

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on
8.00 pm on Thursday 10th May 2018 in Sedgebrook Social Club**

- Present:** Chairman Gwynfor Preece of Sedgebrook Parish Council together with County Councillor Mark Whittington, District Councillors Pamela Bosworth and Hannah Westropp, Doctor Caroline Johnson MP, Mrs J Bratton (Parish Clerk) and 29 members of the public.
- 1 Chairman's Welcome** – The Chairman was pleased to see so many people attending.
 - 2 Apologies:** Apologies were received from PCSO Barbara Mooney, the Reverend Harriet Orridge, Susan Ashby (Twinning Association) and Nicola Spencer (Whitehouse Day Nursery).
 - 3 To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 11th May 2017** - The minutes were approved by the meeting.
 - 4 Any Matters Arising from those minutes** - none.
 - 5 Chairman's Report** - The Chairman thanked members of the Parish Council for their time and effort. Two new Parish Councillors were co-opted onto the Parish Council and one vacancy is left to fill. He thanked the Clerk for her work over the past year. Cllr C Wood had dealt with the recent flooding issues in the village – thankfully the flooding was on the roads and outside areas only. Village Street is closed at the moment – Highways are completing drainage work. Further drainage work will be completed from Village Street and up School Lane. Villagers were encouraged to report potholes on the Lincolnshire County Council website in addition to the Parish Council. Work to be completed on Woolsthorpe Lane towards Stenwith. Still waiting for completion of the resurfacing of the A52. The Vice Chairman had sent arguments to SKDC Planning on the effects of the proposed retail park at Gonerby Moor to Allington Road/Gonerby Lane.
 - 6 Playground Equipment – update** - Parish Council are trying to secure grants for the play park and have put in for a large grant of £18000 to enable us to take everything out of the park and to replace all the equipment apart from the slide and mound. If the grant application is unsuccessful, we will still have £9000 (including the £3000 donation from Allington Pre-School) to spend this year. The Parish Council will know how much will be available to spend mid-June and the villagers will be consulted. The park will be kept for dog-walking and play area.
 - 7 Report from Doctor Caroline Johnson MP** – At the moment most of the time in Westminster is spent on Brexit. Parish Councils are now exempt from appointing a Data Protection Officer but still need to comply with General Data Protection Regulations. NHS – Grantham Hospital/East Midlands Ambulance Service – A&E closed overnight for 2 years - not enough staff to keep hospital open. Although additional staff appointed, the Clinical Senate decided it was not safe to re-open. Proposing to extend the opening hours to 11pm and re-opening at 7/8 am. The East Midlands Ambulance Service is not providing the level of care which it should. Two paramedics have to wait with the patient until he/she is transferred into the care of the hospital. In intensive care there is one nurse per patient; consideration regarding changing resources. The RAF is 100 years old and is one of the biggest employers in Lincolnshire. The MP has been travelling around the country looking at various RAF bases and what they do, their capabilities and challenges. The Defra Select Committee is a cross party committee and are looking at government policy on rural payments, the new Agricultural Bill and what will be happening after Brexit. In January the MP was asked to be Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Treasury and requested revenue ideas for the budget. In the past 18 months 2000 different caseloads have been completed.

Potholes – Vice Chairman Wood pointed out that more money is required for highway maintenance. The MP said in 2010 there was a difficult situation with the economy - £1 in every £4 was borrowed. The Government are trying to spend only money which is income. Lincolnshire does badly with funding. Lincolnshire will obtain £11 M extra by part of the business rates trial. £3.5M to put into highways, roads and potholes for next year. Highways England resurfaced the A52 and left potholes – they have £1.1M per linear mile available and Highways only have £2000 per linear mile. MP reported on the new Grantham Bypass road. £2M to be spent on the A46 and the A1/A17 junction. Poor repairs have been made to potholes – the County Council have challenges with their budget and have to prioritise potholes on larger roads. Parishioners reported that nurses are trying to deliver frontline service to mentally unwell and can only deliver the bare essentials. The MP invited the parishioners to contact her to discuss the matter more fully.

8 Short Reports from village organisations and Invitation to the public to raise any matters of interest

8.1 The Manor Gardens will be open on Sunday 10th June 2018.

8.2 Alan Cook on behalf of The Reverend Harriet Orridge (St Lawrence Church)

The church roof is now repaired and thanks were extended to everyone in the village for their help in fundraising, organising events, donations etc. The Church Warden was thanked for all his help over the past 2 years and two new Church Wardens were being sworn in at the Deanery service in Long Bennington. The fabric of the church still needs much work and they were looking at setting up a sub-group of the PCC. Funding is still a major issue - £2500 is Sedgebrook's proportional group parish share and the insurance costs are £3000 annually so the PCC are looking at running a funding campaign in the near future. Proceeds of the afternoon teas are going to the Air Ambulance this year and are held on the 2nd Thursday each month.

8.3 District Councillors Hannah Westropp and Pamela Bosworth - Cinema – The Reel Cinema has now closed and St Wulfram's Church are temporarily showing films. The new multiplex cinema is ahead of schedule and expected to open in Spring 2019.

Grantham Southern Relief Road – plans available on the SKDC website detailing the new roundabout leading onto and off the A1; the future of the bypass continues to make progress.

The Local Plan identifies sites for future development. Housing and employment allocations are proposed for Grantham, Stamford, Bourne and the Deepings. Housing allocations are also proposed at some of the larger villages. Several meetings at SKDC have been held giving local councillors the opportunity to discuss potential sites for local building projects. Further specific information is available on the SKDC website.

The Big Clean Initiative – The 12 week programme, raising the street standards across South Kesteven, was a great triumph. There is now a food waste collection trial commencing in June which will be piloted in 3 Lincolnshire villages to reduce the amount of food we waste.

Bonus – All SKDC councillors have £1000 allocated to each District Councillor – the money can be used to support parishes within their wards with consideration given to small projects to enhance their villages.

8.3 Christine Warby (Allington & Sedgebrook CE Primary School) - 16 out of the 118 pupils attending the school are from Sedgebrook. The whole school were able to attend the Christmas nativity service. A Church School Inspection held in October classified the school as “outstanding.” Visits were made to the Workhouse at Southwell as part of the ‘Victorians’ topic; the National Space Centre for their ‘Out of this World’ topic; Belton House and Peter Pan at the Guildhall in Grantham. Year 2 children will be visiting Rand Farm and stopping overnight. Due to the closure of Allington and Sedgebrook Pre-School late last year a financial donation was received – it is planned to refurbish

the infant outdoor classroom with a new soft flooring, a mud kitchen, sand pit, easels and other outdoor equipment. The school has been awarded a 'Silver' School Games Mark for commitment to the development of competition across school and into the community. The school is the Small Schools' Athletics champions for the 2nd year running. Two of their gymnasts are currently the individual under 11 and under 9 champions. The children continue to excel at swimming and came 2nd in the Small Schools' Swimming Gala. The children raised over £800 for charity this year and continue to support Grantham Passage & Grantham Foodbank with their harvest collections. The school has undergone a rebranding this year with a new school logo which was done free of charge by one of the Sedgebrook parents.

- 8.4 PCSO Stuart Bowden** - Attended on behalf of PCSO Barbara Mooney. The PCSOs rely on information from parishioners – if residents see any suspicious vehicles or suspicious people call 101. Advised households not to leave any windows open or leaving a door unlocked. There will be more PCSOs around the area.
- 8.5 Vice Chairman Simon Bradley – Social Club** - the Social Club has made a profit this year. Planning to take down the dividing wall/doors to make one large room. There are also a few repairs which will be done. Events planned include skittles on the 22 June and a Quiz in September. The bar stocks better beers and more people are going to the Social Club. Opening on Monday nights, Friday nights and Sunday lunch-times.
- 8.7** A resident reported damage to his fence when a car ran into it following the wintery weather conditions earlier in March. It was pointed out that Village Street/Allington Road is a fast road and the resident was asked to have a word with Cllr G Mahoney who is organising a Community Speed Watch (see item 8.9).
- 8.8 County Councillor Mark Whittington** - Responsible for potholes. £116M more in Lincolnshire's budget. Noted that there is real hidden poverty in Lincolnshire. Lincolnshire is the third worst funded local authority in the country. The Council Tax is a third higher than London Boroughs. Over the past 10 years Lincolnshire has lost £200M in the Revenue Support Grant equating to 40% of the total bill. LCC have made £286M savings with budgets being cut back considerably. Increase in children in care and extra funding to be allocated. Highways funding has not increased in cash terms in the past 10 years. Highways spent £38-£40M a year on maintenance. There are over 5000 miles of country roads in Lincolnshire. 13,000 tonnes of salt a year is normally used but due to the bad winter last year 37,000 tonnes of salt was used due to the heavy snowfalls. This has led to the problem of potholes being exacerbated. £300M is actually needed to get the roads properly repaired but only £12.4M is available. 25 mobile maintenance teams are in Lincolnshire with 8 teams based in North and South Kesteven; it will take 3 months to clear up the backlog. The County Council is bringing the 'blue light' services together with a new HQ at South Park Emergency Services - this is more cost effective. Fire services dealt with 13000 incidents last year. 95% are RTAs caused by people driving too fast. There will be 33 new fire engines for the county. Children Services - problems occur when they leave care at age 18 years – the age has now been extended to 25 years. More social workers are working in the hospital putting together care packages. The County Council do not provide Care Homes. Defra have a 25 year plan for the environment. Lincolnshire County Council have £120M to come from the EU. The Grantham Southern Relief Road will cost £81M and money is put aside.

Concern raised about the bridge over the railway by Miller & Carter (ex-Muddle Go Nowhere) and Gonerby Hill Foot and traffic backing up from the North and South from the A1. The County Councillor stated roundabouts were required from both the North and South but this would not stop increase in traffic on Allington Road as Sat Navs are the cause of the current increase in traffic.

8.9 Parish Councillor Gill Mahoney – Community Speed Watch - Volunteers were required (in groups of three) to undergo training in order to carry out speed checks. Cllr Mahoney is co-ordinating the scheme. Leaflets were circulated, and parishioners were encouraged to contact Cllr Mahoney. 30 mph restriction signs have already been put up and 30 mph bin stickers were available. The Parish Council is now a member of the Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership. Fines cannot be issued but letters would be issued by police and following receipt of 3 letters a visit by the Police would be made.

8.10 Golden Jubilee Committee – Samantha Wade - Although the Jubilee Committee is still dormant, they have paid out £2341 (raised by a party held at The Manor) to St Lawrence’s Church to cover the ongoing repairs. The total now donated to the church for the Jubilee Committee is £6943.40. The only other expenditure was the costs of refreshments at last year’s Annual Parish Meeting of £52.13 and they were happy to cover it again this year. Abbey Farm have recently constructed a woodland area between School Lane and the A52. Proposing to plant a Christmas Tree every year with the intention of donating it to the village when it reaches 20’. Donations of Christmas trees were requested. The village fundraising focus is on the Social Club this year and a barn dance is planned for 2019.

8.11 Twinning Association – report -There has been little interest in involvement in the association or a potential trip although several attempts have been made to organise a trip to Tuffé. The committee in France have been invited to come over this year when the “on the green” events are taking place in the summer. Sue Ashby, the Chair, has maintained the link between the two schools.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm which was followed by Cheese and Wine.