

## **BRANDESTON PARISH COUNCIL**

### Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held at the Village Hall on 20 May 2009

Present : Councillors D Risk (Chairman), S Thurlow, H. Saxton, K Churchill, P Summers, J Fielder and W Elson

Clerk and RFO A M Hounsell

County Cllr P Bellfield

Dist Cllr Bob Snell

PCSO C Hassler

Rev R Alderson

10 Parishioners

#### **1-0910 - Chairman's welcome and Apologies for Absence**

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting and advised that apologies had been received from Jackie Hounsell, Ruth Garratt, Anne Hayward, Peter and Trish Smyth, Sarah Thorne, Darryl Morgan, Rick and Pam Reade and Parish Historical Recorder Mrs W Woodland.

#### **2-0809 - Minutes of previous Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Meeting**

The minutes of the previous Annual Parish meeting of 14 May 2008 and the Parish Meeting of 11 February 2009 were accepted by the meeting and signed by the Chairman as true records

#### **3-0910 - Matters arising from previous minutes**

- (i) Local Development Framework (previous minute 6-0809/1, 11 February 2009)  
The Clerk confirmed that Suffolk Coastal District Council had been advised of the Parish Council's and the parishioners' views (as expressed at the meeting of 11 February 2009) and had been acknowledged by them
- (ii) Drainage and flooding in The Street (previous minute 3-0809, 14 May 2008)  
The Clerk advised that the Parish Council had continued to press Suffolk County Council, Highways Dept. about the unsatisfactory drainage and further work had been completed. However, this issue was still ongoing and the Council were continuing to press SCC. More work would be undertaken in the near future. It was hoped that this would resolve the problems at the northern end of The Street.

#### **4-0910 - Chairman's Review of 2008-09.**

The Chairman reported upon the Council's work over the year – see attached notes

#### **Chairman agreed to bring forward agenda items 7 and 8**

#### **7.1-0910 - Report from Suffolk County Councillor**

Cty. Cllr P Bellfield reported to the meeting – see attached

#### **7.2-0910 Report from Suffolk Coastal District Councillor**

Dist Cllr Bob Snell, reported to the meeting – see attached.

#### **8-0910 – Report from Local Police Officer**

PCSO Christian Hassler reported - see attached

#### **5-0910 - Financial Report**

Before setting out his report, the RFO referred to the confusing statistics shown in the Council Tax demand from SCDC for 2009-10. The proportion of Council Tax attributed to the Parish Council precept was shown as increasing by 5.5%. The RFO had queried this with SCDC who had explained that this was a statistical quirk. The actual increase was 2.4%. The RFO stated that the TOTAL increase in Brandeston Parish Council's precept over the last 4 years was in fact 5.0%.

The RFO then provided a brief summary report indicating that the Council's financial affairs remained healthy (see attached). He also thanked Mr D Evans for his help in carrying out the internal audit of the Council's accounts.

### **6-0910 - Village Hall**

Mr Nick Holland-Brown Treasurer of the Village Hall Management Committee, presented a brief report whilst advising that there would be a full report to the Annual General Meeting of the Hall – see attached

### **9-0910 – Disposal of Dog Litter**

Cllr S Thurlow stated that it had been reported to her that dog fouling was being collected in polythene bags which are then thrown in hedges. It was suggested that a more responsible approach would be to get encourage dogs to “do it” in hedges – thus avoiding the need for non bio-degradable bags. After some discussion, it was proposed that the Clerk arrange for messages be placed in the Parish magazine, the website and the BRANDESTON asking residents to take a more responsible attitude to this subject and, where necessary, to take dog waste home and place it (in a suitable bag, and dispose in the grey waste collection bin. The meeting noted that irresponsible behaviour in respect of this matter could result in heavy fines and report to the police.

### **10-0910 - Any other business as may be raised and accepted as appropriate by the Chairman**

The Chairman agreed discussion of the following items :-

- (i) The continuing publication, or otherwise, of “the BRANDESTON was raised. The editor, Mr P Thurlow, mentioned the difficulty in providing material. The meeting expressed a strong view that publication should continue.
- (ii) The Chairman advised that the Council had decided to enter the Suffolk Coastal District Council Village of the Year competition and that the completed entry was shown on the village website.
- (iii) Mr R O'Brien mentioned that the village notice board at the entrance to the village hall was in poor condition and suggested that it should be replaced. The Chairman agreed that this subject be placed on the agenda for the next Council meeting.

Mr N Hayward proposed and the meeting agreed a vote of thanks to the Chairman and the Council for their work on behalf of the village over the past year.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all present for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.40 pm