

SYDERSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 19 MAY 2016 IN AMY ROBSART HALL

PRESENT: Cllr R Thompson (Chairman)
Cllr M Askew
Cllr M Bateman
Cllr D Daly
Cllr G Taylor
Cllr Ms M Thompson
The Clerk
Three Parishioners

1. Apologies for absence
Cllr MacArthur.
2. Election of Chairman
Cllr R Thompson invited nominations for Chairman. Cllr Askew proposed Cllr RThompson, Cllr Bateman seconded. There were no other nominations. Cllr R Thompson accepted.
Resolved to appoint Cllr R Thompson as Chairman.
3. Declaration of Acceptance of office as the Chairman
Declaration signed and received at the Meeting for Chairman.
4. Election of Vice Chairman
Chairman invited nominations for Vice Chairman. Cllr Askew proposed Cllr Taylor, Cllr Ms Thompson seconded. There were no other nominations, Cllr Taylor accepted.
Resolved to appoint Cllr Taylor as Vice Chairman.
5. Appointment of Responsible Financial Officer
Chairman proposed Mr Lloyd – all agreed. Mr Lloyd accepted. **Resolved to appoint Mr Lloyd as Responsible Financial Officer.**
6. Appointment of Internal Auditor
Chairman thanked Mrs Goff for carrying out the Internal Audit for 2015/16 and proposed that Mrs Goff to be reappointed – all agreed. **Resolved to appoint Mrs Goff as Internal Auditor.**
7. Appointment of Representatives and Spokespersons
 - 7.1 Chairman proposed that authorised cheque signatories (Chairman, Cllr Taylor, Cllr Daly) continue. All agreed.
 - 7.2 Jack's Lane Windfarm Fund Panel
Confirmed as Cllr Taylor.
 - 7.3 SNAP
Confirmed as Cllr Bateman.
 - 7.4 Amy Robsart Village Hall
Confirmed as Cllr Taylor.
8. Chairman's report
Chairman report previously circulated. Report agreed. Cllr Taylor thanked Cllr Askew for his continued work overseeing the playing field.
See Appendix 1 for the Report

9. To consider for approval the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 21 May 2015, previously approved on 18 June 2015. **Resolved to approve the Minutes.**
10. To consider for approval accounts for 2015/16, previously approved on 21 April 2016
Resolved to approve the accounts for financial year 2015/16.

There being no further Annual Parish Council Meeting business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.55 pm

Appendix 1 - Chairman's Report

SYDERSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman's Report for the Year Ending 31 March 2016

Much of the Parish Council's effort and budget addressed the village playground. The adventure trail was removed as the timber was beginning to rot and was beyond repair. The bank slide was upgraded and replaced, once again due to timber problems and the safety surface under the swings was also replaced. With a grant from the Jacks Lane community fund a roundabout was installed and has been a great hit with the village children. In all some £9,000 was spent with 50% of this being grant funded.

With the aid of a 50% grant from Norfolk County Council partnership program, a footpath was installed along Mill Lane, providing off-road access to the business park and the nearby entrance to Syderstone Common.

From April 2015 faster broadband connections became available increasing the speed in the centre of the village from 3mps to 30mps, but not all of the village benefitted and further enhancements to the local broadband network are planned.

Mobile phone reception remains dismal with processions of holidaymakers walking up The Street to the church with their mobile phones held aloft in order to get a signal. The mobile phone reception problem is due to users only being able to access the nearest phone mast from their own mobile phone supplier. A slight ray of hope is the merger of BT and EE who will eventually share masts. The proposed merger of O2 and Three would have shared their masts, but the EU has blocked this merger.

The Jacks Lane windfarm operated throughout the year and community grants are available through the Norfolk Community Foundation (NCF). The Chiplow windfarm was completed in March 2016, with four turbines. The planned fifth turbine was dropped because at full height it would interfere with the Marham radar and the power company did not wish to install a smaller turbine. No details of Chiplow community benefits have been announced and these are not likely to become available until March 2017.

For the coming year the Parish Council has secured funding to maintain its services. Additionally, a footpath will be installed along Rudham Road to give safe off-road access to that entrance to the common. Subject to successful grant applications, additional play equipment is planned for the village playground.

I conclude by thanking my fellow Councillors for their excellent teamwork this past year, together with a special thanks to our Parish Clerk, Brian Lloyd, and our Internal Auditor, Denise Goff

Cllr Reg Thompson
Chairman, Syderstone Parish Council
19 May 2016