts. Unfortunately, despite adverts in the ECHO and word of mouth, he has only one volunteer. It would be to everyone’s benefit to have this initiative in place should there be any emergency in the village.

**The Parish Plan Report 2013** and Action plan continues to be available on the website, but colour hard copies are now available. We had thought we could not afford them after making a large donation to the renovation of the village hall, but >Stephen Burroughs kindly enabled us to have some hard copies printed with a generous Grant, and I can now thank him again for this. If anyone would like one, or knows someone in Badingham who does not have internet access, please contact our Clerk, Sue Piggott. Copies are also available in the Pub and café in Low Street.

**PLANNING**

Last year the Parish Council was involved in the first stage of the Consultation in The Site Allocations and Area Specific Policies, the Local Plan document. This was intended to look at sites to accommodate new housing, employment and commercial development, but also looking to identify important areas which need protection. This also looked at coastal erosion and flooding issues. It did not necessarily mean we were about to have new developments, but is a complex initiative which is in its early stages, and we need to ensure our protected areas are correctly registered. This set the overall scale and distribution of growth for the District to 2027. Our Clerk Sue Piggott was able to present our queries to the District Council, and anyone interested can still find the documentation on our website.

As many of you are aware, the Parish Council received notice of a proposed development adjacent to New Leigh, which the Parish Council considered and put forward a response of objection. There had been no Public Consultation notices in place, therefore no opportunity for the Public Consultation process to commence. It was felt that this cluster of houses was over 10, which constitutes a major development. It was too large, did not contain the right size mix. It was also felt that the aesthetics of the design was not in keeping with the surrounding rolling Suffolk countryside. The design resembled industrial estate units which give no recognition to the countryside setting in which it would sit and failed to integrate with the it neighbouring dwellings. The road network of single undesignated roads did not seem adequate for such a large development. Our response drew attention to the last Badingham Parish Plan 2013, p 26, giving results under Housing, which stated a small cluster would be acceptable and needed to include one-bedroomed units.

**HOUSING**

Housing-New Leigh has seen some changes over the recent year, and as a Parish Council, we are always very keen to see people with local connections have the chance to settle in the Village. It is very important, however, for anyone interested to make their application via the confidential Gateway database, as we have no direct input into the application. Further details can be found on our Parish Council website, or our Clerk, Mrs Sue Piggott will help direct you to the correct site.

**GOVERNANCE**

The Parish Council has been able to engage the legal and constitutional advice of Jayne Cole, Chief Executive officer of the Local Government Public Advisory Service. She has supported Badingham PC over many years when she was Senior Consultant at SALC, Suffolk Association of Local Councils,and her expertise has been very valuable in maintain the Governance and dealing with specific queries. We are hoping to arrange a small number of training evenings with Jayne Cole here in Badingham, and hope as before, to invite Councillors from other neighbouring Parish Councils, which is both supportive, and shares the cost- and good fun!

A new Transparency Code for Small Councils was mandated, allowing for draft minutes to be made available, and fortunately we are already compliant with this by having our website up and running.

**CELEBRATIONS** for Her Majesty’s 90th birthday have taken place. Several people joined us at the White Horse Pub on the evening of 21st April, we walked down to the Church to the sound of the church bells, read the message from HRH the Prince of Wales, sang Happy Birthday and Mr Knott kindly lead us in three cheers for her Majesty. At exactly the right moment Mr Foster lit the beacon and we enjoyed the atmosphere in the twilight while the beacon flared up to the sound of the bells. Many thanks to Mike Bostock Smith for the bell ringers, and Bob Foster and his team for lighting the beacon. We look forward to the Church celebrations on the 11th June.

**COUNCILLORS**

We are fortunate to have a great team of Councillors at present, having been joined by Cllr Mik Bedson last year. Sadly, Cllr Edward Meigh is leaving us, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his dedication and hard work over many years, to both the Parish Council, and in a wider sense, with his wife Caroline, supporting and encouraging the whole village. We will all miss him enormously and wish him well.

We therefore have one Councillor vacancy at present. Anybody interested please contact Sue Piggott, and we look forward to working together in 2016.

The Parish Council continues to conduct Parish Council business and administration, and has responsibility for:

* Maintaining Pocket Park
* Village grass cutting
* Managing trees and vegetation on its land, namely Packet park and the Bench Site.
* Alerting SCC of issues regarding the village Footpaths
* Alerting Highways to problems as the arise.
* Maintaining the village website.

We are delighted to see the opening of the Village Café in Low Street after long efforts from Tanya Newton and her colleagues, and we wish that project a very prosperous future.

I would like to conclude by thanking our Clerk, Sue Piggott for her continued work for Badingham PC, I know that her work far outweighs her designated hours, and she remains constantly vigilant for opportunities to benefit the village, and access funds and grants such as the Tesco Playspace equipment. Many thanks Sue.

**4 POLICE REPORT** – None

**5 DISTRICT CLLR CAROL POULTER - REPORT** – **Full report attached to master copy Minutes**

**Council Tax**: for the year end 2017 increase of 1.99%. This is the first time since 2010, this is due to continued and increased central government cuts to funding for local councils.

**Transformation – East Suffolk**

Both Waveney and Suffolk Coastal are developing a business case to explore formally merging.

**Devolution**

Leaders and CEO’s of Suffolk, Norfolk and Cambridgeshire met on 23rd March to begin discussions on the details before all council’s vote on a proposed deal later in the year.

**Homes**

£1.68 million is being invested in creating more affordable homes to ensure people can stay within the communities where they are raised and work.

**New Offices**

Works to build Suffolk Coastal’s new headquarters is progressing well, it will be called East Suffolk House.

**Customer Services in local libraries**

Work to develop and upgrade Suffolk Coastal District Council’s Customer Services in Woodbridge Library is due to be completed in March.

**Enabling Communities**

It has been another successful year supporting communities. This year each councillor had £5,500 for communities within their areas.

**Brown Bins**

Brown bins will continue to be collected for free in Suffolk Coastal following a decision in November.

**Developments in Felixstowe**

The Seafront gardens were officially completed in December last year. Work to Martello Tower P has been finished completing the Martello Park. Work to create an outdoor event area at the boating lake and Go-Kart site has started and is due for completion during the summer.

**New Website**

The website is being updated and should be up and running early summer. The [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk) website will incorporate Suffolk Coastal and Waveney websites onto one platform.

**Local Economy**

Suffolk Coastal has the strongest economy in the County with 5370 business and unemployment rate at 7%

**6. SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCILLOR STEPHEN BURROUGHS REPORT** – **Full report attached to master copy Minutes**

**COUNCIL TAX FOR SIXTH YEAR IN A ROW**

SCC’s share of council tax is to be frozen for a sixth year in a row. This means that Suffolk residents will not pay any more than they did in 2010/11**.**

**CHILDREN’S SERVICES NOW RATED ‘GOOD’ BY OFSTED**

Suffolk County Council’s Children’s Services has been rated GOOD by Ofsted following the publication of its inspection report on 15th February 2016. The report praises the work of the council in protecting and looking after children and young people, with some areas of outstanding practice highlighted in the report. The inspection was carried out between 23 November and17 December 2015.

**EDUCATION ATTAINMENT IN SUFFOLK**

There has been a 4% rise in the number of students getting five or more A\*-C grades, including English and Maths. It means that 56% of Suffolk’s year 11s got the expected level of attainment. The validated figure for 2014 was 52%. Suffolk’s results have increased by 2.6% from last year’s provisional results and see Suffolk rise 17 places in the overall league table, going from 124th to 107th. 77% of 11-year-olds achieved level 4 or higher in their SAT tests in the three subjects in 2015 – up from 73% in 2014

**IT’S ‘GO’ FOR THIRD CROSSING IN LOWESTOFT AND THE WET DOCK IN IPSWICH**

As part of the Chancellor’s budget announcements, Suffolk featured strongly with the green light being given for both Lowestoft’s third crossing over Lake Lothing and the new Wet Dock crossing in Ipswich. Lowestoft will get the third crossing over Lake Lothing after many years of campaigning and a recent petition signed by over 10,000 people. The Prime Minister committed to the crossing prior to the last General Election, committing the Government to deliver a new crossing by 2020

**BROADBAND ROLLOUT ON TARGET**

A resolution has now been reached between DCMS and the EU which will enable us to spend our full £30m of public funding, as well as the monies clawed back from the first contract a total of £33.9m on Phase 2. Work on the Broadband rollout continues as we progress Phase 1 of the Superfast Extension Programme (the 2nd contract). The first phase of rollout will be shared onto a map on the SCC website, and the second phase will be added within the next couple of months. To date, we have enabled 35 cabinets, and reached over 3,000 premises under the Superfast Extension Programme, towards a target of over 1,000 cabinets, and over 50,000. For more information and updates please visit www.betterbroadbandsuffolk.com

**RURAL TRANSPORT PROVISION**

The changes to how Rural Transport is provided will bring a positive difference to communities, providing residents with a single phone number for each area. The whole county is covered so there are no longer any areas where there may have been gaps in service

**£1BN DEVOLUTION DEAL ANNOUNCED FOR EAST ANGLIA**

Government and local councils and LEPs has led to a proposed deal worth over £1bn for East Anglia. As part of the deal, announced by George Osborne MP, Chancellor of the Exchequer, East Anglia will receive: £900m (£30m a year for the next 30 years) to invest in infrastructure and £175m to invest in housing.

**7 POCKET PARK REPORT – AS REPORTED IN CHAIRS REPORT**.

**8 DENNINGTON SCHOOL REPORT – NONE**

**9 VILLAGE HAL REPORT – NONE**

**10 REPORTS FROM VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS**

**BCC – Pauline Skevington, Chair**

The Annual events started with the Village Fete at the White Horse, a good attendance, thanks to Mark and Lisa for their co-operation and support.

During September and October BCC hosted and funded lunches for any resident aged 70 years plus, these have proved extremely popular and well supported. Mark and Lisa provide excellent menus again thanks go out to them.

Christmas biscuits were distributed with many giving appreciation for their biscuits.

In May the monthly pub quiz raised money for the BCC and total of £80, thanks to Ian.

Some events do not continue to take place due to lack of support those being coffee mornings and Easter egg hunts, this leaves the Summer Fete as the only fund raising event.

Queens 90th Birthday, the BCC are funding a celebration buffet with a band playing to round off the event.

My grateful thanks to the supportive and enthusiastic committee.

Full Report attached to Master Minutes

**Enterprise Badingham- Clerk presented**

Since last November the focus has been on developing a village shop/café. For three years we have been running the Tuesday Teas which had indicated the need for a shop/café. Caroline and James Holloway have offered the use of their garage space. Planning permission was sort and granted. Funding was successfully applied for from the Suffolk Coastal Enabling grant. The shop opens 16th May with grand opening 10th June 2016 to be officiated by Dan Poulter M.P. The shop will be open Mon-Fri 11am-1pm and some Sundays in due course. We thank all who have given their time to help with this project. The next project is to provide a toilet in the village.

Tanya Newton, Secretary.

Full Report attached to Master Minutes

**W.I.- M.Wolstenholme, Vice President**

Badingham W.I. celebrates its 70th birthday this year, a milestone of which we are very proud. In the early days, a bus collected members to bring them to the meetings as few people had cars. The meetings started with the singing of Jerusalem and although the organisation has evolved, the ethos of the W.I. remains one of support and educational opportunities for women with the opportunity to campaign on local and national issues and to be a voice to be heard.

The Institute has had many and varied outings over the last 70 years, a notable one being to the Dutch bulb fields by plane when travel by air was still a novelty. Sonja Russell can recall meetings with her mother who was President at the time, a role which Sonja later took on, like many other local women over the years.

I have been a member for 16 years, since moving to Badingham in 2000, and have had opportunities to join with other members form the Suffolk East Federation at events countrywide. A particular opportunity which is available is to join locally organised holidays travelling at home and abroad where members and friends can be assured of companionship if they are travelling solo. No-one is left out and there is always someone to share experiences with.

At a local level we are able to enjoy group meetings twice a year when we meet with members from other local Institutes to hear a speaker and exchange ideas. At a national level, this year I will be a delegate at the Annual General Meeting in Brighton where the issues to be debated are concerned with food waste and dementia care in hospital. In 2017, a year after its Centenary, the W.I. continues to be forward looking and forward thinking, giving its members the chance to have a say in important local and farther reaching issues.

It is unfortunate that Badingham W.I. will cease to exist after November as we are unable to find members who are able to take over from the current committee. As with so many organisations, we seem to have been recycling Officers and Committee members for some time and sadly the time has come to close.

Full Report attached to Master Minutes

**PCC – St John Baptist’s Church- Ann Foster**

Rev Jonathan Olanczuk is our rector, Victor Warne and Robert Foster church wardens and they are support by the PCC which meets 4 times a year as a minimum.

Services continue their regular pattern. This year has seen an increase in the number of weddings.

Volunteers continue to go into Dennington School with the ‘Open Book’ project reading stories from the Bible and Jonathan takes assemblies from time to time.

Bell ringers practice regularly in Dennington and Badingham and have welcomed some new ringers. Christmas shoe boxes were filled and collected to be distributed in the Balkan Countries in time for Christmas. Gardeners continue to enjoy growing flowers and produce in the churchyard community gardens.

Fund raising has included a Beetle Drive, Table at the Village Fete, a Harvest BBQ and Christmas Sale. 10% of the fund raising is always donated to charity and this year we have been able to support Badingham Village Hall and Syrian Refugees. In June we hosted a concert in aid of Badingham Village Hall and the Church and in December Shuling Appleby arranged a concert to raise funds for a Nursery School in Gambia where Shuling is volunteering as a Doctor. We were able to light a beacon on top of the church tower as part of the Parish Council’s Queens 90th Birthday celebration event.

The boiler has needed considerable attention by way of repair and parts.

Thanks go to the many people believers and non-believers who support all that happens throughout the year.

Full Report attached to Master Minutes

**Badingham PlaySchool – presented by the Clerk**

This year has been a year to celebrate for the Playshcool with us achieving our first

Outstanding grade when Ofsted inspected us in June 2015. The report states that ‘the teaching is outstanding’ and ‘the whole team has a thirst for excellence and there is a constant drive to improve the setting’.

The number of families that come to the PlaySchool continues to increase along with the total time that children spend with us. This has allowed us to continue to thrive despite the level of Government funding we receive per child remaining static whilst our costs increase with changes in minimum wage and the statutory introduction of staff pensions.

The children attending come from 3 local towns and 8 local villages, there are 6 from Badingham and 7 from Dennington. The average age is 2 and a half years of age. This September we will feed 6 children into 3 Primary Schools.

PlaySchool Management Committee

Full Report attached to Master Minutes

**Neighbourhood Watch – Sonja Russell** – Report submitted post meeting is attached to Master Minutes

**Badingham Garden Club – Meg Knott**

The Garden Club continues to thrive, meeting at member’s homes and gardens on the first Thursday of each month with a short break in the winter. There is no committee just tea and cakes and conversation.

Last year we visited Wingfield College and forthcoming events include a visit to see the wild orchids in Paul and Jenny Collins garden and a visit to the Green Island Gardens near Dedham

Full Report attached to Master Minutes

**Quiz Nights – Ian Wolstenholme**

Quiz Nights are held on the first Tuesday of each month from October to July in the White Horse Pub – a maximum of six people per table at £2 per head. All monies are donated to local organisations or charities. We usually raise between £60 and £85 each evening.

Many thanks to all those who support Quiz Nights. A big thank you to Mark and Lisa for letting us use the White Horse as a venue.

Full Report attached to Master Minutes

**11 BADINGHAM SHINING AWARD**

There have been no nominations.

**12 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr Malcolm Knott proposed a vote of thanks to the Parish Council for all their continued hard work, this was gratefully received.

Meeting closed 8.40pm

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Chair Date