

Minutes of the East Hanningfield Annual Assembly 2014

The Annual Parish Meeting was held on 28th. May, 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

PRESENT

County Cllr. Ian Grundy, City Cllr. Richard Poulter, Serene Brown Preschool Supervisor, Police Community Support Officers Lynda Samways and Hilary Wilmot, and sixteen electors of the parish were present.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Chris Foster, Chairman of East Hanningfield Village Design Statement Group, Revd. Susan Iskander, Jim Howe, Chairman of the Parish Council, Parish & City Cllr. Mike Harris.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR THE MEETING

In the absence of the Parish Council Chairman, Les Draper was elected Chairman for the Meeting.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes were signed as a true record of the Meeting held on 15th. May, 2013.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Proposed Anaerobic Digester – Highlands Farm

The County's digestible waste would be dealt with at Courtauld Road, Basildon. The site would be up and running by the end of the year, so the Highlands Farm proposal was now dead.

Hanningfield Water - The unscheduled alarm had been part of a training exercise. The Water Co had learned lessons from the exercise and were to look into how they could prevent panic in the surrounding communities on future occasions. Karen Plumridge, as

East Hanningfield Annual Parish Meeting 2014

editor of the News, was asked to remind residents what the Friday morning alarm meant.

First Responders – Flora Virgoe had had experience of the assistance of the First Responders and was grateful for their work.

PARISH COUNCIL

Les Draper, Vice Chairman of the Parish Council presented the Council's Annual Report 2013-14, copies of which were provided for those present. Amongst others he referred to the following topics:

- PC was participating in the Village Design Statement, the questionnaire had been published towards the end of 2013 but had received a poor response initially, so had remained open on line;
- PC was giving financial support to important local organizations;
- Residents were welcome to attend PC Meetings and express their views;
- Les had stood down as Chairman after a four year term and Jim Howe had been elected in his place;
- The EH News with its Village Diary is appreciated by residents, but a replacement editor was still being sought;
- The holiday playschemes run with Chelmsford Council were well attended and were to continue with two more in the Summer holiday;
- PC's finances were stable with only a minor increase in the Precept on the previous year;
- The Affordable Housing Scheme for local people had suffered a hold-up but was not dead;
- John Allenby was thanked for his efforts as the Parish Public Transport Representative;
- Mike Harris was wished a speedy recovery and Richard Poulter was thanked for his attendance at PC Meetings and his representations on PC's behalf at the City Council;
- Councillors & Clerk were thanked for their contributions.

HANNA'S FIELD CHARITY

Colin Warren, Chairman of Hanna's Field Charity presented his Chairman's Report from the recent HFC AGM and referred to the

East Hanningfield Annual Parish Meeting 2014

following:

- The small hall had been refurbished and insulated & Preschool had created a safe outdoor play area.
- Charity's workload accomplished by a few volunteers;
- As a memorial to Iris Evans the meeting room was to be named after her;
- Art Exhibition was a major fund raiser and would take place on 5th. July;
- The Fete Committee was operating without a Chairman.
Thanks to local businesses who sponsor the Fete, which this year would be on 7th. September;
- The quarterly Book Sale & Coffee Mornings continued to be popular. Thanks to Martyn Gard for his support in developing the shelving for the book store.
- Various projects were under consideration to develop and maintain the facilities at the hall and field, all dependent on successful application for grants funding including:
 - Replace the hall roof which is 25 years old & starting to leak
 - Extend the main car park with a "green" overflow car park
 - Extend the entrance lobby and village shop
 - Rebuild the mountain bike mounds
 - Plough, level and reseed the football pitches
 - Resurface the sports courts
 - Extend the sports wall
 - Complete a trim trail around the field to include skate board ramps
 - Create a Community Suite above the small hall
 - Install CCTV
- HFC would welcome new members to assist in the future development of the Charity. More information about HFC could be found at their website, part of the Parish Council website <http://www.essexinfo.net/easthanningfieldparishcouncil> .

There was a comment from the floor that creating skate board facilities would attract youth from outside the parish, and a question

East Hanningfield Annual Parish Meeting 2014

as to whether Ash would be interested in taking over a proposed post office at the Wheatsheaf in Rettendon.

POLICE

PCSO Lynda Samways reported that East Hanningfield had experienced fewer burglaries and was relatively quiet compared to Woodham Ferrers and Danbury. Residents were encouraged to telephone if they saw suspicious activity so that it could be reacted to immediately. They had attended the primary school to talk about stranger danger and road safety. She and Hilary Wilmot cover each others areas when one or other of them is away.

HANNA'S FIELD CHARITY FINANCIAL REPORT

Mike Plumridge, Treasurer reported briefly on the Charity's Finances. The balances were looking healthy. The accounts were about to be examined locally before the annual submission to the Charity Commission. The most pressing forthcoming expenditure was the replacement roof for the Village Hall. They were considering including solar panels and were seeking up-to-date projections to see if it would be financially viable.

PARISH TRANSPORT REPRESENTATIVE

John Allenby, PTR, reported that the County Council had undertaken a survey of views concerning the use of the County bus subsidies. He would be attending a briefing on 10th. June to hear the results. The bus service to the village was irregularly reliable.

VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT GROUP

In the absence of the Chairman Cliff Foster, David Lewis, VDS Secretary, gave a brief outline of the uses for a VDS and said that the online questionnaire would be available for a few more weeks before it was taken down so that analysis could begin.

CITY COUNCILLOR

Cllr. Richard Poulter said that while Cllr. Mike Harris was unwell he was available to assist East Hanningfield residents. He was presently Vice Chair of the City Planning Committee and described the Sainsbury planning application in South Woodham Ferrers.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr. Ian Grundy drew the attention of those present to the forthcoming Police commissioner's meeting on 17th. July at County Hall. He reported that potholes were a major issue around the county, but work was underway to address this. The County Council had made a bid to the Government for infrastructure projects.

PRESCHOOL

Serene Brown said that Preschool was very grateful to the councils that had provided grants so that they were able to complete their outside play area. Unfortunately, the tractor tyre kept being moved away from the area. There would be 22 children moving on to school in September so their numbers would be very low and they were trying to recruit from a wider area.

WOMENS INSTITUTE

Flora Virgoe announced that East Hanningfield WI would be celebrating its centenary in three years time and that she would be President for the period up to and including the celebration. Membership numbers were remaining constant, and she was hoping to attract members from the two nearby branches that had closed. Their hall required some refurbishment and they would be fundraising energetically to pay for it. Initially they were hoping to raise £6,000.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

Colin Warren reported that the parish residents had been consulted on the future of the church building and congregation. Rev. Susan Iskander would be in post for a total of 18 months to assist in the

East Hanningfield Annual Parish Meeting 2014

change to a parish without a priest. The church was under threat and would not continue as it was. There was a need for younger people to get involved.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and there being no further business the meeting closed at 9.42.