

# SYDERSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 18 MAY 2017 IN AMY ROBSART HALL AT 7.00PM

**PRESENT:** Cllr R Thompson (Chairman)  
Cllr M Bateman  
Cllr M Beauchamp  
Cllr D Daly  
Cllr D Niemann  
Cllr G Taylor  
Parish Clerk  
One Parishioner

---

1. Welcome  
The Chairman welcomed all to the Annual Parish Meeting.
2. Apologies for absence  
Cllr M Chenery.
3. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 19 May 2016, previously approved on 16 June 2016. Chairman proposed that the Minutes be accepted. All in favour.  
**Resolved to approve the Minutes.**
4. Reports from Parish Organisations and businesses.
  - 4.1 Syderstone Community Fund Raising Group  
No report received
  - 4.2 Amy Robsart Hall *See Appendix 1 for the Report*  
Clerk read out the report.
  - 4.3 St Mary's Church  
No report received – Chairman advised that the Church has a new website [www.syderstone.org](http://www.syderstone.org)
  - 4.4 Art@Robsart Hall *See Appendix 2 for the Report*  
Clerk read out the report.
  - 4.5 Any other reports  
No further reports.Chairman thanked all for their reports.
5. Issues raised by electors  
None.

Chairman thanked all for attending and there being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.15pm.

## **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**

2016 – 2017 Chairman's Report  
To Syderstone Parish Annual Meeting 18th May 2017

The major achievements this year have been the installation of Phase 1 of the new renewable heating system and installation of new double glazed windows.

Thanks go to Roddie MacLeod, Chris Little and Barrie Wells for all their help with these projects. All these projects have only become viable with a significant input from hall assets.

Various grant applications for Phase 2 (completion of both ends of the hall) have been submitted and we have already been promised £1,000 from the Geoffrey Watling Foundation.

Two new user groups have started during the past year – Yoga and Table Tennis, the latter represented by Dan Bridge who was co-opted onto the Committee but now sits on it by right, he also acts as liaison between the Village Hall and Village Fundraising Group.

All our regular users continue to provide support for the hall and a valuable contribution to the village and local residents

Attendance at the popular Wednesday Coffee Mornings has increased recently mainly as result of new village residents, this regular informal get together provides an important community benefit.

Art/Craft has also maintained good attendance and allows those present the opportunity to share their hobbies with others.

The satellite Post Office service has maintained a sustained transaction rate and is a valued asset to the hall and the village and continues to be a frequent winner of the coffee morning raffle.

Ladies Keep Fit and Rainbows remain popular and still hold the record for our longest running groups

Gerry Taylor has had some help this year with running the Lottery Club so has been able to continue his management of this important fundraiser on behalf of the hall.

The Old Syderstonians / Family History Days still attract a loyal following and some attendees continue to travel considerable distances, sometimes despite infirmities to attend these popular events.

The WW1 Project has resulted in contact with the Imperial War Museum and life stories of local servicemen who served and several of whom died in this conflict are currently been transferred to the [www.livesofthefirstworldwar.org](http://www.livesofthefirstworldwar.org) website.

The newly restructured cinema support group has functioned well this past year and most screenings are well attended.

We have to again thank Chris Pearse for constructing and installing the "cage" around the new heating system controls and also for the construction of the target frames for the pistol group, approval for which we hope to gain in the very near future.

Looking to the future, we will have to review our hire charges due to the increase in costs of essential overheads such as insurance, energy bills and maintenance. We have not made any increase in hire charges for several years and need to avoid leaving it until a large increase is required.

I conclude my report with a heartfelt thankyou to all village hall committee members, past and present, volunteers, supporters and grant funders/ administrators, without whose help the hall could not continue.

Norman Riches (Chairman)

## **Appendix 2**

### **Annual Parish Meeting - 18 May 2017**

#### **ART @ AMY ROBSART – Annual Report**

The past year has seen a number of changes within the Group.

Ann Walters who held the keys and planned the diary withdrew from the Group at the end of the Autumn Term. She is much missed, so on behalf of all Group members past and present, we thank her for her generous support over many years and wish her health and happiness in her, soon to be, new home. Linda Pearse has taken up responsibility for the hall keys and setting the diary, together with subscriptions, hall fees and register. Margaret Litchfield and Sandra Quince continue to take care of the half-time Refreshments, providing a welcome break and the opportunity to review and encourage each others' work whilst enjoying a chat. Finally, grateful thanks to all the kind volunteers who set up and put away the tables and chairs.

We have again welcomed some new participants to the Group whilst, for various reasons, also lost a few. The register for the start of the 2016 Summer Term listed 21 whilst the 2017 Summer Term register lists 19. In the hope of slightly increasing our numbers, the Term programme continues to be posted on the Village web-site and a small advertisement has also been included in the Parish Newsletter.

A very diverse range of Art & Craft activities continue to be undertaken by Members. These range from work in watercolours, pastels and pencil to quilting, patchwork, tapestry, cross-stitch and knitting. There being an increase in the number of members working on needlecraft projects this year.

**The Summer Term 2016** began on 4 May for 10 weeks with an average attendance of 11. The Hall was closed to us on 18 May to enable work on the new heating system. The Term included a most enjoyable and successful pottery/ceramic painting session run by Suzy of PaintMeCeramics in Hunstanton. The Term ended with an Afternoon Tea Party held at Linda Pearse's home.

**The Autumn Term** began on 14 September for 11 weeks and averaged 11 members per Session. The new heating system proved extremely successful and members very much appreciated the much warmer central area of the Hall during the colder months. The Term ended just before Christmas with a little 'seasonal' refreshment to accompany the usual coffee and biscuits!

**The Spring Term** began on 18 January for 11 weeks and averaged 10 per session. The 2017 Summer Term will begin on 10 May for 10 weeks ending with our Afternoon Tea Party on 26 July.

In the coming months we look forward to the successful completion of the heating project and ultimately an improved kitchen facility. Meanwhile it is hoped that we can introduce a few new Members to Art and Craft at Amy Robsart Village Hall – a vital part of our community.

Linda Pearse

April 2017