

# Tibenham Annual Parish Meeting

Minutes of Meeting held Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 7.30 pm in the Tibenham Community Hall

**Note:** These minutes will be formally approved at the Annual Parish Meeting in 2018.

**Parish Councillors present:** Gareth Roderick-Jones (Chairman) David Timson, Gemma Lambert, Auriel Mepham

**Also in attendance:** Marianne Purdy (Clerk). Invited guests: Joan Woodcock (W.I.), Lorna Pyke (Tibenham Think Carers), Brenda Pratt (Tibenham PCC)

## 1. **Chairman's welcome address**

Cllr Roderick-Jones welcomed all those present and explained the proceedings for the evening.

## 2. **Apologies for absence**

Cllr Rob Smith

## 3. **Joan Woodcock - Tibenham W.I.**

Joan spoke about the events and activities that the W.I. are currently involved in. Tibenham W.I. has recently recruited six new members as a result of Banham W.I. closing down. Membership now stands at 17. The W.I. meets the first Wednesday of every month.

## 4. **David Timson – Tibenham Community Hall**

David reported that the Community Hall has had a very successful year – they are expanding their range of activities. The café was opened a year ago and has been a great success; it is averaging 50 people every month – this is held on the last Saturday of every month. The Luncheon Club is also proving successful with an average of 25 attendees. The hall has been fully re-decorated and lights are currently being changed to LEDs. Tibenham Community Hall is now working closer with Tibenham Parish Council. David said that more volunteers are required on the Committee.

## 5. **Lorna Pyke – Tibenham Carers “Think Carers”**

Lorna spoke about the Tibenham Carers event “Think Carers” which took place on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2017 at Tibenham Community Hall. It was very well supported by about 75 people including 22 care professionals. The event was to look at what more could be done to promote health and wellbeing, what is already in place and what needs to be developed. The information gathered led to the idea of developing a “Rural Health and Wellbeing Hub” at Tibenham Community Hall – leaflets about the many services available will be provided.

A full report is due to be published by the end of May and can be found on

<http://norfolkcarers.org.uk/>

this will be circulated prior to National Carers Week which is 10<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> June.

Volunteers are required – for further information pop along to the café or contact Lorna:

[lornapyke@btinternet.com](mailto:lornapyke@btinternet.com)

## 6. **Brenda Pratt – Tibenham P.C.C.**

Brenda reported that Tibenham All Saints' Church which is part of the Pilgrim Benefice which was five churches in local villages, is now linked to Long Stratton – so there are now eight churches in one Benefice. At Tibenham there is one service on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month at 11am. If there is a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in the month there is a Benefice service where people from all eight churches get together – this is on a 2-year cycle - Tibenham will have a service approximately once every 2 years. All Saints' Church no longer has any church wardens; there are three people who are looking after the Church. Brenda thanked Tibenham Parish Council for the £300 they had given the PCC and explained that it had contributed to maintenance of the churchyard. The double gate has been mended, greenery cleared, small branches removed from the entrance to the back of the churchyard where hearses drive through. There is work needed to be done on the car park – hedges/trimming/spraying. Volunteers are required for keeping the churchyard cleared.

Brenda stated the church has a brush-cutter which could be borrowed by the Parish Council for clearing of the footpath. There is also an A3 laminator and pouches, and two display stands if the Parish Council needs to use them.

## 7. **Gareth Roderick-Jones, Chairman, Tibenham Parish Council**

Cllr Roderick-Jones spoke about the past 12 months at the Parish Council. Two new Councillors have joined in that time: David Timson and Auriel Mepham. There has also been a new Parish Clerk, Marianne Purdy who started in December 2016. Cllr Roderick-Jones discussed what had been dealt with and achieved by the Council over the last 12 months:

- re-organised banking arrangements, financial systems, financial regulations
- an independent internal auditor; external audit completed after some delays – this will be submitted on time this year
- a new website [www.tibenhampc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk](http://www.tibenhampc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk)
- ordered two new noticeboards which will have a section for Parish Council use and a section for other organisations and individuals – these will be placed at Black Barn (next to Post Box) and at the Greyhound Pub
- obtained full insurance cover
- Sound relationship with Community Hall.
- Regular articles in Parish Magazine
- Vetting of planning applications.

Over the next 12 months the Parish Council will continue to build on the items listed above as well as:

- Maximising opportunities that the website presents.
- Renew consumables for defibrillator
- Footpaths:
  - Tibenham has 30 footpaths.
  - There is the need for a footpath warden for Tibenham however this unpaid post remains vacant.
  - Several people have come forward to say they'd help with the footpaths and so the Parish Council are looking into setting up a working group.
  - There is no money from County Council to maintain footpaths.

- Look at the way the Parish Council uses the money received from South Norfolk Council which is the only source of income. Basic costs (insurance, clerk, donations to PCC and Community Hall) exceed the income. There has been a small increase in Council Tax this year.

Cllr Roderick-Jones explained the challenges that the Parish Council face:

- Operating on a very small budget. A minor increase in operating costs can have a serious effect on the ability to balance the books. Every year the amount of grant money received from South Norfolk Council is cut.
- A small increase in Council Tax (for Parish Council) shows as a large percentage increase e.g. an increase of a couple of pounds shows as around 10%. The Parish Council part of Council Tax in Band D house in Tibenham is £15.81 per year – the average in South Norfolk is £66.86 – in Diss it's £149.90. Tibenham is the 9<sup>th</sup> cheapest Parish out of the 119 in South Norfolk.
- Councillors – the Parish Council currently has five parish councillors – a minimum of three is needed at a meeting to conduct business. There are two vacant positions for parish councillors. Further information can be found on the website [www.tibenhampc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/about-us/](http://www.tibenhampc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/about-us/)

#### 8. Questions and general discussion

There were no questions from the floor. Cllr Roderick-Jones closed the meeting at 8.40 pm

Signed by Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_