

Minutes of the Cavendish Annual Parish Meeting

May 24th, 2023

The Annual Parish Meeting commenced at 7.30 pm in Cavendish Memorial Hall under the Chair of Councillor Halliday.

Present: Parish Councillors Halliday, Freeman, Williamott, Gittins, Welch, and Dawkins
County Councillor Bobby Bennett
Clerk C Turner and 11 parishioners.

Councillor Halliday welcomed those present and made a short speech.

Apologies received from Parish Councillor Nick Vosper and all District Councillors.

Minutes of the meeting in 2022 were accepted as correct and signed by the Chair.

County Councillor Bobby Bennett gave a short resume of the CC's Annual Report (Copy available and held with minutes and on website). There were a few questions from the floor:

The road project to reduce the number of lorries passing along the main road has reached an impasse, with Essex CC not willing to take extra traffic through Halstead.

6th form college students transport costs are to be limited to £12 per day.

The Coffee Caravan visits are welcome, and we had agreed at an earlier meeting to donate £100.

The state of Colts Hall Road was mentioned, and the recent filling of potholes has come undone. An estimate of the cost of fixing the drainage/road has been requested from Suffolk CC.

Various representatives from local groups made reports detailing activities during the last year:

Koalas- (a new group for young children) - Report by Helen Deering

Horticultural Society - Chris Oliver

Cavendish Local History - Nick Young

Cavendish Care - Janice Brett

Stour Astronomical Society - Peter Sims

Cavendish Speedwatch - Stuart Letten

Bowls Club - Annette Williamson

Illuminators - Ray Burdett

Written reports were received from.

Community Shop - Barbara McGoldrick

Sports Club - Paul Hurst

There were a few other clubs/societies who were expected to make reports but were unable to make it.

Chairman's Report -

Occurring this year were local elections involving District and Parish Councils. The Parish Councillors were re-elected unopposed, and we filled our one vacancy with the appointment of Nick Vosper, who unfortunately can't be with us tonight. We congratulate our District Councillors, Marion, Karen, and Nick on their re-election.

We presented all the school children of the village a commemorative coronation mug.

We are continuing with the re-furbishment of the interior of the Memorial Hall. In August, the hall will be closed for a short while to enable us to complete the internal decoration by repainting the walls, tidying up wiring and installing LED wall lights. We now have Wi-Fi available in the hall and have recently fitted an electric powered projector screen. Work continues in the kitchen to tackle the damp problem which is causing parts of the kitchen floor to rot.

The hall continues to enjoy regular bookings and with the addition of Koalas, Yoga, Warm Wednesdays – now called Welcome Wednesdays.

We have spent a considerable amount of money re-wiring the Jubilee Room (Pre-school) to bring it up to current regulations after a few years of neglect.

We continue to review and comment on planning applications as part of the planning process. Ted Gittins and I are still responsible for planning.

We continue to monitor the state of Parish footpaths and report to the County and District councils when attention is required.

There are plots available for rent at this time, I believe. I defer to Chris Turner with news of allotment availability. We are also going to provide a skip and do some rubbish removal in the near future. Please contact Chris if you want to enquire about allotments.

The orchard continues to be well looked after and remains a valuable asset to the village. We have a new keeper of the Orchard in the shape of David Elliot. He is doing a tremendous job - I urge you to visit.

We have recently established a new ashes plot in the cemetery extension. We are trying to keep on top of the grass cutting situation, but we are beholden to West Suffolk Council who we pay for these services. Other areas of the village are not under our control, but we are in direct contact with the grass cutting team. Please use the WSC reporting tool on their website to report any issues you have, not only for grass cutting

but any other problems such as potholes. The more people complain the more likely it is that something gets done.

Mark Freeman is responsible for traffic and speeding issues.

We are still waiting for the start of the experimental HGV ban on the A1097 which we have partially funded.

We are now on the rota for ANPR deployment project. We have yet to see any data from these trials.

We are about to place an order for the replacement speed sign at the West end of the village after some delay. We thank the District and County Councillors for their generous contributions to the cost.

We also reinstated the 'CAVENDISH' sign at the East end in the Autumn.

We had a generous donation from Devonshire House care home for the fountain you now see in the pond and this seems to do a good job of keeping the floating algae under control. It also got a starring role in an ITV News weather report in July.

Finance report -

The Responsible Finance Officer of the Parish Council gave a short report of the last years finances. Over the year the monies received was within a couple of hundred pounds of expenditure in the year. We do have reserves for a number of projects that we are hoping to complete this year.

There were no further issues, and the meeting was closed at 9.05

C Turner-Clerk

**Suffolk County Council Report for Clare Division
Annual Summary 2023**



We spend 75p of every £1 we receive supporting those that need it most. This includes older people, children and those who are the most vulnerable in Suffolk and we provide these important public services for 365 days of the year.

The remaining 25p in every pound pays for other vital services including Suffolk Fire and Rescue, Road Maintenance, Footpaths, Public Transport, Waste Services, Libraries, Culture, Leisure, trading standards, Community Safety, Biodiversity and tackling climate change.

Your council tax means we can make a positive difference in your community and continue to provide services that you can rely on.

Our ambitions for Suffolk are split into 4 priorities which are:

- Looking After our Health and Wellbeing
- Strengthening our Local Economy
- Protecting and enhancing our environment
- Providing value for money for our Residents

Within the Division I attend as many meetings as I am able to and please do ask if you need me to attend to discuss a particular issue.

I have a locality budget which I can award to causes that meet our priorities each year. Last year I supported numerous projects including supporting parishes to enhance their environments such as tree planting or sign renovation, helping parishes host community events, supporting parishes to purchase Speed Activated signs and I awarded some money to Clare Library to make some minor improvements. I have also supported with funding to the Citizens Advice in West Suffolk and the Rural Coffee Caravan to support residents of Clare Division. I can make awards for this year from 5th May 2023 so please let me know if you have any projects that I might be able to help with, I would love to hear from you. Through my Highways Locality Budget I have funded a number of speed surveys to investigate what can be done to address some of the areas where speeding is an issue.

Highways concerns continue to take up much of the conversation at parish council meetings. Please can all issues be reported on the highways reporting tool [Suffolk County Council - Report IT](#) and please continue to email me with items that need following up on. I have held a number of positive meetings in parishes with the highways engineer to discuss specific issues and would be happy to arrange a meeting if it would be useful to you.

At the County Council I continue to be the Cabinet Member for Equality and Communities and my priorities this year have been the Ukraine refugee response and playing our part within the Suffolk system to support residents with the cost of living. My other responsibilities include Arts and Heritage, Citizens' Advice, Community Safety (including Domestic Abuse, PREVENT and Violence Against Women and Girls), Coroner Services, Customer Services, Equality, Gypsy and Traveller Services, Human Resources, Libraries, Registrars, Safer and Stronger Communities and The Voluntary Sector

Please get in touch with me via email or telephone if you need my help on a Suffolk County Council Issue. Bobby Bennett – County Councillor