

# TUNSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

## ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF TUNSTEAD, HELD ON TUESDAY 17 APRIL 2012 AT THE VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Cllrs. T. Place (Chairman), G. Gordon (Vice Chair), W. Atkins, S. Bader, A. Rudd, A. Williamson, D. Kirk and C. oakes (after co-option)

APOLOGIES: Mr. P. Tye, Mrs B. Jackson (trustee) Mr. J. Rice (headteacher)

ALSO PRESENT: District Cllr. Ivory

Clerk: Mrs J. Gardner.

12APM/ 01	<p><u>CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBER TO PARISH COUNCIL:</u></p> <p>Mr. Oakes was co-opted onto the Parish Council. He signed the Acceptance of Declaration of Office.</p>
12APM/ 02	<p><u>ANNUAL REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN:</u></p> <p>Chairman Place welcomed all present and read his report:</p> <p>Thank you all very much for attending this evening.</p> <p>Parish Council Elections were set for May 5<sup>th</sup>, however with only 6 members standing, no voting was necessary and the members were automatically elected. They were Elizabeth Powell, Wendy Atkins, Gordon Gilding, Arnie Williamson, Derek Kirk and myself, Tim Place.</p> <p>In July Mrs Sue Badger came forward to become a Councillor, followed by Mrs.Abi Rudd in January and Mr. Chris Oakes who was co-opted today, which means we now have a full complement of nine.</p> <p>Speeding remains an issue in the village and the Parish bid for a speed sign at the Hoveton entrance of Market Street which was unsuccessful, however the village will benefit from a mobile flashing speed sign, which will come to the village on a rotating basis.</p> <p>Both village speed awareness teams in Market street and Anchor street have stopped, due to loss of volunteers to operate them, if new volunteers come forwards I am sure we could reinstate them.</p> <p>As for Planning Applications the majority were for the dwellings at Laurel Farm Barns to have permission to change to permanent residency.</p> <p>My thanks go to Sue Badger, who took over the leadership of the Parish Plan and published it at the end of last year. Sue also took over the bi-monthly Parish newsletter and is now publishing a very impressive glossy 8 page edition.</p> <p>We have also had a member of the public come forward to look at Village website.</p> <p>A competition to help design a new village sign was created by Sue for children at Tunstead Primary School. Various designs were considered and grouped together, making one design incorporating the tunman, a penny from the workhouse, Market Street, the railway, a tractor to signify agriculture and the church. The new sign is being made, as we speak, in Coltishall.</p> <p>As you can see, the plans for the Village Hall and the ideas from the public are on display. With outside help, the Management Committee, led by Peter Tye put in a bid for a Lottery Grant, which, unfortunately, has not been successful. Further investigations are ongoing as to the reasons why not.</p> <p>The Parish Council are still looking for land for allotments, since various residents are interested: to grow their own vegetables. Tunstead Combined Charities was kind enough to offer a piece of land at the end of Anchor Street, but the lack of water makes the site unsuitable.</p> <p>The Parish Council is supporting Tunstead Primary School with their plans to incorporate Dilham Pre-school on their site by negotiating to provide five parking spaces on the playing field.</p>

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12APM/ 02(cont. )	<p><u>ANNUAL REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN:</u> <b>THE NEAR FUTURE</b></p> <p>For the near future we obviously have the Queens Jubilee, which will take place on the 5<sup>th</sup> June with all sorts of activities and a commemorative mug for the under 17s sponsored by the Parish Council.</p> <p>Next year, Tunstead Primary School will celebrate its Centenary and we hope to be part of that Celebration.</p> <p>I would like to express my thanks to all of our Parish councillors for giving their time for the benefit of the village, for making our meetings enjoyable and for making my job very easy.</p> <p>I would like to thank our County Councillor, Nigel Dixon and our District Councillor, Trevor Ivory for making the time to attend virtually all of our meetings for updating us on relevant issues and for helping explain points clearly to us.</p> <p>And, of course, my extreme thanks to Jo for making it all happen, for doing all of the work and keeping us all in order.</p> <p>Thank you very much.</p>
12APM/ 03	<p><u>FINANCIAL REPORT:</u></p> <p>The End of year balance was presented, no questions were asked.</p>
12APM/ 04A	<p><u>REPORT TUNSTEAD COMBINED CHARITIES: sent by email by Mrs Jackson after the meeting:</u></p> <p>The above charity is managed by five trustees – Rod McIlraith (Secretary &amp; Treasurer), Mrs Helen Holmes, Mrs Betty Jackson and Mrs Liz Powell. Mrs Powell, a Tunstead Parish Councillor, maintains the connection required with Tunstead Parish Council, the Custodian Trustee. At the time of producing this report there is one vacancy due to the resignation of Mr Alan Chambers. The trustees are seeking to fill this vacancy. The Trustees meet according to need to review any requests or concerns and annually early in the year to agree the distribution of “beneficiary heating gifts”. Annual accounts are submitted to the Charity Commissioners. Income for the Charity is derived from:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the rent of two pieces of land rented out for agriculture purposes including grazing</li> <li>b) Ground rent for electricity poles</li> <li>c) Interest from the Charities Aid Foundation accounts.</li> </ul> <p>During 2011 a further piece of land was sold and the income from the sale deposited in the bank. An outcome of this sale was that all the land is now registered with the Land registry. In 2012 The Trustees were in a financial position to agree beneficiary gifts to 25 households within the Parish of Tunstead with Sco Ruston. There have been no other requests from any parishioners. Tunstead Combined Charities does not distribute automatically to pensioners, widows, widowers. Any parishioner with a special need can approach the Secretary for further information.</p> <p>Betty Jackson – Trustee <span style="float: right;">17.04.12</span></p>
12APM/ 04B1	<p><u>REPORT TUNSTEAD VILLAGE HALL AND RECREATION GROUND: by Mrs Atkins</u></p> <p>The year started on a positive note with the Race Night making a profit of £504.37. No other large events were held. The 200-club is carrying on with many thanks to Mr. Kirk, The number of bingo players is depleting because of the age of the participants.</p> <p>The stall has been repaired by Derek and Arnie, ready for the Queens Jubilee. The new swings are still awaiting installation.</p> <p>An attempted break in was foiled, because of the new back door.</p>

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<p>12APM/ 04B1 (cont).</p>	<p><u>REPORT TUNSTEAD VILLAGE HALL AND RECREATION GROUND: by Mrs Atkins</u></p> <p>With the help of Mr. P. Tye, the committee applied for a lottery grant, more about that in Peter's report. The bank account now holds £16,545.00, waiting to be spend on the new Hall. As always may I publicly thank Derek for his unending work, clearing dog faeces, marking the football pitch, portacabin maintenance, general dogs bodying and the 200 Club. A parishioner once asked me whether Derek and me (Wendy were the village idiots and I could only respond by saying "Yes, I think we are."</p>
<p>12APM/ 04B2</p>	<p><u>AND ON THE LOTTERY GRANT: sent by email by Mr. P. tye, read by Vice-chairman Gilding:</u></p> <p>My apologies for not being able to attend the Annual Parish Meeting; the current position regarding our efforts for a much needed new village hall is as follows.</p> <p>Tunstead has been without a proper village hall for over 40 years, the previous permanent structure being demolished to release land for building in 1971. Since then, mobile units, no longer fit for purpose on gas rigs in the North Sea, have been pressed into service. The current unit has a leaking roof a weak floor, and no toilet facilities.</p> <p>The Parish Plan Questionnaire for Tunstead &amp; Sco-Ruston was completed by 70% of all households, with 74% of all respondents asking for a purpose built village hall/community building. Without its own village hall, Tunstead is descending into a community wasteland at the very time central government is calling for more local cohesion.</p> <p>Over the years, many plans have been drawn for a new Tunstead village hall. The Village Hall Focus Group discovered that plans submitted in 2004 were on hold waiting for security concerns to be addressed. These centred mainly on the risk posed by keeping sports changing facilities in a mobile unit.</p> <p>I contacted Richard Pike Associates, who on a 'No Win - No fee' basis, kindly drew up revised plans which incorporated the changing facilities and a meeting room which could double as a surgery for visiting doctors. (Doctors in neighbouring surgeries having indicated that they would visit the village on say a monthly basis if we had a suitable facility in which to hold a surgery). Planning Approval for these new plans was received on 19<sup>th</sup> March this year, but prior to that the Village hall Focus Group was concerned by the scale of the Build Estimate we had received. With project management fees and vat added, this had soared to almost £700,000. The inclusion of vat is a requirement for a Big Lottery Fund application, even though as a registered charity, most, if not all vat, would be claimed back. Clearly, based on those figures, even if we were to receive the maximum grant from the lottery fund, the village would be left with an enormous deficit.</p> <p>I spoke with Mr. Harrison, a recently retired New Build Project Manager for Flagship Housing Group. Having examined the plans and acknowledging that we would need Mechanical &amp; Electrical Drawings for a detailed estimate, he considered that we should be able to build the hall, run all services to the site, improve the lane surface and lay grid panels for a seeded parking area, for a maximum of £400,000, which with vat added would keep the project below the £500,000 maximum available from the Big Lottery Fund. Mr. Harrison has also offered to manage the project for us for no fee, providing I look after any administration requirements.</p> <p>With this information to hand, I completed the outline proposal for the Reaching Communities Buildings strand of the Big Lottery Fund and sent it off on the 9<sup>th</sup> March. The response on the 2<sup>nd</sup> April was unfortunately very disappointing.</p> <p>They are not inviting us to complete a full application. Apparently our project does not meet with the programme requirements which have been listed under 7 points in their rejection letter. In summary these are:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our application does not sufficiently address the issues faced by our service users.</li> <li>• Our proposal does not make it clear that we own the land.</li> </ul>

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<p>12APM/ 04B2 (cont)</p>	<p><u>AND ON THE LOTTERY GRANT: sent by email by Mr. P. tye, read by Vice-chairman Gilding:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The information we provided does not show why our project is needed as well as others. (Yet there is an admission in Para 10 that a detailed assessment of our application has not been carried out!)</li> <li>• They do not believe our outcomes meet any of the Reaching Communities outcomes.</li> <li>• Our proposal does not demonstrate that project beneficiaries are involved in the planning and running of the project.</li> <li>• Our project outcomes do not reach the required standard.</li> <li>• They cannot be confident that our project will achieve its outcomes.</li> </ul> <p>I have responded to the Big Lottery Fund to ask for discussion and enlightenment as we can send in a revised outline proposal which demonstrates that we have responded to their feedback. As it stands, their feedback is beyond my comprehension, so unless my discussion with them provides an epiphany, it will be better if someone else can pick-up the baton and pursue this avenue of funding. In the meantime I will compile a list of other funding possibilities.</p> <p>In conclusion; I believe that the village will benefit tremendously from a new village hall, but ultimately it is up to the people of Tunstead &amp; Sco-Ruston to make that happen. The Big Lottery Fund is not the only source of funding, although probably the only one where success could cover most of our costs. There are others, where collectively we could possibly meet our funding target; it is up to us to convince them of our need. Help and interest from residents in the village is needed now rather than later. Their support could ensure that we have our own, purpose built Village Hall within two years. Weight of numbers will help us press our case.</p> <p>Let's make it happen! <span style="float: right;">Peter Tye.</span></p>
<p>12APM/ 04C</p>	<p><u>TUNSTEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION; by email, read by the Clerk:</u></p> <p>Firstly may I thank councillors for the opportunity to address the annual parish meeting and to be able to explain the work of our village school, and may I also apologise for being unable to attend the meeting in person.</p> <p>This year has been a significant one in the development of Tunstead Primary School and we can look back on the progress we have made with pride. We also look forward with great optimism to the coming year, during which we will celebrate our school's centenary.</p> <p>Since the appointment, twelve months ago, the first substantive headteacher for more than two years, the number of pupils on the school's roll has risen steadily to the present level, just short of 100, which is the highest number in the school's 99-year history. We are, of course, delighted to be so popular with parents both in our catchment area and beyond and we are looking forward to receiving our largest ever intake of reception children in September.</p> <p>Maintaining these high numbers, and thus ensuring the continued health of the school, was one of many factors which persuaded us to consider a closer partnership with Dilham Preschool. The preschool currently uses Dilham Village Hall for its sessions, staff having to pack all their equipment away in a small cupboard at the end of each session. We have therefore applied for planning permission to site a new mobile building on our school site. This will be a huge benefit to the village as many parents from Tunstead presently take their children to Dilham each day, and of course it will be of great benefit to our school too, not only in making us the natural school of choice for children attending the preschool, but also in facilitating a much smoother transition for those children between preschool and our reception class. We hope to have the preschool here in September and we are extremely grateful to councillors and the village playing field</p>

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12APM/ 04C (cont)	<p><u>TUNSTEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION; by email, read by the Clerk:</u></p> <p>committee for agreeing in principle to allow the preschool staff to park on the field.</p> <p>2013 will mark the school's centenary and we are already beginning preparations to ensure a celebration is held which reflects our proud history. A committee has been formed of governors, parents, staff and local people.</p> <p>Our Friends Association continues to be extremely active, raising huge sums of money which benefit the children by funding school trips, providing books for our library and supporting many other aspects of extra-curricular school life. The Friends' Summer Fayre remains the biggest event of the year (this year it will be held on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June) and the Friends have also raised money recently through a Christmas Fayre, a jumble sale and a 100 Club. The next event is a quiz night (for which entries are welcomed) at 6pm on Saturday April 28<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>There have been many other exciting developments in school; we have a new website, photo voltaic panels have been fitted to our roof and, with our increased numbers, we have expanded the school from three to four full time classes. In the autumn we became the only primary school in Norfolk, Suffolk or Cambridgeshire to be awarded the Gold Quality Mark for Science. However, we remain focussed on our core purpose, as any good primary school should, which is to ensure our pupils leave for high school with at least the expected levels of competence in reading, writing and mathematics. We are looking forward to much improved results when our current Year Six cohort sit their tests next month and fully expect that Ofsted will recognise the great progress we have made when they make their expected visit some time later this year.</p> <p>Once again may I thank councillors for allowing me the opportunity to inform the meeting about developments at our school. I look forward to a continued close and successful partnership between the school and the parish council in the future.</p> <p><b>Jonathan Rice, Headteacher</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>17.4.12</b></span></p>
12APM /05	<p><u>PCSO DACK'S REPORT: by email:</u></p> <p>PCSO Dack was pleased to inform all present that no crimes were committed since the March meeting.</p>
12APM/ 06	<p><u>TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS, RECEIVED BEFORE THE MEETING, NI ITEMISED:</u></p> <p><u>Ref. PF/12/0431: HMP Bure, Jaguar Drive, Scottow:</u> Variation of cond. 2 of Planning Permission ref. 10/0569 to permit re.-siting of proposed accommodation block. <b>Resolution:</b> to support the application.</p>