

COCKFIELD ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 12 May 2016 at 7.30pm in Cockfield Village Hall

Present: Parish Councillors: Derek Southgate (Chairman), Janne Cutting-Keyton, Robin Morley, Rod Portwood, Barbara Ruffell and Rodney Williams;
County Councillor: Jenny Antill;
District Councillor: Clive Arthey;
26 members of the public; and
Parish Clerk: Mr Doug Reed (who took the minutes).

2016/01 **Welcome and Introductions**

Those in attendance were welcomed formally by Parish Cllr Derek Southgate, Chairman of the Parish Council, who chaired the meeting.

2016/02 **Apologies for Absence**

Accepted from Parish Cllrs Carl Brinkley, Alan Morgan and Ralph Turner.

2016/03 **Minutes of the Last Annual Parish Meeting**

It was proposed by Parish Cllr Rod Portwood, seconded by Parish Cllr Janne Cutting-Keyton, that the minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting, held on Thursday 30 April 2015, be approved as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman. The proposal was carried. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

2016/04 **County Council**

Cllr Jenny Antill provided a full report on the County Council and on matters relevant to the village [written report held with the minutes].

2016/05 **District Council**

Cllr Clive Arthey provided a detailed report on the District Council and on matters relevant to the village [written report held with the minutes].

2016/06 **Local Area Co-ordinator**

Cally Boardman offered an insight into her work supporting people with physical/learning disabilities, mental health issues and age-related difficulties, and the potential for benefiting residents of Cockfield [leaflet held with the minutes].

2016/07 **Parish Council**

Parish Cllr Derek Southgate, as Chairman, offered a full breakdown on the activities of the Parish Council in the past year [written report held with the minutes].

2016/08 **Village Organisations and Activities**

The meeting enabled the organisations, bodies and groups which serve Cockfield to provide brief reports on their activities in the past year, to inform others about any plans for 2016-2017, and to highlight any issues they had or to submit requests for help. The following took the opportunity, and were both informative and entertaining:

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Catey Pre-School (Dick Bayes)
Cockfield CEVC Primary School (Trudie Harkin)
Community Council (Rodney Williams)
Computer Circle/Cockfield Website (Neil Ashton)
Earl's Meadow/Bruff's Line (Parish Cllr Rodney Williams)
"Green Links" (Janne Cutting-Keyton)
St Peter's Church (Revd Sharon Potter)
United Charities (Paul Heather)
Village Hall (Janne Cutting-Keyton)
Women's Institute (Morag Kelly)

It was clear yet again that the village benefited from a significant range of services and activities, and that there was an abundance of facilities, and a host opportunities for everyone to get involved in the community. Overall, the audience was pleased to hear of the many successes achieved by groups which evidenced the commitment, energy and enthusiasm of those involved and were a testament to a vibrant village.

Written reports, as supplied by some organisations, held with the minutes.

2016/09

Community Land

On behalf of the Parish Council, Parish Cllr Robin Morley briefed attendees on plans to make a bid to acquire the glebe land in the village currently in the ownership of the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich. He noted that the potential acquisition would provide an opportunity for the village to secure land for allotments and other community uses and that, importantly, such opportunities only arose infrequently. The Parish Council had undertaken initial work on the project but, before going forward, needed to engage in this consultation and to ensure that there was appropriate support for the notion. It was duly proposed by Parish Cllr Robin Morley, seconded by Parish Cllr Janne Cutting-Keyton, that the purchase be pursued using all funding opportunities available to the Parish Council. The Meeting, including all representatives of organisations, voted unanimously to support the proposal, thereby enabling the project to have the support of not only individual residents but also the organisations and bodies represented.

2016/10

Close

The Chairman thanked everyone for their time in attending, for their presentations, and for their positive and helpful contributions to the evening, before duly closing the meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.