

# **Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting**

## **Held at Hoton Village Hall on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2015 at 8pm**

**In attendance:** Cllr Cassell (Chairman, Hoton Parish Council), Cllr Isbister, Cllr Seymour, Cllr Eady, Cllr Landucci (from 8:08pm), Mrs Blain (Parish Clerk) and Borough Cllr Bokor.

### **Agenda Items**

**1. Apologies for Absence** None.

### **2. Chairman's Report**

The Chairman's annual report given by Cllr Cassell:

As always, I would like to start with some thanks.

To our county councillor and our borough councillor for their continued support and interest, and for their commitment to improving the quality of life not only in this village, but in the wolds and the county.

I'd also like to voice my appreciation of the work of the Village Hall committee, who work so hard to give the village an extraordinarily rich social life for such a small community. It would also be appropriate to put on record my thanks to Manda Kemp and Richard Knox, who made a huge contribution to village life through their village hall roles.

Particularly, I'd like to thank my fellow councillors for their work. They continue to be a pleasure to work with, forming an effective team who put in time and effort because they are committed to making the village an even better place to live. I am pleased and encouraged that all members stood for election again this year and will continue to serve. They continue to be ably supported by a very efficient professional Parish Clerk.

The three main priorities to which I referred in last year's report were: the continuing development of the playing field; speed reduction measures; and joint working with the Village Hall committee to safeguard and develop the building. Progress has continued in all these areas:

- the playing field has an increasing range of equipment and facilities, while work is proceeding to deal with maintenance issues, such as the raised beds. The survey was useful in clarifying people's views on the future of the playing field, and a newsletter has kept the village well informed;
- specific plans are being developed by the village hall committee to deal with structural issues with the fabric of the hall, and we are offering support with this;
- the speed indication device has been in place for some time, although there have been some teething troubles. Various residents have expressed the opinion that it is making a difference, and we hope soon to move on to the next phase of speed reduction measures.

Other matters worthy of mention include:

- the phone box, which continues to be popular, although apparently suffering an occasional shortage of children's books;
- the renaissance of Stanford Hall, about which we are kept well-informed, and on which we have made observations. And which is in such contrast to a couple of years ago when we were taking action over the proposed Rock and Bike Fest;
- the proposals for the development at Cotes. The Parish Council submitted clear reasons for objecting; we can only wait for the outcome of the appeal;
- the need to improve broadband provision. The council set up a working party some time ago, which has liaised with other interested groups. Progress has been slow and the process frustrating.
- the Neighbourhood Plan, which is being developed jointly between ourselves and Burton. Consultation meetings have been held (and a further one is due soon in Hoton), a committee has been established, and we should begin to see some specific areas being identified soon. I hope that all villagers will take the opportunity to follow progress and contribute to the thinking.

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8:08pm Cllr Landucci arrived

### **3. Annual Statement of Accounts for 2014-2015 (Unaudited)**

The unaudited statement of accounts was presented. The end of year bank balance was £9,816.53.

### **4. Questions from Members of the Public**

None.

**The meeting closed at 8:10pm.**

These minutes are a true and accurate record \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Cllr Cassell, Chairman