

# **Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting for 2017**

**Held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May in Granby Village Hall 7.00pm.**

**Being present** Cllr.P Straw Chairman of the Parish Council took the chair and welcomed those present to the meeting.

**Apologies** received from: - Cllrs Betts & Daw. A Sinclair, S Taylor, E Walsh.

**Present** Cllrs. Humphreys, Preece, Salden & Rainbow and 11 parishioners plus Parish Clerk Ann Coy.

**Minutes of the APM for 2016:** The agenda had directed readers to the parish council website to view the minutes before the meeting.

It was agreed that the minutes were a true record of the 2016 meeting.

**Matters Arising:** None.

Reports were invited from the following groups:

**PC report. Cllr Straw.**

Good evening everyone and welcome to this our annual parish meeting.

The parish council is legally required to hold this rather formal meeting every year. It is an opportunity for the parish Council and the various groups and societies in our two villages to report on our activities during the last year.

This is my report specifically on PC matters.

The PC meets every month, except for August on the second Thursday of the month here in the VH. In common with all PCs there are strict guidelines on how we operate - with formal agendas and minutes. Anyone is free to attend the meetings and there is an opportunity at the beginning of every meeting for residents to raise any issues or concerns.

The parish council is responsible for maintaining the village hall, cemetery, the churchyard and the various greens around the villages and this is funded by a precept from the council tax we all pay. We also pay a caretaker for the village hall. Ann is our paid clerk who supervises our meetings, manages the money and ensures that we follow the procedures that apply to all parish councils.

I am again pleased to be able to say this year that we remain in a strong financial position and have again not found it necessary to increase the precept this year.

We are able to comment on behalf of residents on all planning applications before they are ruled upon by Rushcliffe's planning department. A few of these, and one in particular involving a non- resident and agricultural land has taken a lot of our time and effort!

We try to ensure that our community gets maximum direct benefit from the various services provided by Rushcliffe BC and Notts. CC and above all we have the resources to take initiatives that benefit our community. The big initiative this year, which is totally down to the persistence and determination of John Rainbow, is to provide some adult exercise equipment on the children's playground at the rear of the village hall. A grant application has been made to cover the whole cost from the lottery fund and we are awaiting a decision.

Apart from Brexit the big national event last year was the Queen's 90th birthday in June and it was decided that our parish would have a weekend of activities to mark this. The parish council helped with the organisation, but most of the activities were championed by other groups. The weekend started by a royal sing along in the village hall on the Friday evening. There was a special parish boundary walk on the Saturday and an excellent musical pub event organised by Loz and Su in the evening.

On the Sunday afternoon Angela and Hugh Sinclair, very generously, hosted a special tea party on behalf of the WI. Unfortunately, the weather was not kind to us, but this did not spoil the event. Sam Salden arranged some excellent children's entertainment and activities

and our long-term resident May Moulds kindly presented Royal Mint commemorative coins on behalf of the parish council to all our community children to mark the Queen's birthday. A special church service on the Sunday evening was a finale to the weekend. Erika entered Granby into the Nottinghamshire best kept village competition again and for the second year in a row and Granby came first in our small village category. This was again down to residents maintaining their gardens and frontages and to the special efforts of our group of volunteers who gave their time and energy to support our village clean up sessions. We have entered the competition again this year, and Erika has persuaded Sutton to enter too, so we will have to see what happens when the judging takes place in June/July. We have already had two village clean up sessions allied to this and another is planned for later this month. Our sincere thanks to our band of volunteers who have been helping with these. Early last year Andy Betts worked to get our village pub registered as an Asset of Community value. This is a formal process administered by Rushcliffe BC that provides our community with an opportunity to find a way to protect against the potential loss of an amenity such as a pub. In January, the owner of the Marquis announced his intention to sell the pub and invoked this process and Andy organised and chaired a meeting here to discuss possible next steps. The event was very well attended and many residents volunteered to follow this up and seek a way of retaining the pub for the community. A small group are continuing discussions on this and we wait to see what happens next. Sam has kindly continued this year with her Kidspot activities which bring young children and Mums together every so often for craft and fun events – most recently with an Easter egg hunt.

This March our valiant monthly coffee morning ladies Gwen James and Elizabeth Howard decided to retire and we would like to thank them for their initiative in starting and running these for the last nine years. We now have a volunteer rota scheme for the coffee mornings so this excellent community activity will continue.

On a rather negative note I should mention the perennial problem of traffic speeding through our villages. The police have now sadly withdrawn all support for our Speedwatch activities which have proved an occasional, but effective, speeding deterrent in the past. Our traffic flow is not sufficient for us to qualify for Notts CC sponsored speed signage, which we know is effective in other villages and they will not allow us to install our own temporary signage. Sadly, this means that the inconsiderate few can speed through our villages with virtual impunity sometimes whilst using their mobile phones! Speeding is a real problem that we still need to find a way of addressing!

In January Christine Lineker unfortunately had to resign as a Councillor and we would like to thank her for her contribution over the last ten years. We welcomed Brenda Preece as her replacement last month and this restores our preferred balance of having two councillors of our seven as Sutton residents.

Brenda was co-opted onto the council and we were very pleased to have received interest from five very well qualified applicants for the vacancy as part of this process. This bodes very well for the future when elections are due or vacancies arise.

We rely very heavily on the help and support of our Borough and County Councillors who often attend our meetings. Sadly, Martin Suthers who had supported us for many years passed away a year ago and we miss him very much. Francis Purdue-Horan who replaced him has given us excellent support since. Our Borough Councillor Adeline Pell unfortunately had to resign recently due to other work commitments and we would particularly like to thank her for her dedicated support and efforts which she continued with even latterly when she knew she was finishing. We welcome and congratulate Sarah Bailey who was elected as her replacement just this month.

Finally, I would like to thank all my fellow councillors on the parish council for all their time and efforts. Thank you also to Su Kennedy our village hall caretaker and a very special thank you from all of us, and especially from me as Chair to Ann Coy our parish clerk for her continued conscientious help and support.

## **PCC All Saints Church – Cllr. Preece on behalf of Angela Sinclair.**

Services have followed the usual pattern throughout the year with the exception of the Evening Service on the first Sunday of the month which was suspended during the winter months. There have been no funerals or weddings this year and just one baptism.

In September the Historic Churches Ride and Stride fundraising event took place and there were 25 visitors to All Saints. We also had a visit from a fundraising group from All Saints Barnby-in-the-Willows near Newark who were sponsored to visit a number of churches dedicated to 'All Saints'

In December the Concert Party performed their ever popular Christmas Cheer Concert to a full church of all ages and we were very grateful to receive a generous donation of £500 from the players.

In February we were delighted to invite Bishop Paul of Southwell to Granby to dedicate the new Altar Kneelers. This project was instigated by the WI to celebrate their 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary but involved exceptional talent from the whole community, producing a unique design beautifully and intricately worked, which brought the village together in a very special way. We had a full church for the dedication and Bishop Paul joined the congregation afterwards for refreshments in the Village Hall, hosted by the WI.

The Bookswap continues at the back of the church as does the collection of clothes etc which are taken to the Friary Drop In Centre. Donations to both these schemes are very welcome.

The church remains open every day throughout the year during daylight hours and we are very grateful to Elizabeth Howard and Ann Coy who open and lock up the church every day. We also have a dedicated band of people, not all regular churchgoers but who have a high regard for the church in the village, who regularly clean, supply and arrange flowers every week and keep the church looking welcoming and cared for throughout the year. We thank them for their quiet dedication. Thanks, too, to the Bellringers who ring for all services and any special occasions and our particular thanks to our organist Elizabeth Howard for her unstinting contribution to the services.

The six parishes of the Wiveton Group have now been amalgamated into one Parish – Wiveton-in-the-Vale – with one Parochial Church Council, each church having two representatives on the new PCC. Each church remains as the parish church of its original parish. This has been brought about to ease administration and the pattern of services should remain largely the same.

## **Granby & Sutton WI – Brenda Straw.**

As the newly elected President of Granby and Sutton Women's Institute I am pleased to report on our activities during the last year 2016-2017.

I am pleased to report another happy and successful year for Granby and Sutton W.I. We have enjoyed a variety of speakers and outings. We visited the Flower Pod charity at Brackenhurst College in May and Wentworth Woodhouse in Yorkshire in July

We held our annual plant and cake coffee morning in May and successfully raised funds for our WI.

Our chosen charity for the year was the Vale of Belvoir First Responders.

The Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration tea in June was hosted at Granby House, the home of Angela and Hugh Sinclair, and our WI was pleased to provide afternoon tea for the village.

Our Christmas evening this year was spent in the village hall – a catering company provided us with a three course meal, and they washed up!

Our community project to replace the Church kneelers was completed this year. A service of dedication at All Saints was conducted by The Rt Revd Paul Williams, Bishop of Southwell and Nottingham. Refreshments were provided in the village hall after the service by our WI.

This year is special for us because we celebrated our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in January. We enjoyed a fish and chip supper and celebration cake. We are also pleased to celebrate this year the one hundred year Anniversary of Nottingham Federation.

We have lost and gained some members this year, and our membership stands at 25. New members are always welcome to join us for learning and friendship!

### **All Saints Church Bell Ringers – Mr M Tubbs.**

Whilst the number of Granby bell ringers has remained stable at six, the standard of ringing is improving, mainly as a result of holding joint practices with other towers in the area on a Thursday night.

Unfortunately, injuries & absences mean that we don't often get a full band for Sunday ringing, but we usually manage to get two or three bells going to announce services.

Any newcomers, young or adult, will be made most welcome.

### **Granby Ladies Thursday Club – Jane Tubbs on behalf of Elaine Walsh.**

Granby Ladies Thursday Club continued to thrive during 2016/17 with a variety of activities bringing members together for entertainment, fun and companionship. There were some events that have become favourites which, coincidentally all involve partaking of food!!!! skittles night with bangers and mash supper, our annual garden party and buffet, and the annual Christmas meal outing.

We also rang the changes with a talk from a TV and film 'extra', had an insight into Old Time Music Hall (the speaker even had us singing) and (food again) got some good advice on Healthy Eating. All meetings were well supported with an average of 20 members attending.

Perhaps the most notable occasion in 2016 was the celebrations for the Queens 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday and GLTC played its part in this too. The Club organised a skittles game at the village fete held in the garden of Mr & Mrs Sinclair. We had lots of keen players, mostly children, all of whom were given sweets as a 'prize'.

At the AGM in January 2017 we had 23 members signed up for the forthcoming year.

### **Gardening Club – Mrs B Straw on behalf of Stan Taylor.**

Minutes of Granby cum Sutton Annual Parish Meeting May 11<sup>th</sup> 2017

During the past year the Granby and Sutton Garden and Allotment Club has continued to meet on the First Tuesday of the month. Membership of the Club has remained in the mid 20's which, bolstered by a few guests allows us to continue our monthly meetings. However more extensive activities such as coach trips are more difficult to arrange. Additional members are always welcome.

A programme of local Garden visits is arranged during the summer months. Our Garden visits are usually in the evening however following a trial of daytime visits in summer 2016 we have an afternoon visit planned in 2017.

In May last year our summer visits got off to a good start with a visit to Russell's Nursery at Little Bytham for a talk on container planting combined with some plant retail therapy.

We visited an urban garden in Woodthorpe, Nottingham in June which has been built on the site of a disused railway line with a tunnel entrance as a major feature. Despite the heavy rain the choice planting and design was appreciated.

July took us to Barracca at Earl Shilton, Leicestershire which is an extensive semi-urban garden developed over the last 30 yrs.

Also In July we joined with the Walking Group and Wine Club for a day visit to Laxton and Ossington including a Morning Walk around the medieval field system, Pub Lunch and visit to the Gardens at Ossington House. This was a great success and was enjoyed by all.

August took us to Sycamores House at Annesley Woodhouse. This is a 2-acre garden with a wealth of different features and fruit and vegetable beds all looked after by the very committed owners.

September was the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Home Produce Show held in the Village Hall. The number of exhibits was a little greater than in 2015 with the support Kidspot the event was again judged a success. The Sam Lee trophy presented to the overall winner of the show was awarded to John Daw.

During the winter months' meetings were held in the Village Hall usually with a speaker delivering an illustrated talk on a subject of gardening interest. We have had a varied programme and thanks go to Carole Kirk for arranging the speakers.

### **Sutton & Granby singers – Isabel Daw.**

The major event for the group was the village celebration of The Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday last June. We rehearsed a programme of songs through the decades of The Queen's life. We started at the very beginning (*a very good place to start*) in the era of jazz, through the war years, then her romance and marriage to Prince Philip, their Commonwealth trips on balmy shores and their love of musicals from which they adopted "People will say we're in love" as their song. We sympathised with her on the problems of bringing up children with "Putting on the Style". We concluded with songs about London and the usual end of proms songs, Land of Hope and Glory, Rule Britannia and of course The National Anthem. The audience enthusiastically joined in this vary varied programme.

The £50 donated on the door was spent on plants for Sutton village green and 4 sacks of daffodils to plant along Sutton Lane to match the side of established bulbs. When it came to doing battle with the briars, thorns and ivy, I wondered why I had chosen to do that!

Our annual Christmas Cheer on December 13<sup>th</sup> was to a packed audience of 130 in a beautifully decorated church, all joining in with the familiar rounds and medleys and

Minutes of Granby cum Sutton Annual Parish Meeting May 11<sup>th</sup> 2017

enjoying the new songs such as "Ring Bells" which I arranged especially to highlight the skill of our hand bell ringers, Erika and John. Solos included Andy on the saxophone and Andrew with his unique take on the antics at office parties and duets by Isabel and Mark of "Baby it's Cold Outside" and The Snowman theme "Walking in the Air". The audience was particularly delighted with the confident and enthusiastic singing from the children of "Frosty the Snowman", "When Santa Got Stuck up the Chimney" and "Jingle Bells".

We donated £500 to Granby Church funds and anticipate the next Christmas Cheer to be on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, a little earlier than usual.

I am fortunate to have a willing and hardworking group of people behind the scenes, in particular Carole and Michael.

We are also preparing a programme for 2018 to mark the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> World War and have already rehearsed some poignant songs for this. We expect that the village as a whole may commemorate this event.

### **Wine Club - Michael Headland.**

The Group is now in its seventh year and currently has 38 members. Almost all of the members still come from Granby and Sutton but there are still four members from other villages.

We started the year in May 2016 with a tasting of a collection of wines purchased (not produced) within 5 miles of Granby presented by Keith and Alan. We followed this on June the 19<sup>th</sup> with a combined walk, garden visit and wine at the Dovecote in Loxton. The members of all three groups enjoyed the day.

On July 22<sup>nd</sup> we held our Annual BBQ and this time in Stan & Shirley's garden. The weather was kind to us and the event made a bit of a splash (more for some than others). We again tasted wines from Majestic's summer collection and we are grateful to Stan & Shirley for all their efforts. We returned to the Village Hall in August to taste French wines that Chris & Chris had brought home with them from their holiday.

We were also in the Village Hall in September when we tasted wines made from grapes grown in volcanic ash from a single vineyard in Lanzarote that Carole and I had purchased there on our visit in August. In October we visited Veenoo's Wine Bar on Middle Pavement in Nottingham. We tasted six Italian wines that were paired with their authentic spuntini (appetisers). The food and drink was enjoyed by all.

We were also away in November when we visited the showroom of Hometown furniture in Whatton as guests of Dougie and Jane. We tasted South African wines and food. We returned home to the Village Hall for December to taste Christmas wines and canapés. We started with Champagne and then sampled wines to complement a variety of Christmas diners from Turkey to Hot Dogs. Plenty of ideas.

In January we were visited by Yohann Chaigneau from Petit Vineyard in Nottingham and sampled his wine selection from the Loire Valley. This was followed in February by David and Pat who presented to us a selection of wines and food from Umbria in Italy. In March we remained in the Village Hall to sample French wines that Andy, Anna, John and Linda had purchased from their respective homes in France.

We finished the year with a visit to the Village Hall by Majestic in Nottingham who brought a sample of wines from their current range for us to try.

We have a full programme of events for the coming months including a visit to Eglatine Vineyard, the BBQ, the combined event with the walking and gardening group, French wines and a visit to Pauls. The Subscription rate has remained at £10 per person.

### **Golf Society – Mr J Parish**

Since last year there has been a change in that I have left the village and moved to Normanton, but the other players decided that they wanted me to carry on, so after

Minutes of Granby cum Sutton Annual Parish Meeting May 11<sup>th</sup> 2017

checking there was precedent for a non- player to run a society I have continued to be captain.

We play on Thursdays or Fridays probably about 6 times a year and there are no fixed dates, we just liaise between us and find a date most can do. We play various courses in Nottinghamshire and tend to tee off at about 9am and then stay after our round for lunch. We have male and female players ranging in handicaps from 36 down to single digits and we usually play a group stable ford format so there is no particular pressure on anyone to play really well.

We used to have small golf related prizes for the winning team paid out of the kitty, but then I realised the prizes were so bad that it was actually a disincentive to be in a winning team! Therefore we have £80.97 left in the fund, and since we no longer charge any annuals we have decided that if we play any pricier courses, we will subsidise the green fees slightly until the kitty is all used up.

We are slightly struggling for numbers, so if anyone would like to join us to play the odd casual round, please contact Jim Parish.

### **Walking Group – Mr J Rainbow on behalf of Andy Betts.**

The Granby and Sutton walking group meet every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month. We generally take a circular route walking 4 or 5 miles before enjoying Sunday lunch at one of the pubs on route.

We are always looking for new routes but also have old favourites that we repeat from time to time.

In the summer we join up with the Gardening and Wine groups to combine a walk, a garden visit and a pub lunch. We go further afield on these occasions, often into Derbyshire.

Our April walk raised money for Cystic Fibrosis. The charity organised a fund raising event with walks along the Grantham to Nottingham canal.

We're a friendly bunch so if anyone wants to join us they are very welcome. Just let Andy Betts have your e mail so that you can be included on the circulation list.

### **Kidspot – Sam Salden with Georgia & Imogen.**

We've had a fantastic year doing kids activities in Granby and Sutton. We started with a great day celebrating the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday in June. We joined the walkers for a beating the bounds walk. We went to the tea party, where we played games and were entertained by Peter Presto – he was so funny! And we sang songs for the audience.

In September we joined the produce show. Where we won prizes for our cress caterpillar which all the children made together and our collages of Tara our dog and Harly the hedgehog. Lots of children won prizes.

We had a very scary Halloween disco and party with lots of slimy games to play. My favourite was guess the gunk game.

We then had a great time at Christmas crafting. We made snowman bags, owl baubles, crispy Christmas trees, fingerprint cards, stained glass window decorations, sang Christmas songs and we sang loud enough that Father Christmas came!

Lastly we had a brilliant Easter egg hunt around the village on Good Friday. We also made egg cosies and bunny party hats.

We've had a fun packed year.

**Any other business**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 7.40pm. The chairman thanked every one for attending.