

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting for Scarning
held in the Village Hall on 18 April 2011.**

Present A Glister, W Brown, N Eagle, C Farnham, A Horwell, J Magrath,
 M Steward, R Walton
 Mrs D Irving
 N Hartley
 Fourteen members of the public

1. Welcome

Mr Glister welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies for absence had been received from Mrs E Gould.

2. Minutes

The minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held on April 19, 2010 were confirmed and signed.

Tribute to Mr Glister and Mr Eagle

Mr Steward noted that Mr Glister and Mr Eagle were standing down from the Parish Council. Mr Glister had served on the council for twenty seven years and Mr Eagle for thirty six. Both were thanked for all the work they have done for the village.

3. Parish Affairs

It was questioned whether the Parish Council had any plans to provide a footpath from Chestnut Road to Cooper Terrace. It was noted that this matter has been brought to the attention of the Parish Council.

The danger at the junction of Draytonhall Lane and the A47 was noted. Mr Glister noted that this matter was continually being brought to the attention of the Highways Agency and Norfolk County Council by the Parish Council. He noted that new traffic calming measures are being introduced on Draytonhall Lane, including a Vehicle Activated Sign.

It was noted that as horses and riders are using the new footpath on Dereham Road, there is an amount of horse dung on it. Mrs Irving said she will address this issue at Breckland Council and Norfolk County Council. She will also ask SERCO to clear any mess.

It was noted that the area near Cooper Terrace would benefit from clearing. The clerk was asked to clarify ownership of this area.

4. Accounts

The unaudited accounts for Scarning Parish Council and Scarning Fuel Allotment Charity were presented to the meeting. The accounts were signed by the chairman and the clerk.

5. Chairman's Report

Mr Glister delivered his report, a copy of which is filed with the minutes.

6. County Councillor's Report

In her report, Mrs Irving thanked all the residents of the village for their continued support. She drew attention to the savings that are being made at Norfolk County Council as a result of the current economic crisis. She noted that the new Vehicle Activated Speed Sign has been installed on Draytonhall Lane. Most of the potholes have been filled and she is working to have the barriers removed near the Riverside development. The new recycling centre in Dereham should be open soon.

7. District Councillor's Report

Mr Glister read Mrs Gould's report on her behalf. The report noted the recent winners of the Pride in Breckland awards, the Community Projects initiative to create stronger and safer communities, the District Council's new food hygiene rating, and the Norfolk Village Games. The Dereham Memorial Hall refurbishment should be completed later this year. The report also noted the Campaign to Protect Rural England's part in the drive to clear up the Breckland area and the introduction of a new CCTV and security monitoring system.

8. Primary School Report

The school's head boy, Ryan Bayne, noted that the school was a fun and exciting place. In the course of the year, there had been school trips to Jack and the Beanstalk, to the O2 Arena where members of the school sang to fundraise for children in care, and to the science show, The Big Bang, in London. There had been other fund raisers at the school, such as Apple Day.

In his report, Mr Chambers noted that at the end of the academic year, nineteen pupils went to Northgate, three to Neatherd and three to Litcham. He paid tribute to the school's governors and members of its committees, as well as the help the school receives from the Seckar Trust and the Parish Council, which last year supported the construction of a bird hide at the school.

9. Playing Field Committee Report

In his report, Mr Ken Steward, Chairman of the Playing Field Committee, noted that its costs last year were more than its income. The Parish Council's grant was £2,500. The committee spent £3,356. Mr Steward noted that as owners of the field, the Parish Council are joint custodians and sought reassurance that the council will continue to fund and support the Playing Field Committee. He noted that the Playing Field Committee runs the playing field on behalf of the Parish Council and the village's residents.

10. Scarning PCC Report

In her report, Mrs Sue Rockley, Secretary to Scarning PCC, noted that the church continues to play important role in the lives of villagers through baptisms, weddings and funerals. The PCC, she noted, is committed to protecting the church at the heart of the village. She noted that four ringers from the village now regularly ring the church bells. There were, she noted, a number of fundraisers undertaken by the PCC last year and that the proceeds of the Art Exhibition went to the church. There are ongoing repairs needed to the church, but there are also ongoing costs.

11. Scarning Village Hall Trust & Estate Report

Mrs Yvonne Long, a member of the Village Hall Trust, noted that the hall is well maintained and well used. There are a large number of regular users of the hall such as a mother and toddler group, two art groups, the WI and the Thalia Theatre company. She noted that the work to improve the car parking area at the front of the hall is complete and all that remains is for the bus stop markings to be removed.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.50pm.