

**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING  
ALDRINGHAM-CUM-THORPE PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON 5TH MARCH 2018  
TOWER ROOM, THORPENESS**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT: THE CHAIRMAN, THE CLERK, 6 COUNCILLORS, 2 PARISHIONERS and 7 GUEST SPEAKERS**

**1. APOLOGIES**

**SCC Councillor Russ Rainger, Mr S. Squirrell, Mr B Crow & Rev'd Mark Lowther**

**2. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Meeting**

Good evening everybody and welcome to the Annual Parish Meeting, an opportunity for you the voluntary and community groups to share what you have been doing in the last twelve months and perhaps give a glimpse of your aspirations for the future.

This year I would ask that as we hear of all the things that happen in the Parish, we all consider how working closer within the community could we do even more. As previously I will give my report at the end so as not to pre-empt anyone else's report.

**3.** Minutes of the last meeting held on 6<sup>TH</sup> March 2017 were approved and signed as a true record.

**4. REPORTS FROM LOCAL ORGANISATIONS**

- A. St Andrews Church – Mrs Sue Atkinson read on behalf of Rev'd Mark Lowther
- B. Suffolk County Council – Read on his behalf
- C. Suffolk Coastal District Council – Councillor T. J. Haworth
- D. TCFG Coastal Protection – Mr Mike Chandler
- E. Heritage Group – Mr Arthur Day
- F. Safer Cycling – Mr M Laschet
- G. ImpACTS
- H. Trustees of Sports Field & Pavilion – Mr Eric Atkinson
- I. Good Neighbours – Mrs Pippa McLardy
- J. Coldfair Green School
- K. Aldringham Neighbourhood Watch - apologies
- L. Neighbourhood Watch/Beach Clean – Mr B Crow read in his absence

**5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

At the beginning of 2017 we were still short of two Councillors, however I am pleased to report we now have a full complement of nine councillors with Brian Davies from Aldringham and Katherine Shadbolt from Thorpeness joining us.

## **PLANNING**

As always planning applications continue to occupy council time, however there were 29 applications were considered, 23 were supported by the Parish Council and 6 were not supported because of either location, design and/or scale of the proposed developments were not appropriate.

The site on Old Homes Road has seen work start and the foundations and infrastructure in place.

The allocated land east of Aldeburgh Road and South of the driveway to Aldringham House has been purchased by Hopkins Homes who are proposing to build forty houses as per allocation document, 13 of them will be built as affordable housing. We have seen a first draft of the proposed layout, which shows the area of land to the roadside which is part of the designated Special Landscape Area being respected and kept clear of development.

Although the Local Plan Site allocation process was only completed in mid 2016, the government has asked that all councils carry out a complete review their plans including site allocations to meet new higher targets, this has to be completed by 2019. The initial consultation was carried out from August to October and we completed a full review of the document. The draft plan should be published for consultation later this year.

## **SIZEWELL**

Following the completion of Phase 2 Consultation for Sizewell C in January 2017, discussion continues on the various proposals that were outlined in the document and EDF continue to carry out appraisal work.

## **OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE**

I would also like to mention a few more things that have happened over the year that have not been covered:

- a) As always traffic management and road safety still remain an issue in both Aldringham and Thorpeness as in many parishes across the Country.

The B1122 between Aldringham and Aldeburgh saw the 40 mph speed limit Introduced along its whole length in April.

- b) Potholes

In December two of us attended a information event at Suffolk Highways new East Suffolk centre in Halesworth, at which they outlined their reorganisation, their strategy to provide improved services and their new reporting and work management system which is designed to improve work prioritisation and efficient working. I would encourage anyone who has a concern to report it and get a report number so you are able to track the progress.

- c) Verges and Footpaths

Overgrown roadside verges together with the overgrown footpaths continue to be a concern and we have had very early discussions with the county highways on more innovative thinking on how they can be better maintained.

We are fortunate to have a number of volunteers in the area who are actively helping to maintain our footpaths and verges and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their efforts.

d) Flooding

Despite improvement work being carried out at the development site at the bottom of Old Homes Road flooding continues to be a problem.

This year has also seen the return of flooding outside the Parrot, Highways have made an attempt to clear the drains, but say there is a significant blockage along the drain pipe to the Horse pond behind the Parrot. Despite the early attempts to escalate the priority of this work we are now hopeful it will be given greater priority as the new BT box at the bottom of back lane is under threat of flooding.

For information, the highest priority for flooding which is currently being dealt with is where there is a direct threat to property.

e) Parish Website

Ten years after starting our Parish Website and developing it into the excellent source of information that it is today Louise Chadwick has taken the opportunity at the time of a significant upgrade, she has now pass the baton onto Tracy Norman who has kindly taken on the challenge of maintaining it in the future. I would like to record a big THANK YOU for all the time and effort that Louise has put into the website and delivering an award winning website we can be proud of.

The upgrade has not gone as smoothly as we would have hoped and Tracy is spending time implementing new features and reformatting many of the pages. Thanks to Tracy for taking this on.

f) Emergency Plan

Roger Brown has volunteered to use his skills in emergency planning to complete our Parish Emergency plan. Good progress has been made and a useable draft is ready for use. Thanks to Roger.

g) England Coastal Path – We have had draft copy of a preferred route, which should go out to public consultation this year.

h) Thorpeness Car Park Lease for the land for a Heritage/Visitors Centre – We have received a draft of the lease which we have reviewed and are in the process of signing.

## PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Work on the neighbourhood plan has not been progressed for the last six months as we have been considering the Issues and Options for the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan Review, which could have far reaching consequences for all our towns and parishes and could have a significant impact on the contents of our Neighbourhood Plan.

As you will have seen in the recent Parish Newsletters we have also agreed to carry out a feasibility study to provide affordable housing in Thorpeness. (An area with a high number of second homes) this is at an early stage with fact finding work and background information being gathered.

It is hoped to restart the work on the plan soon with both the above being actively progressed.

FINALLY

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone including you, the local businesses, those who organise local leisure and recreational groups and all who have contributed time and effort in making Aldringham-cum-Thorpe a better place to live.

As mentioned at the beginning I hope you might have identified a few opportunities where we can work together and grow our community in a way that will ensure we have an enriching and sustainable future.

I would especially like to thank my fellow councillors for all they do for the Parish and on their behalf I would like to take this opportunity to thank Shirley for all the work she does behind the scenes.

## **6. MEETING OPENED FOR QUESTIONS/COMMENTS**

Signed  
Chairman

Date: 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019

