

# Heveningham Parish Annual Meeting Minutes

8.00 13<sup>th</sup> May 2015

1) Stephen Newby welcomed those attending, and thanked them for coming.

2) Attendance.

Stephen Newby (Chair), Debra Lankester, Sophie Morphey, Albert Morphey, Georgina Lee, Clare Fairs, Sam Fairs, Michael Bryenton, Allan Barnes, Christine Barnes, Joan Pepper, Kathleen Cadle, Catherine Hollens, Sarah Sissis.

3) Apologies.

Vickie Milner Smith, Michael Brooks.

4) The earlier meeting had discussed using the telephone box for social notices, and this had been heard, so the parish were content to continue.

5) The Parish were asked if they would like to have a social event, such as last year's BBQ, which had been well attended, by the village and also by others from Ubbeston. It was commented that people had met and had a chance to chat with others from the village, some meeting for the first time.

It was agreed, and a suggested date was early September. Debra Lankester would co-ordinate this and let people know the details nearer the time. Details could be finalised at the HPC meeting in August.

6) A village meeting room had been discussed at council meeting over the past year. Sophie Morphey had been researching the structural possibilities, and explained that although the findings were still very loose, it would probably only be very small, and a log-cabin type with disabled access, toilets and room for meetings and coffee mornings etc. She did not think it would conflict with the Huntingfield hall.

Catherine Hollens was concerned about the upkeep and costs involved. It was agreed that any proposal would need to be put to the village. Stephen Newby suggested a "referendum", once the facts were known. Debra Lankester said it should not be a cost to the village, and various grants etc might be obtained. Sophie Morphey spoke of the Heveningham Hall Funds.

Sam Fairs suggested it would be wise to contact other small nearby villages, to discover the costs for a small hall. Walpole was suggested. It was important that it should not be burden on the village.

The question of rates arose. Debra Lankester said rates would not apply to the village meeting room.

Sam Fairs did not want the village to be split between the church and the village hall.

Kathleen Cadle was concerned that the church could close, as many smaller village church had. Sam Fairs wondered how much it would cost to buy the church, if this happened, and what would be the upkeep.

Further research was still needed.

7) Joan Pepper queried while the precept/rates had risen this year. Kathleen Cadle said that as there had been no parish clerk for some time the precept had lagged behind, and was now catching up, mainly to pay for this, but there was still money in the bank.

8) Sophie Morphey wondered how people would feel about an "Open Gardens" event in the village. Clare Fairs suggested a "Scarecrow" event might be possible. Kathleen Cadle said Heveningham had been approached to join the "Best Kept Village Competition". Sadly the competition was limited to villages with more than 250 electors. Heveningham has less than 90.

9) Allan Barnes asked if anyone knew of an engineer etc who may be able to get the village pump to work again. Some village inhabitants, who had lived in Heveningham for many years, remembered the pump working properly. Sophie Morphey said she would ask Luke Morphey.

10) It was asked that Tom Lankester could be thanked for his work in and around the village.

11) The meeting had started early (7.50) and closed at 8.20