

HOPTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Held on 11th April 2016

Present: Cllrs Mrs Plackett, Mr Cleveland, Mrs Mills, Mr Faiers, Mr Crooke, Dr Taylor, Mr Filler, B Cllr Bull, C Cllr Spicer and 7 members of the public.

- 1. Apologies.** Robert Capon.
- 2. Minutes** of the meeting on 13th April 2015 were read and approved.
- 3. Chair's Report.** The Parish Council has seen big changes this year with John Taylor, Mark Filler and latterly Patrick Crooke joining as well as the election of June Plackett as Chairman. The situation with the doctors' surgery is still ongoing. C Cllr Spicer and B Cllr Bull, the Chair and Vice Chair of the Parish Council have put in a great deal of effort and time. A committee of members from surrounding councils concerned about the surgery has been formed and met twice. Additionally much time has been spent on the Sarson's Field Development which is also still ongoing. Recently residents have been asked to pay for brown bins and Speedwatch is doing well though it is down to three active members and they would welcome new members.
- 4. C Cllr Spicer** will send a formal report for the Clerk to circulate. She thanked the Parish Council for their support in particular Cllrs Plackett and Filler for their commitment over the surgery and Sarson's Field Development. She also thanked B Cllr Bull for working together with her successfully. C Cllr Spicer was disappointed with the stream of new problems cropping up over the development. The Highways and drainage authority and Education authority are very interested in the development. She was also disappointed in the manner of the doctors' surgery sudden closure last year apart from nurses' appointments and phlebotomy. The Community Action Group (CAG) has been set up as a result. Coral Mitchell is setting up a Patient Participation Group (PPG). The surgery need to sort out improvements over dispensing. C Cllr Spicer said Highways had underspent on gritting but a lot of rain had led to flooding and pothole problems. These need to be reported accurately on the website. She was pleased with the VAS sign and Speedwatch work. She said Hopton School is the only school in her ward to be rated outstanding. She was spending £150 of her locality budget buying the "road safety officers" (schoolchildren) yellow visibility jackets.

She had given the Church a sum to connect up water. The County Council has the challenge of raising £32m this year and it is outsourcing care homes, libraries, day centres etc. They have put £12m into broadband provision.

Cllr Plackett thanked C Cllr Spicer for her hard work and support over the year.

5. **B Cllr Report.** B Cllr Bull reported that the Borough Council now had an effective enforcement department to do with planning. Also they have set up a new company, Barley Homes, who will build on any Borough or County Council land that comes forward. She informed the meeting that devolution is coming; Suffolk and Norfolk are looking to work together to have more influence on housing, welfare and youth skills.
6. **Police Report.** None.
7. **Village Hall Management Committee.** Mrs Mitchell said the hall was used regularly, maintenance work is ongoing while plans for a new hall or an extension are on the back boiler.
8. **Troupe.** There was a good production this year with new younger members and they are already planning for next year.
9. **Hopton Charities.** Doing well, £2340.76 in the black.
10. **All Saints Church.** The PCC meet four times a year. They manage the day to day running of the church, they have added security to church roof and are still trying to get a small kitchen area. Both church wardens departed in April, replacements unknown.
11. **High Street Chapel.** The Community Pastor reported that something is going on at the chapel every day such as Keep Fit, Home from Home, Kids Club on a Wednesday and a club for teenagers on a Saturday. The Well Coffee shop opened and is going well. There is a barbecue in the summer, a Harvest Festival, Quiz nights, comedy nights etc. The chapel would like to serve the community and are prepared to offer lifts to the surgery if needed. The Parish Council agreed to press the surgery to alert the chapel to anyone having transport difficulties. C Cllr Spicer said the surgery have been offered significant communications help and support but so far have not taken this up.
12. **School Report.** None.

Signed.....Date.....