

Minutes of Shouldham Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 13th April 2015
at 7.30pm in the village hall

Those attending:

Mr G Hipperson, (Chairman), Mr P Gascoyne, (Vice chairman) Mr N Herbert, Mr C Hotson, Miss C Atterbury, Mrs A Berryman and Mrs V Negus (Clerk) Flight Lieutenant Gary Walker and 14 members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

1. Apologies for absence were received from Mr K. Matthews, (RFO) and Mr K Carter

2. Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 14th April 2014 were circulated to everyone attending the meeting and these were adopted as a true record.

3. Matters Arising

(a) A request for an extension of 30mph speed limit had been unsuccessful but the Highways Department had agreed to provide roundels at the entrances to the village.

(b) The purchase of a speed awareness monitor was in the pipeline and should be installed this year, the cost to the Parish Council being £1400

(c) A request for improvements to the junction of the A10 and Runcton Road had been declined due to no accidents being reported at that point.

4. Chairman's Annual Report

Mr Hipperson reported that the new toilet block had been installed, the cost of which had been covered by insurance with the exception of the temporary toilets and the football club had contributed half of this cost. He pointed out that the football club contribute half the cost of mole control, all of the electricity and all pitch repairs.

Mr Hipperson thanked Mr McIntosh for his work on the closed churchyard and playing field and Mr Bevan and Mr Negus for their contribution to playing field repairs.

Mr Hipperson informed the meeting that a new Council will begin again in May for a four year term and thanked the Councillors and clerk for their work over the previous four years.

5. Financial Officer's Report

In the absence of the RFO the clerk gave a short summary provided by Mr Matthews. The spending was much as predicted in the budget with the exception of the cost of temporary toilets. The clerk explained the need for a 10% increase year on year for a five year period.

6. Progress of R.A.F. Marham

Flight Lieutenant Gary Walker gave a very interesting and informative talk on the current situation and the future of R.A.F. Marham

7. Police Community Support Officer had been unable to attend.

8. Borough Council Matters

Mr Hipperson reported that the consultation on the Structure Plan has now been completed and publication is imminent. There were no questions from the meeting regarding Borough Council matters.

9. Any Other Business

(a) A concern was raised by a resident of Hallfields regarding the safety of the wall in view of the erosion by traffic of the adjacent verge. The chairman agreed that this would be brought to the attention of the Highways Department to see if the footway could be extended.

(b) Another concern raised was about dog fouling in Fairstead Drove. It was felt that this was becoming a problem in many parts of the village in spite of there being sufficient dog litter bins. It was agreed that the Parish Council will get more signs put around the village and also put a reminder in the next newsletter for people to clean up after their dogs. Mr Gascoyne pointed out that a new law, which came into force that week, makes it an offence for people to walk their dog without the provision of a litter bag.

(c) The landlord of the Kings Arms asked the Council if they would consider allowing a group of classic car owners to park their cars on the village green for display purposes on the occasion of their visits to Shouldham. It was anticipated that it would be on 5 more occasions this year. Having heard the views of the residents attending the meeting the chairman agreed to give this consideration at the next meeting

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15pm