

SYDERSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 15 MAY 2014 IN AMY ROBSART HALL AT 7.30PM

PRESENT: Cllr R Thompson (Chairman)
Cllr M Askew
Cllr M MacArthur
Cllr A Schmidt
Cllr G Taylor
Cllr Ms M Thompson
Parish Clerk
Seventeen Parishioners

1. Welcome
The Chairman welcomed all to the Annual Parish Meeting.
2. Apologies for absence
Mr N Riches
3. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 16 May 2013, previously approved on 20 June 2013. Chairman proposed that the Minutes be accepted. All in favour.
Resolved to approve the Minutes.
4. Defibrillator – Presentation by St John Ambulance
Ms Chris Lewis gave an informative presentation of the use of a defibrillator and a number of issues were discussed throughout the demonstration. Ms Lewis emphasised the importance that the volunteers are trained to carry out chest compressions.
Chairman thanked Ms Lewis for her time to attend this evening
5. Reports from Parish Organisations and businesses.
 - 5.1 **Defibrillator Report**
Mr Daniel Bridge addressed the meeting giving a detailed talk about defibrillators and an update on progress in setting up a group of volunteers with the group to have a Constitution, Management Committee, bank account etc. To date £628 has been raised to fund a defibrillator and 7 people have agreed to be volunteers to receive training etc.
Chairman on asking the Parishioners in attendance, together with the Parish Councillors, identified that there was overall support for obtaining a defibrillator. The meeting agreed that the Parish Council could consider giving some financial support towards the cost of the purchase.
Chairman thanked Mr Bridge for his presentation
 - 5.2 **Amy Robsart Hall** *See Appendix 1 for the Report.*
Cllr MacArthur presented the Annual Report to the meeting on behalf of the Chairman Mr N Riches.

Cllr Taylor thanked Avril MacArthur, Cllr MacArthur and the Chairman for their efforts to restore the Post Office Services in the Amy Robsart Hall
 - 5.3 **St Mary's Church** *See Appendix 2 for the Report*
Mr B Wells, Church Warden, presented the Report.
Chairman enquired about any major repairs to be undertaken at the Church. Mr Wells confirmed that the major repairs relate to the coping stones on the east end which are breaking up and works likely to be approximately £28,000

5.4 **Art@Robbart Hall** *See Appendix 3 for the Report*

Mrs Goff presented the Report.

Chairman asked if running any more photographic competitions. Mrs Goff confirmed that these are held every other year with the next one due in October 2015

5.5 **Any other reports**

Mrs Goff presented the Hunstanton & Burnham Market Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel (SNAP) Report. *See Appendix 4 for the Report*

There were no other reports and Chairman thanked all for their presentations.

6. Issues raised by electors
None.

Chairman thanked all for attending and there being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.31pm.

Appendix 1

AMY ROBSART (SYDERSTONE) VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

Winner of the EDP/NRCC Community Building Award 2009

Chairman: Mr Norman Riches 'Birches', Mill Lane, Syderstone, King's Lynn Norfolk PE31 8RX

2013 – 2014 Chairman's Report

To Syderstone Parish Annual Meeting 15th May 2014

This year marks the first full year of operation of our Solar Panels and I am pleased to report that they are providing an important and significant income for the hall and should continue to do so for a further 20 years.

Following on from Philip and Eileen's retirement from the Post Office last June a concerted effort was made to re-establish the outreach PO service in the hall. The first attempt failed at the last stage, but I am pleased to say that a new provider has agreed to take this on and a twice weekly service should be operational soon.

Many thanks to Avril and Malcolm MacArthur and Barry Wells (2) for all their efforts in setting this up.

Our Lottery club continues to provide another important source of income for the hall and I am grateful to Gerry Taylor for his continued commitment to this valuable and entertaining scheme.

The Village Screen cinema also continues to be successful and not only provides income for the hall, but also encourages people from the local area to meet and socialise whilst enjoying current and popular films in a pleasant environment.

Thanks to all those involved especially Malcolm.

The Wednesday Coffee Morning despite variable attendance during the past year appears to be growing in popularity.

Thanks to Marion, Kate, Renee, Ted, Mike, Jennifer and Jenny for making this such a popular event.

Kate Black stood down as the Coffee Morning Representative on the Committee this year. We thank her for her loyal support both in the past and for her continued involvement in hall activities.

Sheila and Avril have continued to make the 'Old Syderstonians' reunions enjoyable and well attended events, and I would like to thank them both for all the time they have committed to this popular, social biannual get-together, which has now been running since 2006.

The amount of village history now amassed has required us to look at installing fitted cupboards in the annexe in order to avoid us having to move to a larger house! – this project is in hand.

Other projects which have kept the Committee occupied this year have been the decision to try and obtain funding for

- a) Replacement double glazed windows to the current standard.
- b) A replacement wet heating system which would maximise the use of the energy provided by the solar panels, reduce our energy bills and should provide a source of income for the hall for the next 20 years.

I would like to thank Barrie(1), Barry(2) for their support in this project, but in particular, Roddie MacLeod who as Project Manager has worked tirelessly to ensure we are in a good position to progress this.

Many thanks to the Committee and all our invaluable band of loyal supporters for their continued help at our hall functions, it is much appreciated.

Norman Riches

Appendix 2

Report from St Mary's Church for Syderstone Annual Parish Meeting May 2014

Our Jubilee Garden which was done by the Villagers on waste ground adjacent to the Churchyard is now complete and a plaque has been installed on a plinth telling visitors about the project. The Churchyard continues to get favourable comment from visitors and the P.C.C. and villagers are very grateful to the Parish Council for the cutting of the grass.

Last year we applied to Heritage Lottery for a Grant to provide funding for maintenance to the Church building. Unfortunately this was turned down. We were advised to apply to smaller Grant providers in order to carry out the more urgent work first, which we are now in the process of doing. Hopefully work can start and finish before the winter.

We are hosting our usual events this year, the next being our Open Gardens on 22nd June. These events provide an opportunity for social get togethers as well as raising much needed funds for the Church.

We look forward to another year of working together with our fellow organisations to maintain the social and spiritual life of the Village.

J Wells

Appendix 3

SYDERSTONE PARISH COUNCIL - ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2014

ART @ AMY ROBSART – Annual Report

Another excellent year, with high standards of art and needlework maintained. The 2013 highlight was our involvement with St.Mary's Church Art Exhibition in October and the supporting activities in Amy Robsart Hall, where the village Photographic Competition and Exhibition was linked to the club's 'fringe' weekend. All these activities were very well supported and financially productive. Each time we run these events we anticipate less financial success – but we were delighted to be proved wrong and even more delighted to be able to support the church in this positive way. Credit must go to the hard work of the group (and their spouses and friends) and the great support we received from visitors – not only from our 'three villages' but also elsewhere. As always, everyone shared the work over the weekend, selling refreshments and the many items we had on offer. Ron Wetherell ran a very successful village Photographic event, with the standard of photographs judged to be even higher than in previous years. Dizzy Goff organized the Art exhibition in Church (with help from muscle men Barrie Wells, Nick Ison and Bob Goff) and this also proved successful, with members of Art @ Amy Robsart selling well, and with their work much admired. The group continues to enjoy its Wednesday afternoons in the cheerful environment of Amy Robsart Hall and wishes to express thanks to the hall committee for not raising the cost of hiring - this allowed us to continue offering our sessions of 10 or 11 weeks at only £10 per term. Good value for money!

Membership is maintained at around the 20 mark – an ideal number for the Hall and manageable for Bob Goff, who set ups and clears away for us. The group has welcomed two new members this year (Eileen Fenwick and Linda Pearse) but sadly ill-health has caused some absences which it is hoped will prove temporary. These absences do mean, however, that we are able to accept a small number of new members – both painting/drawing or sewing. Anyone interested is invited to contact Dizzy Goff on 01485 578527.

DIZZY GOFF – Art @ Amy Robsart - 15 May 2014

Appendix 4

Report to Syderstone Parish Annual Meeting 15th May 2014

HUNSTANTON & BURNHAM MARKET SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PANEL **[SNAP]**

'SNAPS' are Safer Neighbourhood Action Panels which are organized by the West Norfolk Partnership and held jointly with the Police, Borough and County Councils, representatives of Parish Councils and members of the public. These groups meet every two months to highlight issues of anti-social behaviour and local crime which threaten the safety of our communities. Issues discussed and highlighted are directed to the relevant body or authority for action and report back. The groups are chaired by a Borough Councillor.

Although all parish councils and residents' groups within the very wide area covered by the Hunstanton and Burnham Market division are invited to the two-monthly meetings, general attendance is poor. It is true that we are not in an area of massive anti social behaviour but it is important that local groups show an interest in the efforts being made by the council and the police. It has been noted that Syderstone has been regularly represented on this group since its inception and its attendance has proved positive in making useful contacts.

Representing the village of Syderstone, I have attended five out of the six meetings held in the past year. Most of the problems raised have been centered on Heacham and Hunstanton, but input from a Syderstone perspective has I hope been helpful to the group. In more specific terms, it has been possible to raise the problem of drug-taking on Syderstone common and the scattering of nitrous-oxide capsules and, over the last two meetings, to discuss the wide-spread problems of dog-fouling in general and on Syderstone Common in particular - this has now been given a priority rating for the next meeting. SNAP attendees have been interested to hear about the proactive approach taken in this village by the Parish Council and by the ongoing efforts in the village to improve conditions. It is positive to report that an inter-agency approach is now being adopted with regard to giving fixed penalties to those who are not cleaning up after their dogs. Alongside general discussions about nuisance telephone calls and computer 'spam' aimed at getting vulnerable people to pass over their personal details, it has also been possible to highlight how upsetting it is to be in receipt of certain types of unsolicited mail. Anyone concerned about approaches of this kind are advised to contact the Police on 101.

Crime figures in this area have remained fairly static over the last year, actually dropping in many sectors. However, with the influx of summer visitors the Police warn us to lock up our cars and not to leave valuables on view and to shut windows and lock doors when we go out. A sad indictment of the times, but better to be safe than sorry.

Dizzy Goff
15 May 2014