

The Annual Parish Meeting was held on Monday, 14th May 2012 at 7.45pm in Eyke Village Hall.

Present: Mrs Atkinson, who chaired the meeting, Mrs Abu-Hejleh, Mr Cushing, Mr Mutton, Mr Whitmore, Cllr Andrew Reid, Cllr Jane Marson, Mrs Wendy Kelway, headteacher Eyke, Mr David Chenery, SCC, the clerk and three members of the public.

Apologies: Mr Fleming, Mrs Sutch, PC Warne, Mr Fisher, Mr Foster, Mrs Macfarlane.

Minutes: Those of the last Annual Parish Meeting of 18.4.11 were read, agreed and signed as a correct record.

Matters Arising: None directly.

Mrs Atkinson then welcomed Mr Chenery, who gave an illustrated presentation of proposed traffic calming measures for Eyke Street, and commented on them, working through The Street, South to North. (*Costs in brackets.*)

1. Moving the speed limit further south. There are mixed views on this and no conclusions so far. This probably does not meet DoT criteria. Driver compliance is required, and drivers might not perceive the need (£2000).
2. Village gateways. These need to be bright, white and could be made of plastic. (£4000)
3. Speed camera signs can be erected, justified by the fact that the police do regular checks here. (£200)
4. Flashing signs. West Co Tech produce one with a sign and message; Solar Glen also produce one (£8000 plus maintenance)
5. Horse crossing sign at Creasey's Hill/Church Lane. Some sort of sign would be appropriate, but the argument for a horse warning sign has yet to be made. (£200)
6. Kerb build-out near the pub. This is still only in the form of a discussion drawing. There are various points at issue which would need to be resolved. (£3500)
7. Bend at the North end, by Mill House. There could be a build-out here, making it one way, with signs such as the new hgv ones at Farnham.

Mr Chenery said that this 'shopping list' has not yet been discussed with Mr Cordery at SCC, and if the development at Bentwaters goes ahead, then a Section 106 agreement should fund some or all of the traffic calming measures. If the development does not proceed, then what is deliverable and affordable would need to be reconsidered. Cllr. Reid would be happy to apply for a sum to help fund the works. It was agreed that a letter be sent to Mr Ridley at SCDC to ask for a meeting to establish the current situation with regard to the application by Bentwaters Parks.

Mrs Atkinson thanked Mr Chenery for his very helpful presentation.

Reports:

1. **Cllr. Andrew Reid, SCC.** Council tax has been frozen for the second year running, and extra savings made, largely by reducing management and back office costs, cutting bureaucracy and working more efficiently and innovatively, as well as through radical changes in the delivery of Adult and Community Services. Standards in education are being driven up, with the aim of improving outcomes overall at Key Stage levels to above the government's national benchmark of 75% of pupils gaining level 4 in both English and Maths.

The County Council is also focussing on preparing young people for work, implementing high speed broadband across the county and ensuring the future of Suffolk's libraries. The delivery of children's social care is strong, and Ofsted assessments of the adoption service and children's homes have been favourable.

The new building, Landmark House, to be shared by the County Council and the police should be operational from July, and should save the two services £500,000 a year.

Household Waste Recycling Centres are now operating well in many of the seven areas where facilities were withdrawn by the council. Local organisations have set up their own facilities, supported by SCC, and these provide sustainable community based solutions. The County Council has also won a local government 'oscar' for its project to build an energy-from-waste facility to turn the county's rubbish into electricity.

The County Council continues to support the Fire and Rescue Service as it maintains high standards of front line delivery, including the setting up in October of the new joint fire control centre, with Cambridgeshire.

Finally, SCC will do all it can to support local communities wishing to organise celebrations for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, and will waive charges for permission to close roads and for supplying signs.

2. **Cllr. Jane Marson, SCDC.** The sharing of resources with Waveney to save money has been beneficial, but brought some teething problems, such as mileage costs, but there are significant advantages.

A big issue in the region is affordable housing, or the lack of it, and the reduction in the number of councillors, which causes a big problem in sparsely populated rural areas.

On the positive side, our leisure centres have been commended, the crime rate is down, the Suffolk Coastal Resource Network has money to provide help for apprentices, and there are small grants available for Olympic celebrations, as well as "Awards For All" for projects between £300 and £10000, and council tax has been frozen.

3. **Dr Therese Coffey, MP** (*Written report*) Neighbourhood Plans are a positive step forward in involving local people more surely in how their community develops.

Sizewell C is an important issue, not just in terms of a possible by-pass for Farnham, but in its skills and accommodation legacy. Ipswich Hospital has passed its CQC Inspection, following concerns last year. 51.1% of ambulances in the region have met the response time of 8 minutes, which is not good enough. Dr Coffey has met with the Health minister to discuss this, and will be keeping a close watch on it.

Other matters under consideration are fuel poverty, especially for those living off the gas grid, and high speed broadband, as well as regular 'drought summits'.

A further constituency tour will take place in 2013, following the successful tour this year, visiting 31 villages.

4. **Woodbridge and District SNT.** (*Written report*) There have been 21 crimes in the village in the past twelve months, more than half theft and burglary, while the rest covered arson, drug possession, drink/drive, counterfeit note passed, harassment, malicious communication and criminal damage. The Police Force is feeling the effect of government cutbacks. The response team covering Eyke has been relocated to Martlesham Headquarters from Woodbridge.

The mobile police station will be in Eyke on 14th May.

Speeding in The Street remains an SNT priority.

5. **Friends Of Eyke School.** Mrs Kelway gave a report on the school and FOES. There is an increasing school roll, currently 149, with six classes, eight teachers, some part-time, and eight teaching assistants. Years 5 & 6 pupils had a most enjoyable residential trip to London, where they packed in lots of visits, including seeing The Lion King. They were all very well behaved throughout, and keen to repeat the experience.

There will be a full Sports Week from 28th May, with varied activities, including fencing and orienteering, culminating in Sports Day on 1st June, with all the traditional activities. Also on that day there will be a street party school lunch, and finally between 3-5pm, a Summer Fayre. A jubilee oak will be planted in the School grounds, and each child will receive a jubilee coin, supported by FOES.

The chair of FOES is Cheryl Smith, Gill Brigginsshaw is treasurer, and Wendy Kelway secretary. FOES have supported school trips, class equipment, CD player, fruit trees and Easter eggs for Easter Day, among other things. The main events in the year are the Christmas and Summer Fayres, and Easter Day, along with an extra event each term such as bingo, quizzes and beetle drives. This autumn there will be a Pumpkin Disco.

The school is hoping to obtain land next to the car park to increase its size. To help with this application, a letter of support from the Parish Council would be valuable. It was agreed to send this.

6. **Eyke Millennium Group.** The group has not been very active this year, due in large part to a gradual decrease in numbers of members. However, numbers have recently risen again, so we look forward to greater activity in the future.

The group decorated a tree inside the church for the Christmas Tree Festival, and also, courtesy of Swann's Nursery, erected a tree outside the church, which remained lit throughout the Christmas period. The group is helping the Parish Council to arrange the jubilee celebrations, which will consist of a hog roast, music and games on June 2nd in The Rectory gardens. Young people up to the age of 16 will receive a commemorative mug. Thanks go to Pat and Joe Marshall, and Angela Davis who have now moved away. They are much missed, but we look forward to welcoming them back to social events. (*Report given by Jackie Pooley, also on behalf of Karen Watson.*)

7. **Village Magazine.** Mr Cushing reported that Issue 9 will be out soon. It is still paying its way and is well received. Tim Marr has agreed to take on the editorship, and he is wished well with this new task.

8. **Eyke & Rendlesham Village Hall.** (*Written report*) Mr Fisher reported regular and varied use of the hall, from Parish Council meetings to Zumba classes, by day and evening.

There is a surplus of £306.40 in the accounts.

New curtains have been bought at a cost of £1000, and work in the toilets completed, including a disabled facility. The cost has been met from Cllr. Andrew Reid's Locality Budget (£750), continued contribution from the parish

council and the hall's own funds. The floor has also been stripped and revarnished. The next project is to improve the area behind the stage.

Thanks go to Mervyn Whitmore for his continued efforts in keeping the outside free of weeds and litter. A copy of the accounts is available for inspection.

9. **Eyke Charities.** (*Written Report*) Mr Foster, hon. treasurer presented the following statement, to 31.12.2011.

Income from investments: £256.34.

Expenditure: £261.52, made up of elderly: £110; school books: £101.52 and church: £50.00.

Cash at bank and on deposit: £3555.98, which includes on a temporary basis £2600 to be expended on refurbishment work to the village hall at a later date.

10. **Neighbourhood Watch** (*Written report*). Mrs Macfarlane reported that after a quiet start to the year, there was quite a run of break-ins to cars and houses towards the end of 2011. Neighbourhood Watch will circulate flyers within the next few weeks to remind everyone of the importance of working together to prevent crime.

Mrs Macfarlane and Mrs Watson have attended Community Neighbourhood Watch meetings at Eyke and Bredfield, which enable the issue of speeding through Eyke to be prioritised on the Community Support Agenda. The officers have involved schoolchildren in the project, which helps to bring home the dangers of speeding near schools to passing motorists.

11. **Parish Council.** Councillors have attended various outside meetings during the year, as well as the regular parish council meetings and extra planning meetings.

4.4.12. Mr Cushing attended "World of Housing" at Suffolk Coastal District Council Offices. This covered issues such as homelessness, private rental, housing benefits and all the support services available to people in need.

30.4.12 Mr Cushing also attended the Suffolk Coastal Town and Parish Liaison Meeting. The overarching theme was the need for continued cutting back in all aspects of public service provision, and the need for town and parish councils and volunteer groups to take on more responsible roles, as the Localism Bill and Neighbourhood Plans, among others, are rolled out.

Various councillors have also attended Parish Links meetings in the year, where issues of relevance to our local cluster of parishes are discussed and worked on.

Finance: Eyke Parish Council accounts were available for inspection.

In the absence of Any Other Business, the meeting closed at 9pm.