

**MINUTES OF THE HUNTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 23RD MAY 2016
AT HUNTON VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Cllr G Thomas as Chairman, Cllrs A Trought, S Wyles, T Stanbridge, D Heaton and J Goddard and Mrs S Goodwin, Clerk. They were joined by at least 28 members of the public.

1. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed all those present at the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Borough Councillor Brian Mortimer, PCSO Matt Judges, Reverend Peter Callway (Peace Cottages Charity), Louise Horlock (Hunton & Linton Pre-School), Philip Nichols (Hunton Village Club), Tricia Nichols (Hunton Club Book Group), Ann Sawtell (Hunton Walking Group), Jane Langdon (Hunton WI) and Sue Wyles (Huntonwatch).

3. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 18TH MAY 2015

The minutes of the meeting had been circulated and it was agreed that the minutes be approved as an accurate record. The Chairman signed off the official copy.

4. POLICE REPORT

PCSO Judges was unable to attend the meeting, but had prepared a report which was distributed and is published as a separate document. Cllr Wyles read out the report on behalf of PCSO Judges.

5. COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORT

Community Warden Adam McKinley read his report, which is published as a separate document.

6. REPORTS FROM LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

Twenty local organisations reported on their activities over the last year. The reports, either written reports provided by members of the organisations, or verbal reports summarised by the Clerk, are published as a separate document.

The Chairman commented on how wonderful it was to receive reports on so many different activities in the village.

7. REPORT FROM THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

County Cllr Stockell read out parts of her report, which had been distributed at the meeting and is published as a separate document.

A parishioner asked Cllr Stockell about timescales for flooding issues. Cllr Stockell advised that Hunton and Yalding are very much on her radar and outlined the responsibilities for flooding. Cllr Wyles commented that the Environment Agency (EA) is pushing forward a scheme which is dependent on a new flood storage area being built on the River Beult. The EA is not interested in the short-term measures which could be put in place as they would lessen the possibility of the long-term solution (flood storage area).

Cllr Stockell will be discussing with the Parish Council the possibility of a 30mph speed limit throughout the whole of the village and is aiming to make the 20mph advisory speed limit outside the school a mandatory speed limit.

8. REPORTS FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

Borough Cllr Mortimer was unable to attend the meeting.

Borough Cllr Webb reported that the Draft Local Plan has been submitted to the Planning Inspector, who will check its worthiness.

Elections have just taken place – Emily Fermor has been elected as a borough councillor for Coxheath & Hunton Ward, replacing John Wilson. The political structure at Maidstone Borough Council is now: 23 Conservatives; 22 Liberal Democrats; 5 Independents; 2 Labour; and 2 UKIP. There is one vacancy, following the death of a UKIP member.

The Annual Meeting of the Council was held on 21st May, when Derek Butler was appointed Mayor and Malcolm Greer Deputy Mayor. The status quo remains as far as leadership is concerned, with Fran Wilson as Leader and Fay Gooch as Deputy Leader. There are no Borough Council elections next year as it is the County Council election.

A Sainsbury's mini supermarket is planned for Coxheath.

Cllr Webb reported that Cllr Mortimer had been receiving chemotherapy treatment for cancer, but has now been given the all clear and was back in circulation and in good health.

Borough Cllr Fermor stated that this evening's meeting was her first parish council meeting as a borough councillor and she had thoroughly enjoyed it. She had also attended and enjoyed the opening of the new cricket pavilion. Cllr Fermor is a member of the Policy & Resources Committee at the Borough Council, as well as being a substitute member of the Planning Committee, which she is keen to be involved in.

9. REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council had prepared a summary report, including the receipts and payments figures for 2015/16, which was read out by the Chairman, distributed at the meeting and is published as a separate document.

The Chairman thanked Roger Sawtell, who has stood down from the Parish Council, for his many years of service, including 19 years as Chairman. The Chairman thanked Ron Porter, who had also stood down, and had been the clerk at one time as well as a parish councillor.

The Chairman is looking forward to working with all the borough councillors in the future.

Thanks were given to everyone for attending the meeting.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No one had any other business to discuss.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9:40pm.