

FARNHAM WITH STRATFORD ST ANDREW PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held Monday 13 May 2019 at the Riverside Centre

Present: Councillors Ian Norman, Ian Tayler, Richard Ayres, Jill Pass, Gordon Gilbert, Tim Plant

Apologies: Councillor Andrew Reid (SCC), Councillor Carol Poulter (SCDC), Colin Lee, Rosemary Conibeer

In attendance: Parish clerk Debbi Tayler, four members of the public

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Reid (SCC) and Poulter (SCDC), Colin Lee, Rosemary Conibeer, Judith Norman and Rev Rachel Cornish.

2 Minutes of meetings held 14 May 2018

The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed at the parish council meeting in June 2018.

3 Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4 Parish Council Annual Report

The clerk advised the council had commissioned Suffolk Coastal Norse Ltd to maintain the grass verges in the two villages and to also clean the two bus shelters on a regular basis.

Traffic issues on the A12 remain of concern and we continue to work closely with Suffolk County Council and EDF to secure improvements. The parish council submitted a response to Stage 3 of the public consultation for Sizewell C following a well attended public meeting.

This year the council awarded £50 grants to each of the CAB, East Anglia Childrens' Hospice, Suffolk Accident Rescue Service and Disability Advice Service (East Suffolk).

Following an uncontested election the council has a full complement of eight councillors.

The parish council has a live Twitter account, Facebook page and website.

During 2018/19 the council's income was £7768, expenditure was £6932. The precept was £4500 and the general reserve held is £2500.

5/6 Reports from County and District councillors

Councillor Reid, SCC, had provided a written report. Headlines include the launch of an innovative new fire engine, new affordable housing, superfast broadband coverage and educational attainment.

Councillor Poulter, ESC, had also provided a report. As this was 45 pages long it was suggested that anyone wishing to read it may do so on the East Suffolk Council website.

7 Alde Valley Luncheon Club Annual Report

The report was presented by the chair, Deborah Brame. The club continues to be popular with 55 members and an average attendance of 44. There are 12 volunteers, five of whom are on the committee. The meal charge remains at £5 and the club remains solvent thanks to fundraising and donations.

8 Riverside Executive Committee Annual Report

Maureen Greaves, chair of the committee, presented the report. The Riverside continues to thrive thanks to consistency in bookings and fundraising carried out by the Executive and Social Club Committees. New fire exits, a new alarm and CCTV system were installed last year. A new play area was officially opened by Councillor Carol Poulter who had provided a large sum of money from her locality budget. The sum invested was over £30,000 and in addition to other investments the Riverside met the balance from their reserves. During the next year there are plans to replace tables in the main hall as well as the curtains. There is also work to be done outside, in particular to the footbridge over the river.

A reserve is held which, if necessary, would cover the outstanding Public Works Loan currently standing at less than £20,000.

9 Parochial Church Council Annual Report

The clerk presented the report. Rachel was licensed as Rector of the Alde River Benefice in October 2018. St Mary's Farnham holds two services a month which are attended by six to eight regular members of the congregation. The church also holds a benefice service on a rota with the six other churches, these attract 30 to 40 people. Fundraising remains a focus with many events being put on throughout the year. The amount Farnham must raise towards the Benefice Centenary Share is £6971, in 2019 it will be £7652. In addition there are ongoing costs for insurance, utility bills and maintenance as well as the priest's costs. The church remains grateful to all those who support it.

10 Public Forum

No issues were raised.

11 Any other business

There was no other business.

The meeting was closed at 20.45.

Signed.....Date: _____