

Aldringham cum Thorpe Good Neighbours Scheme

Annual General Meeting Tuesday April 3rd 2018

Held at The Pavilion, Sports Field, Thorpeness

Minutes

Approx 18 people attended

1. Guest Speaker

Our Chairman Pippa McLardy introduced Michael Hall who gallantly had stepped in to replace Mike Doy our proposed speaker who had been taken ill. Michael's talk (with the able assistance of Eric Atkinson operating the overhead projector) was on his extremely interesting days with J.W. Thompson in the early days of television advertising.

2. Welcome by Chairman and Chairman's Report

Pippa welcomed everyone to the 11th Annual General Meeting with a special welcome to Sally Connick from Community Action Suffolk, who took over the responsibility for Good Neighbours schemes in Suffolk.

Pippa recounted how her day had transpired after hearing the news about Mike Doy and how she had suddenly remembered our own Michael Hall and his long and illustrious career in television. Pippa thanked Michael profusely for stepping in at the last minute and for having spend most of his day putting together his talk to us.

Pippa reported that during the last 12 months the volunteers had varied out 122 tasks that had been recorded in the book, although she was aware that most of the volunteers carried out good deeds by the score that never got mentioned or entered in the book. 58 of this year's tasks involved transport to medical facilities – a lot of them to Ipswich hospital, although other were as far afield as Southwold and Woodbridge.

Currently there are 31 volunteers and 20 regular, or occasionally regular client users, and these client users do not include the volunteers who call on each other for assistance from time to time.

The first community lunch of the year was on February 9th and much enjoyed by 18 diners. The next lunches will be on 8th June and 30th November at the Parrot and September 14th at the Dolphin. Pippa thanked David James, the landlord of

both establishments for his continuing to provide excellent two course lunches at a bargain price to us. The annual Garden Party will be on July 4th (or another date to be determined) and we will be collecting items for the raffle of a PICNIC style hamper. Pippa also hopes to start distributing a letter to those we help which will list dates for their diaries and other useful information, such as where to obtain the Call Guardian telephone which blocks unwanted calls.

All of the current Steering Group have agreed to continue in their present positions on the Steering Group stand again this year and you will have an opportunity to re-elect them if you choose. If you have any other suggestions for Steering Group members, please feel free to make them. In addition, Pippa has asked Wendy Sturmeay to stand as Vice-Chairman and hopes that this meets with your approval. Pippa explained that she would be standing down next year and will be nominating Wendy and Mick as joint successors. You will be invited to make your own nominations before next year's AGM.

3. **Apologies.**

Apologies were received from Sue Allen, Jane McLoughlin, Christine Laschet, Roger Searle, Mair Dawson, Arthur and Joy Day.

4. **The Minutes of the 2017 AGM.**

Proposed by Wendy Sturmeay and seconded by Peter Holmes the minutes of the 2017 AGM were unanimously approved.

5. **Treasurer's Report**

Sydney Graham presented the **Treasurer's Report** starting with the news that due to the closure of the Norwich & Peterborough there was a change of banks to a Community Account with Barclays. Terms and conditions we had with Norwich & Peterborough would be exactly the same with Barclays – i.e. no bank charges.

General Donations and proceeds from raffles we held at the Garden Party and Volunteers Coffee Morning totalled £226.60. This did not include a donation from the Parish Council of £200.00 which we received the previous year so fund raising was actually higher in 2017-2018 than in 2016-2017. Expenses were up by £42.44 from last year. This included the cost of the Volunteers Coffee Morning and a donation made to the RSPB at last year's AGM. However we saved money by having no expenses for the spring Garden Party.

We are currently in funds of £484.69 in the bank account and £50.35 in petty cash so finances are looking pretty healthy. Copies of the year end statements (verified thanks to Roger Searle) are available for you to look at. There is also a donation box next to the statements – and as you know every little bit helps!

6. **Election of the Steering Group**

Pippa McLardy advised the meeting that there was a nomination to elect the Steering Group en bloc. If no one had any objections then this was what would be done. There being no objections, Jo Valance proposed and Andrew McLardy seconded that the current Steering Group be re-elected. This motion was carried unanimously.

The Steering Group will next meet on Tuesday June 12th 2018 in the Tower Room at the Almshouses – 7:00 p.m. Prompt!

7. **AOB. None**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.