

Minutes of the **Annual Parish Meeting of Rothersthorpe** held in the Village Hall, Church Street Rothersthorpe on Monday May 16<sup>th</sup> 2017 at 7.00p.m.

Present:- Mr R Boscott – Chairman, Mrs C Nolan, Mrs J Johnson, Mrs J Eliot, Miss H Griffith and Mrs J Botterill.

In Attendance: Mrs S Murphy – Clerk

Councillor Mrs J Kirkbride, Councillor Mrs Addison and Councillor Mrs K Cooper.

Mr C Higham, Mrs H Higham, Mr C Appleton , Mr D Kettell and Mr M Barber.

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone present, informing everyone that the meeting can be recorded as long as this did not interrupt the smooth running of the proceedings.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Mr J Morphy.

**2. Minutes of the Previous Annual Parish meeting**

The minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting held on May 18th 2015 were read agreed and signed.

**3. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising

**4. Chairman's Report**

Mr Boscott addressed the meeting and spoke about the past year for the Parish Council. He spoke about the issues that the parish council had discussed over the past year such as Neighbourhood Planning and proposed developments, proposed solar farm developments and the school playing field. Mr Boscott thanked Mrs Kirkbride, Mrs Addison and Mrs Cooper for their support over the past year as County and District Councillors respectively. Mr Boscott also thanked all the parish councillors for the work they do on behalf of the village.

**5. Clerk's Report**

Mrs Murphy introduced this report. There had been 9 full parish council meetings over the past year and the parish council had considered 14 full planning applications. There had been 4 internments in the cemetery and all the allotments had been taken. The number of allotments will be reduced by one because of the need to extend the cemetery over the next year. Mrs Murphy thanked Mrs Kirkbride, Mrs Addison and Mrs Cooper for their support. Mrs Murphy also thanked the editors of the village newsletter for all their work and Mr Barber for the flowers throughout the year at the crossroads. The village had won the Village of the Year best small village and received a cheque for £100. It has been decided to put this towards a new bench for the cemetery. Mrs Murphy thanked Mrs Johnson for her work in putting together the competition entry.

**6. Finance Report**

Mrs Murphy introduced this report and showed the Parish Council's Income and Expenditure for the

year ended March 31<sup>st</sup> 2016. She pointed out the areas of highest expenditure included the Gardening Contract, the Clerk's salary and street lighting. There were no questions regarding this report.

### **7. County Councillor's report**

Mrs Kirkbride addressed the meeting and spoke about the County Council embarking on the biggest transformation in its history. The organisation is moving towards a Next Generation model, which will see a far smaller retained organisation (NCC Group) commissioning services from a new set of accountable organisations and social enterprises which will be owned, managed and run by current council staff with partners. The first of these is First for Wellbeing which will deliver joined up wellbeing services. Northamptonshire is a growing county, with an expected increase of 50,000 in the population over the next 5 years. This growth impacts on all services from roads, waste management, school places, social care and safeguarding services for children. Schools are a particularly pressurised area, with four new schools opened since September 2015 to accommodate the additional demand. Mrs Kirkbride said that work had officially started on the A45 Daventry development link road, which will improve access between Daventry and the M1 and by-passing Flore, Upper Heyford and Weedon. NCC have completed the first stage of their Superfast Northamptonshire Broadband project three months early and work is underway on a second contract. Work is continuing on the new headquarters in Angel Street and will be hopefully completed by October 2016..

### **8. District Councillor's report.**

Mrs Addison introduced this report. She spoke about obtaining funding from SNC to help fight the Rail Central/ Ashfield Land's proposal to develop the land between Milton malsor and Blisworth. The money will help fund additional legal advice, environmental issues advice and officers time. SNC have a net budget of £11.78 million. The core funding is from Central Government which has once again been reduced by £600,000. SNC was the best at re-cycling in Northamptonshire, the East Midlands and 11<sup>th</sup> overall in the country. Through the SNC Local Plan 2, SNC will be considering all the village confines. The plan is due for adoption in Autumn 2018. SNC has a 7year land supply and it is hoped that the amount of housing development in Towcester and Brackley will keep the required numbers of housing in the villages down to a minimum. SNC has continued to deliver savings by increased joint working with Cherwell District Council. SNC have started to have preliminary discussions with Cherwell DC, Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire regarding forming Unitary Status. Mrs Cooper then addressed the meeting and spoke about the proposed changes to South Northamptonshire Council Membership, including the Cabinet being increased from 7 members to 8.

### **9. Village Hall Report.**

Mr Barber introduced this report. The village hall remains at the heart of Rothersthorpe Village, and is much used by village user groups and many people from beyond the village. Mr Barber thanked all the committee members for their excellent attendance and help and commitment to the administration and smooth running of the Village Hall. He thanked Mrs Dellar for her work as the booking secretary and Mrs Sturt for her work as treasurer. The Committee are hoping to build a

disabled toilet over the next year by converting part of Mrs Dellar's office. Village hall fees have remained unchanged for the past three years and the excellent working relationship with the school continues and is imperative to the smooth running and management of the Village Hall.

**10. Any Other Business**

Mr Appleton asked about the replacement of the churchyard gates and if the new gates would be in metal or wood. As the church is in the conservation area, it was agreed to contact the Conservation officer at SNC for advice.

Meeting closed at 7.55p.m.

Signed.....Dated.....