

**Minutes of Martham Annual Village Meeting
Held in the Pearson Room, Martham Village Hall
Monday 16th May at 7.30pm**

Present

Cllr Huke Chairman

Cllrs Warnes, Wright, Beales, Horrocks, Manifold, Carberry and Jordan

PC Dick Cook

Borough Councillor Hudson

Lisa Harold Clerk

Together with 16 members of the public.

Apologies

Cllr Bob Huxtable

Borough Councillor Barry Coleman

Minutes of previous Annual Village Meeting

These were read and signed as a true record. Proposed Mrs Moore, seconded Cllr Beales.

Play Area

The Chairman reported that a new Working Party had been formed to ensure that a new play area for all ages was constructed at the Rollesby Road site. At present this party was actively seeking funds for the project and it was the wish of that party to have work started by next year.

Youth Club

As in the previous Annual Village meeting this was still a major concern. It was hoped that the new play area would alleviate some of the problems caused by some of the youth in the village. To date no full time worker had been appointed at the Youth Café.

Chairman's Summary

The Council had strived to actively work for the village in representing it's views and working on improving village life. There had been Council changes mid term.

Positive improvements within the last 12 months included the distribution of the completed Parish Plan, the commencement of building work for the new medical centre, continued web site improvements, administration improvements, Staithe Road area lease to scouts imminent, footpath maps ready for distribution, allotments new rent agreements and maintenance program, maintenance programs for the ponds, new trees on the green and continuing improvements at The Staithe.

It was hoped that the next year would bring a stable Council and the Play Area building work would be begun, continued attention to the Parish Plan, a planting project in the village and a May Fair within 3 years.

Public Questions and Comments

It was asked if a bus stop would be part of the Medical Centre development and if there were any plans to provide a transport link to the centre for elderly and disabled. Cllr Carberry had attended the Rural Clip meeting at which there were repeated requests for a bus stop. A member of the public stated that at the original presentation by the developers to the Parish Council approx 3 years ago a bus service was promised. The Chairman agreed that there was a need for this and offered Parish Council support to obtain this.

Another member of the public enquired about the cleanliness of the bus shelters and the village centre. The Chairman referred to the previous Parish Council meeting where it had been brought to

the Councils attention that the street cleaning schedule had been changed. He stated that the Parish Council were currently dealing with this issue.

Mr Beaumont complained about the cables sticking out from the footway outside the new building on Repps Road very near to the DIY. He stated that he had telephoned the borough at least 5 times to complain about this safety hazard. The Chairman asked that the Clerk chase this issue.

It was noted that there was no sign to Hemsby since the old one had been knocked down by a car. Clerk to ask Highways to replace.

Mr Gordon London congratulated the Chairman for his hands on approach as he had seen him litter picking on the green, the Chairman thanked Mr London for his remarks. Mr London also asked when the hedge around the Co op Car Park would be trimmed and why bulbs had not been planted. The Chairman stated that there had been a safety issue regarding glass from the bottle banks but this had now been resolved.

Mrs Moore stated that most litter was created by the children on their way to and from school and if told to pick it up abuse was given. Cllr Jordan stated that the school had offered support to deal with issues such as this and she should call the school to report the problem. Cllr Warnes stated that not all youths were a nuisance and most were polite and helpful and as a Parish we needed to be careful not to "tar them all with the same brush".

Borough Councillor Hudson asked that the Repps Road bus shelter anti social problems be put on the next Parish Council agenda as a serious incident had occurred in the early hours which required Police intervention.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 20.31hrs.