

LINTON ON OUSE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting
held on Tuesday 12th May 2015 at 7.00 pm
in the Village Hall Linton on Ouse

Present Cllr Croft (Chairman Parish Council), Cllr. Rooke, (District Cllr.) W. Frost (Parish Clerk), L Pope (Clerk Elect), and 5 members of the public. (A further member of the public joined the meeting at 7.25pm and County Cllr. Mrs Patmore at 8.10pm.)

1) Apologies Mrs Keegan, Mrs Stringer M Lumsden (RAF). Patrick Lewis-Brown (RAF).

2) Minutes of the Previous Meeting:- The Minutes of the Meeting held 13th May 2014 were approved by the meeting, having previously been circulated, and were signed as a true record.

3) Welcome by Chairman and Chairman's Report:- The Chairman opened the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance. Cllr. Croft commented that following Cllr. Marston's untimely death last year it became apparent that he had done an enormous amount of work for the Parish Council "behind the wire" on the RAF base, work that it had proved difficult to replicate following his loss. It was hoped that the Council would become a more cohesive force in getting work done for the community of Linton on Ouse in general. The completion of the Village Hall refurbishment had been a high point of the year and had provided a marvellous facility for the future. The Village Hall Committee and particularly Mrs Stringer were to be praised for their work. Cllr. Marston, last year in his report, had commented on the poor state of the roads in the Parish and it had been the Council's major concern for many years. Much work had been done in the last year on the roads including improvements from Linton to Aldwark Bridge, resurfacing of Mill Lane and from Linton Woods Lane to Newton and even work on Linton Woods Lane itself. Cllr. Patmore was to be thanked for her efforts in this respect for bringing pressure on the Highways Dept. to get the work done. The year had also seen the virtual completion of the Affordable Housing scheme where 20 houses, in a spacious development, had been built for local applicants. Broadacres through Fiona Coleman, and the Rural Housing Enabler Amanda Madden, were to be thanked for their input to Council during the development, having kept members informed throughout the contract. The development would provide a significant amount of money under S106 and it was hoped to commence work on the provision of allotments in the near future, paid for from this source. Mrs Kirby commended Cllr. Croft for all his work over the year which had proved very difficult following the death of Brian Marston and stated that his efforts were very much appreciated.

4) County Councillor's Report:- Report delayed because of late arrival.

5) District Councillor's Report:- Cllr. Rooke advised the meeting that the last year had been the final year with 44 District Councillors and following the Boundary Commissions changes there would now be only 28 Cllrs. at Hambleton District Council. This would mean that many committees would change and as an example reported that the planning committee in future would consist of 12 members as opposed to 16 previously. The Easingwold ward which stretched from the York City boundary to Crake would only have three Cllrs. to cover the whole area. Cllr. Rooke gave details of the election and it was noted that the count for Easingwold had been very protracted taking over seven hours due to changes in the system of counting. The Council would now consist of 27 Conservatives and one UKIP member and there would therefore be no effective opposition in the Council Chamber. Cllr. Croft thanked Cllr. Rooke for his report.

6) Parish Council Accounts to 31st March 2015- The Parish Clerk presented the Accounts for the Parish for the year to 31st March 2015 which were approved by the meeting.

7) Reports from Parish Councillors:- No reports received.

8) Any Other Reports:-

Mrs J Jauncey reported that a small group had travelled to Montcony in October and there had been problems with wreath laying, the rules of which had been changed by the French Government. However, it appeared that for the future there would not be a problem, matters having been resolved. A visit to Linton from Montcony was planned for later this year and it was anticipated some 56 people would travel from France. The History Group had had a successful year with several visits and excellent speakers. Contact had been made with some previous residents and subsequently a number of old photographs had been added to the archives.

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Mrs Lund reported briefly on the activities of the Team Linton Group which had had to cancel their race night because of a conflict with other events. It was to be rearranged at a later date.

9) Comments and Questions from Members of the Public:- No comments or questions received.

There being no other business the Chairman adjourned the Meeting at 7.25pm to await the County Cllrs. report.

The meeting was reconvened at 8.10pm

4) County Councillor's Report:-

County Cllr. Patmore apologised for her late arrival due to a prior meeting. She reported that that to date the County Council had made savings of £91.1m with a further £75.9m to be made between 2015/2016 and 2019/2020 but this figure could change following the election outcome. Council Tax had reluctantly had to be increased this year by 1.99%

Libraries have had to make changes on how the service is delivered because of the spending cuts and in Easingwold the library will be run by volunteers supported by professionals from Northallerton. School transport for pupils living less than 3 miles from their school was still under consideration. NYCC were also looking at joint working with other councils for cost saving but the project had been put on hold until the new council year. Every effort is being made to maintain services to younger, older, disabled and disadvantaged people in the County but this leaves the Authority with difficult decisions on where to make financial savings: it is recognised that cuts will have to be made but where possible these will be through changes to how services are delivered. The County Council's AGM will be held on the 20th May 2015 and at that meeting a new Chairman and Vice Chairman should be elected.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Patmore for her report and closed the meeting at 8.20pm