

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting for Scarning
held in the Village Hall on 16 April 2018**

Present: W Brown (Chairman), T Abel, F Bradford, C Farnham, S Faulkner, J Magrath, P Page, M Steward. Mr W Richmond (Norfolk County Councillor) Mrs L Turner (Breckland Councillor) Mr P Hewett (Breckland Council). In attendance Mr N Hartley. Nine members of the public

1. Welcome

Mrs Brown welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr Hewson.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on April 24, 2017 were confirmed and signed.

3. Parish Affairs

The Council was asked what response it had received to the suspension of the newsletter. The clerk noted that he had received six or seven requests to keep the newsletter.

4. Chairman's Report

Mrs Brown delivered her report, a copy of which is filed with the minutes.

5. Scarning Primary School Report

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

6. District Councillor's Report

Mrs Turner delivered her report, a copy of which is filed with the minutes.

7. County Councillor's Report

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

8. Scarning Playing Field Committee Report

Mr Steward noted that playing field is managed and maintained by Scarning Playing Field Committee with a grant from the Parish Council. Income is generated from the hire of the tennis courts and the Dereham Taverners football club. The Committee employs two part time groundsmen. Mr Steward thanked them for their hard work over the course of the year. It will soon be necessary to purchase a new mower and this will be discussed at the AGM. The Committee will need a new treasurer shortly and Mr Steward announced his intention to step down as Chairman in 2019.

9. Scarning Village Hall Trust & Estate

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

10. Scarning Parochial Church Council

Mrs Rockley delivered her report, a copy of which is filed with the minutes.

11. Scarning Conservation Volunteers

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

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 7.40pm.

Scarning Parish Council

Chairman's report 16th April 2018

2017 / 18 has been a quiet year for Scarning Parish Council.

Much of the year has been taken up with Planning applications, risk assessment and maintenance of the council's assets including the play equipment and updating policies.

Scarning Parish Council has regular talks with the Highways authority to discuss concerns about the A47 and in particular the regular accidents that occur at junctions with this road in the village. A meeting planned for 2nd March was cancelled due to the snow but has been re scheduled for 11th May and I hope to attend.

We have continued to support the Scarning Conservation Volunteers working with the Norfolk Wildlife Trust to get the best advice on managing the water meadows area of the village.

A meeting was held with a representative from Vattenfall with regard to their proposals for wind turbines and any effect this will have in the local area.

We will be keeping up to date with their plans.

Plans are still in place to move the red telephone box and give it a new purpose in the village but we are still awaiting BT to disconnect it.

It is hoped by the time of this meeting that the bus shelter near Blackhorse Close has been moved to a better location which allows people to take shelter and see the bus coming.

The following charitable donations have been made - £50 to the Poppy appeal for a Remembrance Day wreath, £100 to Dereham Cancer Care, East Anglian Children's Hospice, East Anglian Air Ambulance, Dereham Blind Club, Big C, Revitalise and Norfolk Accident Rescue. £150 has been donated to the Citizens Advice Bureau and the Dereham Meeting Point.

A Christmas Tree was purchased for the village in November which was put in Scarning Churchyard for all to see.

We are hoping to do something to commemorate the end of the first World War but it will depend on available funds.

Publication of the village News Letter has been put on hold to see if it is missed. It is costly and time consuming to produce and deliver and we know that in many cases it finds it's way to the rubbish bin without being read. We will review this decision in a few months' time and if required maybe try and come up with a new way of making village information available. In the meantime, information will still be put on the web site and the notice boards.

Future plans include revitalisation of the water meadows play equipment and our Clerk Nick Hartley will be applying for funding to help with this.

Councillor Dickerson resigned following a move of home and work to Northamptonshire. We are pleased to welcome Councillor Tim Able in her stead.

I wish to congratulate Nick Hartley on obtaining his CILLCA qualification and thank him for all of his hard work.

We now have both the clerk and a councillor with this qualification which gives us status as a Good Council and enables us to take on further responsibilities should the need or wish arise.

Finally I wish to thank Richard Allan for keeping the village website up to date and full of interesting snippets and all of the councillors for giving up their free time to attend meetings and showing interest in the village.



Scarning V C Primary School

Dereham Road, Scarning
Dereham, Norfolk, NR19 2PW
www.scarningprimary.co.uk
01362 692665

Attendance at the school has continued to be a strength, with the last academic year's attendance above the national average. The rate of children who were persistently absent was well below the national average. At the time of writing attendance for this year should again be above the national average.

The 2016/17 academic year saw the children at Scarning generally attain levels that can best be described as above average. The amount of progress the children made from their various starting points was again above average. The number of children attaining the higher levels in national assessments increased and is now a strength of the school.

The school roll is now 375 - 50 up on the same time last year. In time the roll will increase to 400+. For the second year in a row the school is over subscribed.

Internal building work took place in the summer break to allow a twelfth class of children to start in September. This July, planning permitting, will see the building of a new Early Years Foundation Stage building. This stand-alone structure, situated to the rear of the main building will be designed for our very youngest children, giving them improved flexible internal space and a purpose-built outdoor area.

Successful Church services have taken place at Christmas and at Easter, and the school had until recently continued to contribute a regular piece to the Scarning News. We have further developed the 'Norfolk Interview' programme. This has seen the children taking part in a Q&A session with a number of people who make Norfolk the place it is. Recent visitors have included a local businesswoman, professor of science and a cross-channel swimmer.

Sports, arts and cultural activities have continued to take place throughout the year. Highlights since my last report have included:

- *The continuing success of the Children's University at Scarning. 42 children recently graduated at an excellent ceremony in the last week of the Spring term.*
- *38 external sports events scheduled to have been completed by the end of the year*
- *Excellence Weeks based around a variety of themes e.g. 'Maths Reasoning' and 'Witches and Wizards'*
- *A stunning performance at the West Norwich and Dereham dance festival at the Open Academy in Norwich*
- *A wide range of after school clubs including: forest schools, archery, computing and a whole host of sports clubs*

Parking at the pick-up and drop-off times continues to be a challenge. The recent creation of a ten minute drop-off window between 8.40am and 8.50am has, anecdotally at least, improved things in the morning. This remains a concern for us and correspondence from the local community shows the frustration that residents feel.

One other thing that I would like to pass on is the news that Mrs Sarah Hawes (deputy Headteacher) will be leaving us in July. Mrs Hawes has secured a headship for September, back in her home county of Yorkshire. Over her six years Mrs Hawes has been a fabulous teacher; a great deputy and a pivotal figure in the school's success. Whilst thrilled for her, we will all miss her hugely. The process to find a new deputy has already begun.

The school was inspected by Ofsted on Tuesday 27th March. A report will soon appear on both the school's website and the Ofsted website in the coming weeks.

The school has continued to enjoy great support from the Secker Trust.

Nick King,
Headteacher

Scarning Annual Parish Meeting 2018

Report from District Cllrs Paul Hewett and Lynda Turner

Elected Ward members for Shipdham with Scarning, inc Cranworth (encompassing Cranworth, Cranworth High Common, Letton, Southburgh and Woodrising)

We thought it would be helpful to remind residents of the role of elected District Councillors and how we represent you.

Once elected, despite any party affiliation, councillors will and do represent every member of their wards, on a range of matters large and small.

Duties include attending many District Council meetings, including full Council.

Other meetings attended include those with Norfolk County Council, Breckland Bridge, Town and Parish Forums, planning committees on residents' behalf, local plan development, and those other District committees on which we sit including Governance and Audit, Overview and Scrutiny, Member Development Panel, and the Silver Social Project Board. Occasionally we are asked to work as part of a Task and Finish Sub group looking at a specific issue, and currently these include Social Housing (Flagship), and Public Loans Work Board.

We also sit on a number of external boards to represent the Council such as the Older People's Forum, and Lynda is the Breckland Older People's Champion

Our ward covers three diverse areas: Cranworth and its hamlets, Scarning including Old Scarning and the vast housing estate adjacent to Dereham and Shipdham, a local service centre. However all have the same issues that are important to their residents.

Our key role is to represent and assist all of our residents, and that includes attending three parish councils and other pertinent meetings, such as consultation on the A47 (Scarning), village development (Shipdham) and flooding/drainage (Cranworth)

Topics we have covered in the past year include: planning applications, breaches and appeals, dog fouling, vulnerable residents, housing, homelessness, grants, traffic (inc Shipdham Church wall bends), health and wellbeing, flooding and drainage, highways issues, and crisis management.

Breckland Council has a balanced budget for 2018/19, including the removal of reliance on government grants. Its portfolio of investments realises over £2M income a year, which helps keep council tax low. Across the UK, Breckland Council still has the lowest District council tax element of your total bill whilst maintaining front line services. The council is able to reserve £1M for homelessness, £1.7M for sustainable community projects, and £950,000 for provision of broadband, as well as supporting other projects such as the Market Town Initiative and services for older people.

A list of Breckland Key Achievements for 2017/18 is attached, based on the four priorities in the Corporate Plan.

Norfolk County Council Report for Scarning Parish Council's Annual Parish Meeting - 16 April 2018

Infrastructure

Broadband - We are on course to increase superfast broadband access in Norfolk to 95 per cent by March 2020, but we need to do more to reach the final 5 per cent. So we're looking to invest an additional £13m into the programme to extend superfast broadband coverage and get us much closer to our goal of eliminating broadband inequality in the county.

Mobile coverage - NCC is striving to improve the county's mobile coverage (with a target of 98%) - working with the big four mobile providers and identifying opportunities to work together to improve the quality and reach of mobile data and voice coverage in Norfolk.

A47 - NCC continues to work with Highways England to develop proposals for sections of dualling on the A47 and junction improvements to deliver the already funded projects (over £300m) as soon as possible. In Norfolk, this has seen the preferred scheme solutions announced by HE for dual carriageways between Easton and North Tuddenham, and from Blofield to Burlingham.

We are also actively engaging - with the A47 Alliance - in securing the next round of funding for further trunk road improvements due to be delivered between 2020 and 2025.

Children's Services

A good education - in July 2017 for the first time, Norfolk reached or exceeded the national average for the proportion of good and outstanding schools, with 90% of Norfolk's school now judged as good or better by Ofsted.

School buildings - since May 2017, we have approved £169m of capital investment in school buildings, to develop new and extended schools, making sure that there are enough school places across the county, responding to both population growth and housing development. The new schools are being developed as the education landscape across the county continues to change, with 43% of Norfolk's schools now academies.

With the six 30 hours childcare schemes, separately funded by a Government grant, this will be complete for delivery by the end of April 2018. Two, at Scarning and Marham, are already complete.

Ofsted turnaround - NCC's Ofsted report was published in January 2018, lifting NCC out of intervention, praising our outstanding adoption service and highlighting significant improvements in support to children in our care and care leavers. Overall, we require improvement but the good judgement we all want to see is now in sight.

Adult Social Care

£35m boost for adult social care - this welcome one-off funding from the Government helped address pressures in the health and social care system and followed extensive national lobbying by local authorities, including Norfolk. The money has helped us recruit 50 social workers, as well as contributing to new preventative activities to reduce and delay the need for formal care and support the safe discharge of people from hospital.

Norfolk, Living Well - our campaign to recruit 50 social workers coincided with the introduction of this new approach to social work, promoting people's strengths and independence. Also known as the three conversations model, it is already operating successfully elsewhere and is about looking at what is going well in somebody's life and building on that to make things better for them.

Communities

In April **Norfolk Community Learning Services (NCLS)** was shortlisted for a national award in recognition of its performance turnaround. NCLS was one of six national finalists in the Most Improved Council category of the Municipal Journal's Local Government Achievement Awards. The judges recognised that, in just fifteen months, the service managed to turn an 'Inadequate' Ofsted rating into a 'Good'. There is enormous pride among NCLS staff that they improved their performance and service to learners in such a short space of time.

We are continuing to extend **Open Libraries** to more branches, giving customers access to libraries beyond staffed opening hours, by using their membership cards to access library buildings. This initiative ran successfully as a pilot project and the aim is to offer this service at all libraries.

Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service - In 2016/17 attended 7,340 incidents and rescued over 700 people.

Our drive to fill vacancies for on-call firefighters across Norfolk continues. The number of vacancies has decreased over recent months but there is still work to do to fill the remaining gaps in cover. Many of the recruitment difficulties are caused by the rural locations of fire stations and the need for on-call staff to live or work within five minutes of them.

WILLIAM RICHMOND
County Councillor for Dereham North
(Including Scarning)

SCARNING VILLAGE HALL & ESTATE TRUST

REG CHARITY NO 1069370

To Scarning Parish Council AGM 16/04/2018

The Scarning & Estate Trust is a registered Charity and was established in 1902 by a former Rector of Scarning the Reverend Dr. Augustus Jessopp DD.

The Charity has been run by a dedicated group of Trustees and a small Team of Officers ever since its conception and is run in line and overseen by and with the Charity Commission for England to Statutes set in place in 1902,

The Hall has been extensively remodeled and extended and was rededicated and reopened on the 18th of November 2006 to help meet the needs of the ever growing Village of Scarning and the surrounding District the Trustees/Officers endeavor to keep the facilities within the Hall and Grounds in good/safe order and are looking to redecorate the entire building during this summer, The Breckland Council have issued a 5 Star rating for the Hall again this year this is for a Low Risk Business establishment,

The Hall continues to be a very popular small/medium letting Hall for many varied uses throughout the year for Family parties, Coffee mornings once a month to raise funds for Scarning Church upkeep Waste Paper re-cycling happens at the Coffee mornings on the second Saturday morning of each month and is organized by the Vice Chairman of Scarning Parish Council Mr. Charles Hewson the proceeds of this voluntary service goes towards the Church upkeep and is very much appreciated,

Up until recently there was a Theatrical group, Thai Kwando group, and Weight Watchers group meeting weekly these have now finished for various reasons,

There are weekly Art groups, Table tennis groups, many regular one off uses such as WI meetings Parish Council, Parochial Church Council, poultry club etc.

The Trust was delighted last year to facilitate the Scarning Preschool in the Hall for the duration of the building of the New Preschool in the grounds of Scarning Primary School this was a really positive collaboration the Trust enjoyed very much the challenge of meeting the Preschools needs, We were also extremely grateful to the regular Hall users the Art group and Table Tennis group in particular that had to vacate the Scarning Hall during the building of the Preschool and find alternative accommodation at Wendling Village Hall to continue their activities,

We do have bookings available for usage meeting the criteria of our Statutes/hire forms to make a booking please contact our Booking Secretary Nick Hartley on 01362 687492.

Hire fees etc are posted on the Scarning village website. [www.scarning/info](http://www.scarning.info)

With Best Wishes from us all at the Scarning Village Hall and Estate Trust.

Report prepared by Alan Glister Chairman to the S.V.H & Estate Trust 05/04/2018

Scarning PCC Report to Scarning Annual Parish Meeting – 16 April 2018

Scarning Church occupies a prominent position in the centre of the village and it is, therefore, important for the church and churchyard to be kept in reasonable condition. The PCC is grateful for the help provided by the Parish Council in terms of cutting the grass and maintaining the church clock. The PCC is investigating the possibility of the church being open to visitors every day but there are a number of security and health and safety issues to be addressed before this can happen.

Once again, the PCC paid its parish share to the Diocese in full.

The church is fortunate to have its own team of bell-ringers who play regularly for services and indeed help out at St Nicholas in Dereham.

In 2017 the PCC received the quinquennial inspection report from its architect. All churches have these five yearly inspections which are funded by the Diocese. Invariably they result in a long list of projects categorised by urgency. Our architect identified £133,000 of work to be done by 2023 and a further £85,000 of desirable improvements – a daunting prospect. Work to the windows in the north wall was listed as urgent and the PCC has already had one of the nave windows and one of the stained glass windows repaired at a cost of £16,000. It is hoped that work on the remaining windows might be undertaken in 2019 to 2020. The contractor is fully booked until next March in any event. Other works undertaken this year include health and safety improvements to the tower floors and lighting.

Although the interior of the building is much drier than it was before the major drainage works, it is still extremely cold in the winter and the PCC is investigating the cost of more effective heating. This will require an upgrade to the building's electricity supply. The two notice boards are also due to be refurbished.

We continue to build links with Scarning School. The school is too large to visit all at once so we hold a service for younger children at Christmas and one for the older children at Easter.

In terms of clergy, Revd James Rosie joined the ministry team in 2017 bringing the team back up to strength. However, the Curate, Dominique Turnham had a maternity leave. Ralph, her son, now accompanies her to services. We are fortunate in having a service every week and special services at Easter and Christmas which attract large congregations.

Fund raising events included a strawberry tea, a pop up shop of ladies' fashions, a flower arranging demonstration, the annual church cycle ride, the newspaper collection organised by Charles Hewson, sales of Frank Foreman's books and CDs, a concert with fish and chips supper and a Christmas Fair. The monthly coffee mornings held in the Village Hall on the second Saturday of each month are extremely popular – with bacon butties a key component. The PCC thanks everyone involved in organising and supporting these events.

The village website now includes a plan and directory of burials and interments in the churchyard.

The PCC hopes to organise an event over the Norfolk Day weekend in July and another to tie in with the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War. Discussions are underway about the provision of a flagpole in the churchyard as part of the village's marking of the anniversary.

The PCC was sorry to see the suspension of *Scarning News* and hopes that it might be reinstated as a key means of communication with village residents.

Looking over to the church this evening, the daffodils look delightful – complementing those in the rest of the village. Later on, the poppies provided by Dereham Rotary Club will bloom near the memorial – a fitting reminder of the sacrifices made by small village communities.

Sue Rockley, PCC Secretary

Scarning Conservation Volunteers / Scarning Water Meadows 2017/18 report.

Management of Scarning Water Meadows (SWM) has followed much the same pattern as previous years:

1. Controlling rank growth by cutting and clearing Lucy's Meadow with volunteers and helped by two sessions by the TCV Group.
2. Some cutting of the main areas by contractor which unfortunately was done very late (Dec) and with the wet weather cuttings have still not been collected.

(We are considering using a 'cut and collect' contractor for 2018 which means just one operation)

3. On going battle against the alien species Himalayan Balsam. At least four pulling sessions were undertaken in 2017.
 4. The two scrapes made in 2015/16 have been monitored and found to have been invaded by crassula helmsii, an invasive species. Much as it is good for wildlife the plan is to fill the scrapes in and leave for at least a year to eradicate the plant. Maybe re-dig on the same sites or elsewhere.
 5. A proposal for Norfolk Wildlife Trust to take on management of SWM, which is part of a County Wildlife Site (CWS), to link with their sites north and south along the Dereham Stream, has not progressed at this time.
 6. Work was undertaken by Breckland and the IDB to improve drainage on the west side of the playing field. Scrub was cleared and the ditch dug out. This has not proved entirely satisfactory so further work is due to be done this year to improve the outflow.
 7. Litter, dog mess and rubbish continues to be problem. Recently two dumped bikes and a shopping trolley have been dealt with. Vandalism has also occurred to structures and the info board on Lucy's Meadow was severely damaged and had to be taken away for repair and then re-installed.
 8. The 'trod' path along the west boundary has settled well and is well used. It now needs some make up in low places.
 9. There is still a need for local people to become involved and support the voluntary effort to maintain the area for the benefit of wildlife and as a place for enjoyment and exercise.
- Information is on the Scarning web site www.scarning.info , along with task dates and contact details.

There is also a need for a community litter pick around the village before new growth obscures things. Volunteers again needed to come forward! Reports in the newspapers show many other villages make it an annual event to improve the look of their environment.