

MINUTES OF AN ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF ALPHETON PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL ON 28th MAY 2013 AT 7.00PM

Apologies; There were none.

Present; Ken Watkins, Chairman, Alan Ariss, John Holdway, Richard Kemp, Maureen Lankester , Graham Maskell and Trevor Rix. Also present Julie Rix the Clerk, John Nunn, District Councillor, and eight members of the public.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. The previous Annual Meeting's minutes were signed as correct. Proposed by Graham Maskell seconded by Alan Ariss.

Chairman's report – (on file)

The Chairman reported that the last 12 months had been busy with traffic issues, flooding, community awards, on-going repairs and planning issues at the Rose and Crown in Bridge Street. The traffic monitoring so far has shown moderate speeding (a little over the limit) and only one speeding motorist caught by the mobile camera – although this was in position for only 30 minutes. Flooding in Old Bury Road has been solved.

Two individual Community Achievement Awards were won by Mrs Paddy Trevelyan and Mr Beattie-Swann, and the group award by Coffee Pot. They are to be congratulated. It would be good to enter in the under 18yrs category next year also.

Mr Kemp's Locality Budget funding has been earmarked for a new Notice Board and continued repairs to the bus shelters. He was thanked for this. The original planning application for the Rose & Crown at Bridge St was withdrawn and then re-submitted in an altered state. Objections were lodged. Babergh meet tomorrow to consider this again and Mr & Mrs Grey were present to speak at the meeting following this.

Mr Watkins was thanked.

The Chairman read a report from Alpheton and Shimpling W.I. The organisation is thriving and meets alternately in each village. ( Report on file)

Mr Kemp gave his reports for County and District Councils. There were further reductions in Government grants to the County Council this year. Savings are being made. It was disappointing to note that Suffolk Schools have dropped further down in the national league tables. There is however the prospect of faster Broadband speeds in the near future. The proposed merger of Fire Services will not take place. County Care Homes are to be divested to Care UK. On 15<sup>th</sup> November Suffolk elected Tim Passmore as their Police and Crime Commissioner. On 1<sup>st</sup> August the new library service was launched with the Industrial and Provident Society taking responsibility from the County Council.

At District level the constitution has been revised, with a more political structure. Mr Kemp also mentioned that it was not widely known that the new 101 emergency number was charged to the user, which he regarded as a disgrace. (Reports on file) Mr Kemp was thanked.

Police

A Crime Report was received (a slight increase in crimes this year was noted) and Police officer Ruth Horton and a colleague called in and offered to answer any queries. There were none. She was thanked for attending.

Finance

The accounts were presented, agreed by the council and signed by the clerk and chairman. Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Return were also completed and signed. ( Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement). The books have been audited internally by Ms Lynne Holt and have been be sent to BDO Stoy Auditors for external auditing.

This meeting closed at 7.25pm