

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 26th May
2009 in the Village Hall at 7.50 p.m.**

Apologies: None

Present: Mr E. G. Ascroft (Chairman), Mr J. Peal (Vice Chairman), Mrs J. Murray, Mr P. Jackson, Mr. L Johnson, Mr J. Murray, Mr P. Woodhouse plus two parishioners

Chairman&

Vice-Chairman: The Clerk asked for nominations for Chairman. It was proposed by Mr P. Jackson and seconded by Mr J. Peal that Mr Ascroft be re-elected. There were no other nominations. Mr Ascroft's re-election was carried unanimously. Mr Ascroft took the chair and asked for nominations for Vice-Chairman. It was proposed by Mrs J. Murray and seconded by Mr L. Johnson that Mr Peal be re-elected. There were no other nominations. Mr Peal's re-election was carried unanimously.

Mr Ascroft recorded his thanks to Mr Peal for deputising so ably during his recent spell of ill health.

Amendment
to agenda:

The Chairman proposed and it was agreed that item 10 on the agenda, the planning applications for 112 and 114 High Street, be considered at a separate meeting to be held at the end of the Annual Meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the 2008 Annual General Meeting held on 19th May 2008 were read, agreed as an accurate record and accordingly signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising:

Best Kept

Garden Cup: Mr Peal advised that modifications to the base of the cup had been completed which allowed space for future winners and retained the history of the competition.

NATS

Consultation: The Clerk advised that a submission had been made objecting to the aircraft stacking proposals. Responses had been received from NATS advising that as a result of the consultation responses the proposals were to be re-evaluated and in the event that a further consultation was warranted, the Council would be contacted.

Cotton Farm

Wind Farm: A formal planning application was submitted to Huntingdonshire District Council by nPower Renewables Ltd at the end of July 2008 and put before the parish council meeting of 22nd September 2008 for discussion. It was agreed unanimously that it be opposed and a submission was made to HDC in October 2008 to that effect and urging that it be rejected. The application was also opposed by the councils for the Offords, Graveley, Toseland and Great Paxton and the Cotton Farm Action Group. It was understood that HDC had written to nPower stating that the application could not be supported and inviting its withdrawal so the matter now rested with nPower.

Noticeboards: Mr Peal advised that there had been no progress in finding local tradesmen or volunteers within the village prepared to look at repairing the village noticeboards. Mr Jackson said that the village hall had recently used a local carpenter who might be prepared to quote and agreed to make further enquiries.

Toseland

Crossroads: The Chairman advised that he had been in contact with the Highways Division safety officers in connection with the safety aspects at the crossroads following the fatal accidents. Improvements would be made but these would be spread over a two year period as a result of budgetary constraints.

Speeding: The Chairman reviewed the continuing concerns raised over speeding in the village. The Clerk had received a letter from Mr J. Luttrell and the Chairman had received one from a junior parishioner, Louise Hamilton-Rimmer, aged 12. To allow enquiries to be made of the action that could be taken, it was agreed that this be deferred to the next meeting of the Council but the Chairman advised that he would respond to Miss Hamilton-Rimmer's letter on the Council's behalf.

Clerk's Salary

In accordance with the agreement to periodically review the Clerk's salary, it was proposed by Mr J. Peal, seconded by Mr P. Jackson and carried unanimously that it be increased to £500 p.a. for the 2009/2010 year.

Accounts to pay

The following accounts were passed for payment, proposed by Mr P. Woodhouse, seconded by Mr J. Peal and carried unanimously.

Yelling Village Hall	£ 30.00	Hire
CPALC	£ 86.44	Affiliation fee 2009/10
Mr P. Himbury	£568.87	Salary and expenses 2007/08 & 2008/09

Donations

The Council discussed the following S 137 donations;

Six villages newsletter	£50.00
Yelling PCC	£75.00 (floodlighting)
Village Hall committee	£50.00 (upkeep)
East Anglia Children's Hospice	£50.00
Macmillan Cancer Support	£50.00
Yelling Baptist Chapel	£50.00

It was proposed by Mr P. Jackson, seconded by Mr L. Johnson and carried unanimously that the above donations be made.

Best Kept Garden Cup

Mr Peal advised that he had contacted Mr Robin Windsor to judge the competition in mid June and would be sending a notice to all parishioners advising them of the competition. After discussion, it was agreed that certificates might be issued for 2nd and 3rd places, confirmed that only gardens visible from the road were eligible and the judge's decision was final.

Correspondence

The Clerk reviewed the correspondence with both HDC and South Cambridgeshire District Council in connection with the incidences of fly tipping at "top planting".

Any other business

The unapproved erection of the fence by the occupant of 6 Friends Close was noted for discussion at the next meeting.

Mr Woodhouse noted that the pathway opposite 138 High Street was restricted by undergrowth and overhanging trees. The Chairman noted that where the planting is on private land it is the landowner's responsibility to cut it back. The Clerk was asked to contact the occupants of the relevant properties.

Mr Woodhouse advised that the drainage gullies into the brook opposite his property and near that belonging to Mr Burgess, (113 High Street), had been blocked by recent road repairs carried out by contractors for Cambridgeshire County Council. The gullies took a lot of outflow when it rained heavily and he and Mr Burgess routinely kept these gullies clear and they had rectified the situation again. The Council noted this and would monitor the situation in future.

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.