

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting

Held at Haddiscoe Village Hall
on Monday 15th May 2023 at 7:00pm

1. **Present:**

Cllr Chidgey, Cllr Fulcher, Cllr Robinson, Cllr Beever arrived at 7.10pm.
In attendance: L Fulcher, Parish Clerk, 10 Parishioners
Apologies received and accepted from County Cllr Stone.
The Meeting was chaired by Cllr Chidgey, who welcomed all in attendance.

2. **Approve and sign the minutes of the last meeting held on 4th April 2022**

These were approved by Cllr Fulcher and seconded by Cllr Robinson.
No matters arising from these minutes.

3. **Annual Reports**

Haddiscoe Parish Council

As the previous Parish Council Chairman will be moving out of the village, he had not put himself forward at the elections the previous week. 4 Councillors were re-elected A new Chair and Vice Chair will be voted in at the Annual Parish Council Meeting following this meeting. There were still 3 vacancies on the council which will also be discussed at the Annual Parish Council Meeting. Cllr Chidgey kindly gave a brief report to the parishioners present and included the planning difficulties over the previous year and how the Council had supported the Stopit2 campaign in opposing the two quarry planning applications on Crab Apple Lane and Wiggs Road.

District Councillor

The Clerk had tried to contact the new District Councillor, Andrew Evans but had not been able to. Our previous District Councillor James Knight sent in a report which was read out by Cllr Chidgey and is attached (appendix 1)

County Councillor

There was no report received from the County Councillor.

South Norfolk Safer Neighbourhood Team

PC King was due to attend tonight's meeting but had not arrived. The Clerk will invite him to the next ordinary meeting as there was concern throughout the village with the speeding, this was also echoed by the parishioners present. The Clerk will also look at the possibility of setting up a community speed watch team in the village.

Haddiscoe Village Hall

Lee Howell has recently been voted in as Chair of Haddiscoe Village Hall Committee and spoke about bringing the hall into the modern world with a possible wi-fi connection. He hoped to encourage more bookings at the Hall and have regular events for the community there and he had lots of new ideas to bring to the committee going forward. The Council all

Signed..... Date.....

Chairperson

agreed that this was a very positive thing for the community. It has been 73 years since the Parish Council passed the responsibility and trust of the Village Hall to The Village Hall Committee.

Haddiscoe Charity and Haddiscoe Church

Unfortunately, David Mullender who represents the Charity and Church is unable to attend by Cllr Chidgey read out a report (appendix 2 attached) that he submitted. The Council thanked Mr Mullender for this.

Stopit 2 Campaign

David Abbott spoke on behalf of the Stopit2 committee. The committee was set up in Oct 22 as many villagers were concerned with the planning quarry application by Breedons on Crab Apple Lane and the proposed land fill application by John Brooks on Wiggs Road. These applications would be very significant for the parishioners in Haddiscoe. Stopit2 members have been round the village to conduct a poll and at present 83% of parishioners are against the applications. There is a membership of 260 for the campaign.

David explained the regulation 25 process to those present and said there would be a wait of several months before a second consultation would take place and the process started again.

The Planning Officer for Wiggs Road has told Stopit2 that objections can still be submitted for this application and David encouraged this.

Stopit2 had spoken to Richard Bacon, MP and were hopeful that he will visit both sites in the coming weeks. He has already objected to the to the Breedon application and they were hopeful that he would do the same with the Wiggs Road application.

Stopit2 have organised fundraising events with many more planned in the future. Funds need to be raised to pay for the legal challenge and to use qualified legal professionals who specialise in these cases.

The meeting closed at 7:49pm. Parishioners were invited to stay for the Annual Parish Council meeting that followed.

Signed..... Date.....

Chairperson

Appendix 1

District Councillor Report

Annual Parish Council Meeting Report - April 2023

South Norfolk Council has made big strides in the past year, helping the district address a whole variety of challenges including Covid recovery, energy & general living costs, and supporting Ukrainian refugees.

Since 2007, council tax in South Norfolk has increased by 25% less than inflation. This year, we have approved a capital budget of £113m, whilst freezing council tax for a ninth time.

Ours is a balanced, affordable budget that does not draw from reserves.

But there have been no cuts in services – in fact we’re doing more, and doing it for less. For every family, in every street and place in our district.

This year we’re committing an extra £1.3million pounds for those in need, so we can continue to help 500 households a month address the cost of living and other challenges.

Our day-to-day work covers 86 different activities and includes:

- Keeping people fit and healthy with new country parks and investment in leisure facilities.
- Generating 50% of our council tax income from trading activities – building homes, including our share of the affordable homes that are so important; this has meant that every home lost to the right to buy has been replaced.
- Providing commercial space for business to prosper & expand.
- Teaching 3,000 kids to swim each year in our swimming pools – which will now be heated by renewable energy sources.

South Norfolk has been growing at 1pc per year for 50 years, and publications like the Sunday Times rank us as one of the best places to live in the country. That’s because quality of life is so good. We have matched housing growth with infrastructure investment.

But it’s not just about growth – we care about our environment too, in fact we are already the most energy efficient council in Norfolk, having saved more carbon than any other – 700 tonnes since we began measuring our carbon footprint.

In May, we will (alongside Broadland District Council) be moving to our new low-carbon building - which has over 2,500 solar panels and will use 84% less energy than our old offices; not only that – we’re installing air source heat pumps too. And we’ve committed to provide EV Charging points for every village that wants one.

Meanwhile, we’ve delivered 400 grants in the last 4 years, including 40 larger Community Action Fund grants. During my time as your councillor, I’ve been delighted to source grant funding for a range of projects including defibrillators, playground enhancements, PA equipment, access improvements for people with disabilities, a village hall noticeboard, and acoustic improvements for a village hall – all bringing genuine community benefits across our parishes.

I’m very proud to have been part of a team that has put South Norfolk first, developed the foundations to deliver the important things that residents and business value the most, and the ambition to build a bigger green economy to support future generations.

Signed..... Date.....

Chairperson

As you may know, I no longer qualify to stand for election in South Norfolk, having sold our local business just over a year ago. However, I've enjoyed representing the residents of

Thurlton, Haddiscoe, Toft Monks, Gillingham, Aldeby, Wheatacre & Burgh St Peter for the past 4 years and hope to be able to do the same for others if I am elected to Broadland District Council on May 4th.

Thank you very much for your encouragement and for welcoming me as your district councillor, and I wish good fortune to my successor.

James Knight

16th April 2023

Appendix 2

The following constitutes a report for Haddiscoe Parish Council outlining the roles and objectives of the Haddiscoe Charity and Haddiscoe Parochial Church Council, as detailed by David Mullender, Chairman of the Charity and Churchwarden to St. Mary's Church, Haddiscoe.

The Haddiscoe Charity

The Charity currently consists of five members who work to administer the Haddiscoe Charity for the benefit of the community. The Clerk maintains minutes of meetings and an updated book of accounts for each year, detailing how money raised from marsh rents owned by the Charity are collected and dispersed for the village.

The remainder of the Charity members are Trustees, while the Chairman is an ex-officio member representing the Church. Formerly this role was taken by the vicar, however, since the local church is now part of a benefice of 14 churches, it is no longer possible for the vicar to be the Chair, so the Churchwarden has taken his place.

The Charity meets several times a year to discuss matters arising from its land, payments of rents, community projects and assistance payments to parishioners.

Rents paid for land owned by the Charity allows it to provide assistance to parishioners who are in need of support. Traditionally, assistance was provided through bags of coal/logs for elderly residents to use in their fires during the winter months, however, the change to electrical or oil heating systems means financial support is now the preferred method of support.

Parishioners can be recommended to the Charity for assistance, not just during winter when fuel bills increase, but also when unexpected financial hardship occurs, such as paying for a funeral, bouts of sudden ill health or terminal illness. The Charity has also been instrumental in having the defibrillator unit fitted in the village phone box on The Street and pays for its upkeep and maintenance.

Mr David Mullender, Chairman.

St. Mary's Parochial Church Council:

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) currently consists of six members who work to support St.

Signed..... Date.....

Chairperson

Mary's Church for the Diocese of Norwich. The Churchwarden is elected annually by the PCC to supervise the building on behalf of the vicar and Bishop and to ensure the orderly progress of worship. Members of the PCC do not have to be church-goers or communicants but should have an interest in helping to keep the church open for the public.

In law, the PCC is a charity whose focus is to support the church in the following areas:

- 1.) Upkeep of the building: St. Mary's is a 1,100-year-old church which requires constant attention, repair and maintenance. In common with all churches, the building does not receive funding from the Church of England but is responsible for its own upkeep. The PCC works closely with the Churchwarden and the Fabrics Officer to ensure any repairs are noted and acted on as soon as possible. Grants for major repairs (where available) are sought from charities affiliated with historic buildings, such as the Norfolk Churches Trust or the National Lottery. Parishioners or other members of the public are also able to assist in supporting St. Mary's by making donations via the wall box in the church, online via 'A Church Near You' website, or by setting up a Standing Order for monthly donations by contacting the Churchwarden.
- 2.) Parish Share: the PCC is also responsible for raising sufficient funds each year to meet its Parish Share obligations as determined by the Diocese of Norwich. Each church across the Diocese must pay Parish Share which is used to pay clergy and administration fees. St. Mary's has paid this year's Share of £2,500 from financial reserves but has in the past been expected to raise over £5,000, only a small proportion of which could be covered from reserves.
- 3.) Mission and Ministry: the PCC works alongside the incumbent (Rev. David Smith, who is responsible for the Waveney Marshlands Benefice, a group of 14 churches including St. Mary's) to increase mission and ministry. This includes holding regular services of worship (a Holy Communion service on the first Sunday of each month at 9:30am and an Evening Prayer service at 4pm on the second Sunday) as well as raising money for charitable causes. Over the past year, the PCC has made donations to the DEC Appeal in Turkey and Syria, the Ukraine Appeal and to the Childrens' Society. The PCC has also set up a small food bank in the church vestry for parishioners to use during the cost-of-living crisis.
- 4.) Worship: the PCC works to ensure that the church building remains open for worship, not only by maintaining a friendly, well-maintained interior, but also by fundraising through community events, such as Open Gardens and Book Sales. The church is also used for Carol Services, Christingle (for families), Easter services and our unique and beautiful Luminaria service in early December when the church is decorated with hundreds of paper lanterns to welcome the season of Advent. The church has an open-door policy, meaning parishioners are able to use it whenever they wish for reflection or private prayer. Baptisms, weddings, funerals and interments can also be arranged, along with Home Communion for those unable to attend church. There is also an annual Act of Remembrance at the war memorial in the churchyard to remember the men from Haddiscoe who died in the two world wars. St. Mary's is always happy to welcome new congregants to services, new faces at fundraising events and is always looking for new members to join the PCC to help maintain this historic and peaceful space for the benefit of the community for future generations.

Mr. David Mullender, Churchwarden.

Signed..... Date.....

Chairperson