

TUNSTALL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Held on Wednesday 20th May, 2015

Present: Cllr. L. Burgess - Former Chair
Cllr. A. Spicer
Cllr. R. Spencer
Cllr. I. Davison
Cllr. L. Fincham
Cllr. E. Senior
Cllr. R. Sills
Lynda Fisher, Clerk
10 Members of the Public

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Borough Councillors Monique Bonney, Derek Conway and George Samuel due to clashing with a Borough Council meeting. County Cllr. Roger Truelove was not in attendance and has not been since May 2013, despite being advised of the meetings. The Clerk is still awaiting details of the appointment of a new PCSO.

2. Chair's Welcome and Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed Members and Parishioners to the meeting, adding that it was nice to see everyone.

3. Chairman's Report

The Chairman commented that 2014/15 has been a very fractious difficult year for the Parish Council and the Parish in general. The fallout of the School planning application has split the village in two. The Parish Council has worked to the best of its abilities and as a team during this time.

We have also had the boundary review, the results of which reared its head two weeks ago with the Elections when we had the best turnout in the country – 98%! This was due to Swale Borough Council and a problem in the Urban Ward, which is being investigated.

4. Questions/Comments from Parishioners

A resident asked about the Elections; is there going to be a petition against it as a lot of people didn't get a chance to vote. A resident asked about Borough Councillors attending the meeting; Cllr. Burgess explained they had to attend a meeting at Swale House and it fell on the same night as the Parish Council meeting. A resident complained about flood lighting in the new School site; Clerk to contact KCC regarding this. A resident was concerned that work to the driveway of a property in Sterling Road will cause flooding; Clerk to check with Swale's Enforcement Team. **Action: Clerk**

5. Any Other Matters Arising - None

Councillor Spicer then asked to say some words on behalf of residents. She commented, three weeks ago we had to say goodbye to three Members; Carole Browning who has been a Parish Councillor for 19 years; John Mills – a Parish Councillor for 10 years and Chairman of the Kent Association of Local Councils Area committee and Peter Mitchell – a Parish Councillor since 2011, who took us into the South east in Bloom Competition when we won the Bronze award and also created the Parish Newsletter. Residents presented the three with a plant, bottles of drink and each had a framed photograph of their properties in bygone years.

The meeting closed at 07.30 p.m.