

STANHOE PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – MINUTES 8th May 2024

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The Parish Meeting is an opportunity for Parishioners to discuss parish affairs (Local Government Act 1972. S9). The Meeting has the power to discuss parish affairs and pass resolutions thereon, but such resolutions do not bind the Parish Council.

1. Welcome by the Chair
2. Present and apologies – Cllr M Wilson chaired the meeting. Cllr T Fitzjohn, Cllr S Shaw, Cllr R Brown, Cllr N Shearer, Cllr R Wilson attended. Cllr Chenery from County and Cllr Sandell from Borough.5 members of the public attended.

Apologies - Speedwatch

3. Chairs report – the Chair gave a Powerpoint presentation on the following Strategic Themes. The Parish Councillors thanked the Clerk for her work and support over the past year.

Effective Engagement

1. Website review undertaken/Meetings with the owner of the site
 - Stanhoe.Org – Village site to be maintained
 - Does not fulfil the requirements of the Parish Council
 - New parish council site now in place for all minutes/agendas & legal documents
stanhoe.norfolkparishes.gov.uk
 - Domain (ownership) to be transferred to Stanhoe PC
 - Appointment of 'experts' to manage input
- 2.Regular meetings are held with the MEHM Trust to discuss common interests
- 3.Saints Alive
 - Both the PC & the MEHM Trust have offered help to assist with production and distribution of this village magazine
4. Joint village activities
 - We have had successful fetes over the last 2 years. Building on this success we are organising with, the MEHM, a D Day Celebration Fete on the 8th June 2024

Appearance/Amenities

1. Playing field and play area
 - Insurance/litter collection & field maintenance
2. Village pond and surrounding area
 - Improved appearance by removing 'Green' bins and relocating dog waste bin
 - Refurbishment of the War Memorial and removal of bench/notice board
 - Grants have been applied for to replace the notice board at the village hall

We should see this in place by mid summer

Effective Governance

1. Fair and considered approach to the financial budget (precept)
 - Difficult times but the council managed to restrict to 3.6% for the current year
 - This increase includes planning for projects i.e Play equipment/cleaning village signs etc
2. Openness and transparency
 - More relaxed approach to council meetings, encouraging public participation
 - Move towards accessing NALC training modules for new and experienced councillors
 - Completely transparent financial management
 - Update of all council 'standing Orders' (legal requirement)

Community Safety

- 1. Road Safety
 - Ongoing discussions about Trods & Permissive Paths (1st priority is the Bircham road)
 - Trods are an expensive item – ongoing work
- 2. Speeding vehicles
 - The village has a SAM machine that is moved monthly
 - Information gathered for the period May 2023 to end April 2024

Total Number of vehicles	223,000
30 – 35 mph	17,200
35 -45 mph	2,900
45 mph + en 55 – 65 mph)	500 (Max speed regularly

- ### 3.Highways
- Ongoing dialogue re the Bircham Road crossroads
 - New signage installed/painted
 - Transport assessment arranged with Highways Dept

4. Reports from village groups

4.1 Stanhoe and Barwick WI

2023 must have been one of our busiest ever years, with nearly 30 teas, walks, visits and crafting sessions on offer to our members, as well as our monthly meetings and Christmas lunch.

We increased our membership and started our new year April 2024 with 40 members. An average of 3 visitors joined us each month, having seen us in the media or coming along with a friend; the majority of these ladies became members.

The full number of 12 monthly meetings were held, with an average attendance of 27 members. This included the annual Garden Party and our May meeting, in celebration of the King's Coronation.

We welcomed a diverse range of speakers. Some demonstrated their craft, such as Claire Howard with her silver jewellery; some enlightened us, such as Juyna Lewis with her history of Norfolk's Indian Princess, and some allowed us a taste courtesy of Mrs Temples cheeses. As often happens, we went on to pursue these talks further, taking two guided tours of King's Lynn after Michael Aldis spoke to us, and a full Soundbath session, following Sally Collins' introduction.

This year saw the introduction of our Book Club, with quarterly meetings. It has proved to be a great success, with a core group of members enjoying the books and the coffee and cake that accompanies the discussion.

Our annual charity Women Walk the World event saw 14 members and friends walking near Bircham Windmill, before enjoying a warm drink and cake there. Cake featured after our visit to Dale Farm and to Binham Priory, as well as several visits to local tearooms.

Our crafting sessions have been in Geli painting, decoupage and glassmaking, the latter being run by our own members and proving so successful that further sessions were held.

The committee continues to support our fellow WIs, accepting invitations to meetings at Wells, Anmer, New Hunstanton, Snettisham and Ingoldisthorpe.

On a wider WI front, 6 members attended the Federation Annual Meeting and thoroughly enjoyed Esme Young's (from the Sewing Bee) amusing tales from her working life.

Through targeted publicity, efforts have been made to recruit from Stanhoe itself, there currently being only 3 members from the village at present. However, we are proud that our reputation as a lively and friendly WI extends far and wide, with members currently drawn from 14 different towns and villages. We begin 2024 with a

strong membership, healthy finances and the promise of many more enjoyable meetings and outings.

4.2 Speedwatch

Big thanks to the team of Terry & Pamela Austin, Don Bridge, Rosemary Brown, Peter Hallinan and Steve Shaw. I would also like express our appreciation for the support by Sandy Brownjohn who sadly died yesterday

- The team is really short of volunteers; we have been two down for some months with sickness and we start from quite a low base (and most of us are pretty elderly!!)
- For some years (because of the low numbers in the team) we have aimed to operate one 1-hour shift of 3 volunteers per week, usually on a Tuesday from 1000 until 1100 (followed by coffee and cake in the village hall).
- There are three approved sites within the village – Parsons Lane, Bircham Road at Longwall Barn and The Green adjacent to the pond.
- When the team is operating, speeding motorists tend to be in the speed range of 35 to 45 mph – most motorists slow down when we are noticed (the compulsory Hi-Viz jackets and warning signs are a bit of a clue!).
- In an hour's shift we can log between 1 and 12 motorists over the reportable limit out of about 100 vehicles passing the team during the shift.
- At other times the police enforcement officer visits the village for short periods – he has enforcement powers, ie penalty notices, fines and points are “awarded” to speeders.
- Stanhoe Speed Watch Team is the longest serving team in Norfolk and would like to continue – hence the need for more volunteers.

5. Parochial Church Council – All Saints Stanhoe

Neil Shearer opened with thanks to the late Pen Roach for her time on the PCC and her support of the village Open Gardens. She will be sadly missed. Stanhoe Church Friends has now been established. The building is of historic importance and requires support to maintain especially as there will be significant costs for the roof. Fundraising events are being run with future plans for these. The Open Gardens will be held on 13th July. A Treasurer has now been appointed and they continue to update governance and the accounting system.

6. Councillor Sam Sandell – Borough Council

Thank you for the invite to the annual Parish Meeting.

The last year at the Borough Council has seen a new administration taking over and the Chief Executive Lorraine Gore retiring. With a new administration I lost my cabinet role.

Over the last year I have sat on many panels and attended many meetings. I am the Chairperson for the Homeless and Housing Delivery Task Group and I am the Vice Chair of the Standards panel. I sit on the Environment and

Community Panel, CIL Spending Panel, Local Plan Task Group and I attend Full Council meetings and Parish Council meetings when I can. I have 6 Parish Councils. I receive many emails from members of the public, planning agents and I work with Parish Clerks. I do visit residents as its sometimes easier to see issues first hand. I have subbed on the Planning Committee. I keep up my planning training and I attend any courses that the Council offer. I am appointed to two outside bodies as a Councillor one is the Burnham Overy Harbour Management Committee and the other one is the West Norfolk and Kings Lynn Girls School Trust. I am also the Chair of the Burnham Market Surgery Patient Participation Group.

In the last few months, I also now have a job working Bank shifts at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

Last year I was very fortunate to get picked to a once in a lifetime opportunity to attend a Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace. The Prince and Princess of Wales and Princess Anne were in attendance. Stunning Gardens and Stunning food and perfect weather.

Going back to the West Norfolk and Kings Lynn Girls School Trust, this is a trust for girls of school age who come from low - income families who take on extra-curricular activities for example music, dance drama the fund can also be used to buy equipment for girls who need it. This is means tested and the parents and children are asked to keep the trustees updated on their progress. We have helped many children with gradings of musical instruments and gain awards in Drama.

The Jacks Lane windfarm Committee are sitting on the 10th June to decide on the applications submitted.

There are no grants from the Borough Council for the 80th anniversary of D Day this year. I have spoken to the Cabinet member for finance who said they were looking to make grants available for next years celebrations.

Being a Borough Councillor is a varied and sometimes challenging role. A role I thoroughly enjoy. I cannot please everyone, but I do give it a 100%.

If you have any issues, then please do not hesitate to contact me.

7. Questions and comment

7.1 The Chair asked the residents present if they were supportive of the Council pursuing a Trod/path for Bircham Road. The residents present were in favour.

7.2 The Chair asked for suggestions for the Playing Field for the future, looking at the costs of our contract with Nuture Landscapes and costs.

7.3 Volunteers are required for the D Day celebrations on the 8th June.

7.4 A resident asked who is now updating Stanhoe.org. Cllr R Wilson updated as per Parish Council Annual Meeting minutes.

7.5 Village signs for advertising events – the Council have applied to Jacks Lane Windfarm for suitable signs.

The meeting closed at 7.30pm

