

# Snape Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 9 April 2009, 7.30 pm, in the village hall.

Present: Mr M Hill (Chairman), Mr D Robertson (Vice - Chairman), Mr D Abbott,

Mr N Parsons , Mr G Hinton, Mr E Gillett, Mr G Day, Mr R Horton, Mrs C Churcher, Mr A Wilmot.

In Attendance: Mrs Rosie Clarke SCC, the Clerk, and 39 members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Councillor Mrs M Walker, SCDC Mr Cyril Fidler, Mrs M Pryor and The Mother & Toddler Group.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING. The Chairman informed that the minutes of the last Annual Parish Council meeting, held on 17 April 2008 are on display.

3. MATTERS ARISING. None.

4. REPORT FROM POLICE.

The Chairman read out the report received from PCSO Taylor. Copy attached.

5. GUEST SPEAKER ROB MACKLIN - RSPB, THE CONVERSION OF APPROX 17HA OF AGRICULTURAL LAND TO THE WEST OF ABBEY FARM, SNAPE, TO WET REED BED FOR NATURE CONSERVATION PURPOSES.

He informed that in January 2007 the RSPB purchased 61hactres of marshes, arable and woodland from Abbey Farm. Works began in August 2007 to create a wet reed bed on the grassland, this should be completed in May 2009. It is hoped to attract many different species of birds and also otters. A new water pump system and sluices are to be installed to remove unwanted water from the area. The River Fromus is in need of being cleared out as the water currently cannot move freely. A new pond is in the process of being dug out. Initially the residents of Cundle Green had expressed concerns at flooding but this has now been sorted.

No buildings are to be erected and no carparks, visitors will not be encouraged, however the Parish Councillors will be invited along in the summer to have a look at the site. The RSPB has opened a new Visitors Centre at Snape Maltings.

The RSPB also manages Snape Warren and it is hoped to appoint a warden. The scrub is to be cut out to enable Exmoor ponies & sheep to graze and for gorse & bracken to grow. Pairs of breeding birds are also taking residence. The RSPB hopes to work together with the Suffolk Wildlife Trust who manages the marshes along side the river Alde in Snape.

6. REPORT FROM MR CYRIL FIDLER - S.C.D.C.

The Chairman read this out in his absence. Copy attached.

7. REPORT FROM MRS ROSIE CLARKE - S.C.C.

She thanked everyone in the village for their support throughout her 4 years as a Suffolk County Councillor and gave her report. Copy attached.

In addition to the report she also informed that she had put forward The Crown traffic calming scheme to SCC and it has been accepted.

8. CHAIRMANS REPORT.

Mr Mike Hill gave his report. Copy attached.

9. CLERKS REPORT.

Mrs Melanie Thurston gave the Clerks report. Copy attached.

10. SNAPE PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE REPORT.

Mr Eddie Gillett informed that flyers had been sent out to every household in the village inviting support in taking a bigger project eg. Pavilion or all Weather Court, forward in the future. Unfortunately not much of a response has been received back. A meeting has been planned for 30 April in response to the flyers and he encouraged anyone to attend.

The Snape Funday is planned to take place on 1 August, more helpers are encouraged or they may wish to run their own sideshows or table top stalls.

11. AFFORDABLE HOMES FOR SNAPE – UPDATE.

The Chairman reported that preferred sketches have been produced by Orwell Housing and the designs have been discussed at the last Parish Council meeting. It is hoped that the preferred plans will be submitted to SCDC in the summer. The funding for the homes will be available to Orwell Housing in 2010, the land can then be purchased.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

The Chairman thanked Mr Brian Boulton for the exhibition of photographs which he had prepared for the Annual Parish Meeting.

The meeting ended at 8.55pm