

## PARISH of STOW BEDON & BRECKLES

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday, 15 May 2017 at 7.30 p.m. in St Botolph's Church, Gravelpit Hill, Stow Bedon.

Present Phil Childs (Chairman of the Parish Council), and 14 Parishioners  
Julian Gibson (Clerk)

- 1 Apologies for absence. None.
- 2 Minutes. The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday, 16 May 2016 were confirmed and signed.
- 3 Matters arising. None.
- 4 Report of the Chairman of the Parish Council. The Chairman reported on the activities of the Council for the past year. In addition to the usual applications for small developments this year there had been two larger proposed developments which aroused considerable interest among parishioners. The Council had objected to both, and in due course Breckland Council had refused permission. Grants had been made to both church PCCs towards the cost of maintaining the burial grounds in the parish, and, following requests from parishioners, a dog waste bin had been installed on Mere Road. The Chairman closed by thanking the Clerk for his work during the year.
- 5 Report of the County Councillor. The Chairman said that Councillor Fabian Eagle had been advised of the meeting, but as he had only been elected a few days previously it was not a surprise that he was unable to attend.
- 6 Report of the District Councillor. Councillor Phil Cowen gave a detailed report of the activities of his council, saying that it was with regret that it had been necessary to make a small increase to the Council Tax this year. Among other things he spoke of the success of the Riverside development in Thetford, and the development of Local Plan, which was now expected to be adopted in June 2018.
- 7 Stow Bedon PCC. Church Warden Beryl Warren gave a report on an exciting year, which had seen the church closed from 8 January to 10 December for re-roofing and re-ordering of the Nave, and she thanked Gillian Machorton for her work on this and the Trustee of the Stow Bedon Village Hall Fund for its generous grant. The Chairman commented that it was nice to be holding meetings in the church.
- 8 Breckles PCC. Church Warden Karen Allen reported on activities at St Margaret's, where the repair to the crack in the tower appears to have been successful. Sadly the hour-glass once used by preachers to time their sermons was stolen. Temporarily the theft caused the church to be kept locked during the day, but the PCC has now reaffirmed its policy to keep the building open so that visitors may come and go freely.
- 9 Stow Bedon Fuel Allotment. Phil Childs, Chairman of the Trustees of the Charity presented the annual report. This will be available on the Parish Council website.
- 10 Stow Bedon Village Hall Fund. The Chairman presented the Charity's Annual Report, which is available on the Parish Council website. The main activity of the year was the grant made to Stow Bedon PCC towards the cost of refurbishing the nave of the church to make it more usable by the community.
- 11 Any other business. None.

Confirmed:



Jonathan White, Vice-Chairman

21 May 2018