# MINUTES OF PEAKIRK ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 8TH MAY 2017 AT 7.00PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Henry Clark (Chair), Angela Hankins (Clerk), 32 residents, Revd Mark-Aaron Tisdale, Cllr Peter Hiller (left after item 5) and Lewis Banks, Peterborough City Council Transport Officer (left after item 4).

1. Apologies: received from Cllr John Holdich.
2. Minutes of the meeting held on 9 May 2016 were proposed, seconded and agreed as a true record.
3. Parish Council Report and Accounts: HC commented on the excellent turnout for the meeting. The Neighbourhood Plan has passed examination and the referendum is awaited. Thanks given to the Neighbourhood Plan Project Team. Parish Council needs to take a more strategic approach to the evolution of the parish over the next 20 years. Peakirk councillors had met with Glinton councillors and Andrew Jacobs to work to keep the permissive foot-paths open. With permission from the Parish Council Peakirk Archaeological Survey Team (PAST) continue their investigative work into the course of the Car dyke through the Village Green. Funding for the purchase of a defibrillator to be installed outside the Village Hall has been agreed. Work has started on improving the Millennium Copse on the track from Rectory Lane. Planning permission has been granted for 14 houses on the land south of Penwald Court.

A new Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) was installed at the Glinton end of the village. The maximum speed recorded was 85mph on 15 December 2016 at 11.40pm. Overall 40% of vehicles are going faster than 30mph, with 15% going over 35mph. The batteries have been replaced in the VAS on Deeping Road to enable it to work for longer in periods of low sunlight. The speed limit on the stretch of Deeping Road from the former Wildfowl Site to just beyond the Maxey Cut has been reduced from 50mph to 40mph.

Parish Councillors continue to actively participate in other groups and the council now has a full complement of members.

There was a budget deficit of £3,356.28 this year due to the payment for the VAS from money received last year, but the total precept remains at £8,500, which after grants means a small increase in the annual Band D charge from £32.09 to £32.31. The owner of the former Wildfowl Trust Site has engaged a Town Planner to look at possible development options and the parish council will continue discussions when some proposals emerge.

Thanks given to Rod Gall for being the Internal Auditor, David Burton for his assistance with the Village Web-site, David Dearman, Greg Prior and Barry Cook for their work with planting and litter-picking and to the Village Hall Committee for the use of the hall.

1. Speeding : Henry Clark (HC)showed graphs of data from the VAS on St Pegas Road. Most people travel at less than 30mph but the data for March-April showed 2 vehicles travelling at 70mph and 40% of vehicles travelling at over 35mph.

 Lewis Banks, Principal Transport Planning Officer at Peterborough City Council spoke about the data used at the City Council , some sat-nav data – inter-peak (10.00am – 2.00pm) to see average speed, then use 85th percentile, so do not take account of top 15% of vehicles. They also look at accident data (usually the last 5 years) – using recorded accidents only. This system appeared unsatisfactory to residents present. HC will send Lewis Banks data from the VAS.

Usual procedure at the city council when a “speeding area” is identified is to speak with Safety/enforcement Section, possible Speed Watch etc then discussions with Ward/Parish Councils, then see if there are any engineering solutions. There is no 1 solution to fit all.

HC advised that there was a possibility of reviving Community Speed Watch but this had been done in the past and there was no confidence that anyone would take any notice of the data obtained.

A resident reported being hit by a vehicle wing-mirror on Deeping Road and residents of Meadow Road reported on-going problems. Resident asked if the speed limit on connecting roads between villages could be reduced from the current national speed limit. LB advised that the Parish Council could ask for the speed limit in the village to be reduced to 20mph but would have to bear the cost.

Thanks given to LB, and the importance of this issue to residents stressed.

1. St Pegas’ Church Report: Trish Roberts thanked members of the village for their support and for the financial support given by the PC for the upkeep of the churchyard. 2016 had marked the anniversary of 1,000 years recorded history, marked by a series of events. A 1,000-lap model aircraft event on the village green had raised £690. Plans still in place for some re-ordering of the interior. Suggested that there could be a guide book to the church. Revd Hilary Geisow had retired and the new Rector – Revd Mark-Aaron Tisdale had been installed in March. The new Rector offered his services to any resident wishing to speak with him regardless of faith
2. Village Hall Committee Report: David Hankins reported that the Village Hall was in a good financial state. Since the millennium the funds have increased from £5,000 to £49.000. £56,000 has been spend on improvements. Bookings remain healthy, with the majority of bookings being for non-residents. New committee members are welcome and volunteers will be needed to assist with the Village Fete next year to enable the event to go ahead.
3. Neighbourhood Planning Report: Sally Jackson (SJ) reported that the Inspector had agreed the plan with only a few minor amendments and this will now go to a referendum. If passed the plan will become part of the planning process. In order to pass over 50% of those voting have to vote in favour of the plan to be accepted. The Inspector had visited the village on 29th March. All the detail is available on the village web-site. A date for the referendum is awaited.

Thanks given to SJ and the project team for all their hard work over several years. Peakirk is the first community in the Peterborough area to get to this stage with a Neighbourhood Plan.

1. Flood Warden Report: David Hankins advised that he had been in post for 12-months, having been appointed by the Parish Council. He had attended a visit to the North Level Drainage Board and keeps an eye on local water levels.
2. Northern Footpath Forum Report: SJ reported that the forum continues to work to provide better footpaths. The group are still trying to get a bridge over the River Welland and are now considering a suspension bridge. Thanks given to the Parish Council for the £300 donation towards the River Welland Bridge Project. A sponsored walk/picnic is being considered to raise more funds.
3. Village defibrillator: SJ confirmed the PC’s agreement to buy & install at the Village Hall a defibrillator and spoke of the systems available through the Community Heartbeat Trust. For rural areas where it can take up to 20 minutes for an ambulance to attend a call-out a system of willing local residents who could assist with the emergency use of the defibrillator is recommended (known as VETS). Any resident requiring more information or willing to sign up for VETS to give their details to SJ.
4. Peakirk Archaelogical Survey Team: Dr Avril Lumley-Prior (AP)reported that the group now had more members, the aim of the group being to increase and share knowledge of Peakirk. Projects for 2016/17 included interpretation of land; Car Dyke Cottages; St Pega’s Medieval bells; the London Road and a Romano-British Villa. Information was presented on the London Road - in 1675 the London-Lincoln road route went via Peakirk and in 1792 there was a Peakirk-Spalding Turnpike. This turnpike lasted until 1929 for vehicles and until 1947 for cattle. AP presented information on St Pega’s Crypt (evidence of money being given between 1250-1290) and possibilities relating to the burial place of St Pega. The possibility of a Villa in the paddock to the rear of Bull Lane arose from an image from Google Earth. A resistivity survey was undertaken last year and a 1-metre test pit undertaken in April. Further test-pitting is needed.
5. Residents matters: the spate of criminal damage and graffiti was raised, with damage both to information boards and wooden bridges as well as road bridges. HC advised that work was in process in relation to the Information Board on the Maxey Cut. The Clerk to pursue paint removal.
6. Any other business: Roy Pettitt (RP) advised that he had replacement “No cold calling “ signs if anyone needed them. Obtainablefrom RP at 3 St Pega’s Road.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm