

Minutes of the Cottenham Annual Parish Meeting

Held in the Village Hall, Lambs Lane, Cottenham on Tuesday 26th April 2016 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Morris (Chair), Berenger, Collier, Collinson, Graves, Heydon, Hodson, McCarthy, Mudd, Nicholas, Richards, Ward, Wotherspoon, the Clerk, Assistant Clerk, RFO, SCDC Cllrs Edwards and Harford and CCC Cllr Jenkins

In attendance: 31 members of the public

Chairman's Introduction and Apologies for absence

Apologies accepted from Cllrs Bolitho and Young.

Minutes

Copies of the Minutes of the APM held on 21st April 2015 were circulated, confirmed as a true record, and signed as a true record.

Chair's Report

Chairman presented report for 2015/16 covering key points. Capital projects have added £800k to our assets, the Post Office has been retained, work has started on a Neighbourhood Plan and public art has been funded at the Primary School. Cllrs were thanked for their work over the past year. Finance – we now have reserves of nearly £560k. Resident asked for clarification of the \$106 monies for Beach Road. Q. What is a CLT was. A. Cllr Morris ran through how a Community Land Trust worked. Resident wanted to know if the CLT properties could be subject to right to buy. SCDC Cllr Edwards stated that it was unlikely if they were held in trust. Q. Will a post box would be retained in the centre of the village. A. Cllr Morris responded that Royal Mail believe that the current one will be moved.

South Cambridgeshire District Council Report

SCDC Cllr Edwards presented the District report. Northstowe has been keeping them busy and phase 2 has been granted as well as the southern access road. There will only be 20% affordable housing. Work on balancing pond has been pushed forward which should mitigate the Cottenham Lode. Cycle routes have been included in the overall design. Bloor Homes have been appointed and the first houses may be occupied next year. Local Plan – this is currently going through a review but needed more evidence to support it. They have made £5.5m efficiency savings and created a housing scheme which should bring in £600k a year income. Boundary review is going to mean changes; there will be just 2 District Councillors covering Cottenham and Rampton. City Deal – first tranche of projects has been agreed. Devolution – felt it wise to include Huntingdon as well but this fell by the wayside and was replaced by Peterborough. However Government think the area is too small so it currently comprises Cambs/Suffolk/Norfolk. Q. Is there was any talk of adopting a more representative voting system. A. No; the Boundary Commission don't look at this. SCDC can't change the method and don't have any powers to do so. Q. Are contents from green bins are going into landfill. A. This shouldn't be the case in South Cambs. Cllr Heydon clarified that there had been disruption at Amey Cespa which may have effected some of the black bins. Q. Why was devolution done in such a hurry? A. Because Council wanted to push forward with it.

County Council Report

CCC Cllr Jenkins gave apologies on behalf of CCC Cllr Mason who was in hospital. County does a mix of hard and soft stuff i.e. libraries, schools and highways. The Parish needs to continue to be 'noisy' to

get potholes fixed. Demand for social services is increasing all the time and money spent early is a good thing. CCC Cllr Jenkins wants the Parish Council to talk more to County about taking over services and what we can do to take over adult social care; need to support people better in the community. He thanked the Parish Council for their professionalism. Cottenham may be joined with Willingham with just a single County Council representative going forward. Devolution – arguments are about what is best for residents rather than giving away powers. Q. Government are pressing for a one party state. It still disenfranchises people. A. Cllr Morris said that the good ones should represent everyone. Cllr Collinson mentioned that in relation to social care there is already a good mobile warden scheme in Cottenham which is supported by the Parish Council. General concerns were raised that it wasn't always easy to liaise with the County Council. CCC Cllr Jenkins agreed that they needed to engage better.

Cllr Morris thanked everyone for attending.

Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 8.37pm.

Signed _____ (Chair) Date _____