

**GRUNDISBURGH & CULPHO PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in the Village Hall, Grundisburgh**  
**on Tuesday 2nd May, 2017**

NOTICES had been posted according with regulations.

Present: Parish Council Chairman Mr.S.Barnett (in the chair), County Councillor R.Vickery, and approximately 80 parishioners.

**1. Apologies for absence.** Mrs.Sally Grahn, Pat, Ian & Stuart.Ross, Mrs.M.Thorn, District Councillor A.Fryatt

**2. Minutes:** As the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 26th April, 2016 had been available for inspection in Grundisburgh's Post Office and on display on the Parish Council's web site for eleven months prior to the meeting they were taken as read. It was proposed by Mr. Kendall seconded by Mrs.Willetts, to unanimous approval, that the minutes be signed by the Chairman as a true record. There were no matters arising.

**3. Parish Council's Annual Report** The Chairman summarised the report which had been circulated to every dwelling in Grundisburgh & Culpho with the invitation to the meeting. A copy is attached to these minutes.

**4. County Councillor's Report** County Councillor Robin Vickery reported that he had attended as many parish Council Meetings as possible since being elected last July.

- He is in process of arranging a site meeting in Meeting Lane between representatives of the Parish Council and a Highways Officer to discuss the restoration of the verge opposite The Spinney.
- Most of the problems he has been asked to help with have been Highways issues, and he has attended several meetings to try and resolve matters. Dirty road side signage is a county wide problem. Local communities are encouraged to clean local signs but no financial help can be given.
- Broadband has been an issue for those villages not yet connected.
- He had used his Locality and Highways Budgets in several different ways, which include helping SAVID, (Safer Village Driving), by allocating funding for a SID machine, (Speed Indicator Device), several Defibrillators, Play Equipment, Repairs to a bridge in Grundisburgh, 20mph sign in Tuddenham, and a mower and other gardening equipment for a community orchard project in Bredfield. Several other projects have been allocated funding but are on hold due to the election period.
- He has also attended meetings regarding the East Anglian Offshore Wind Farm Project, and the Sink Pits at Bealings. He was urged to make sure before trenching work commenced for the underground ducting that overgrown hedges on local roads were cut back.
- Last October he was appointed as the Suffolk County Council Armed Forces Community Covenant Champion, and have attended several meetings of the Army Reserve and Cadet Organisations meetings, for Suffolk and the Eastern Counties.

**5. District Councillor's Report.** In District Councillor Tony Fryatt's absence the Chairman read his report.

- Deben Leisure Centre Redevelopment The Leisure Centre is now scheduled to close for redevelopment in September this year and should be completed by the Summer of 2018. Work is expected to take 10 months and should provide leisure facilities to meet modern expectations.
- Devolution Plans Much effort was made in 2016 into developing plans for devolution of powers for Suffolk and Norfolk councils, with an elected Mayor. Suffolk councils voted in favour but not all Norfolk councils. Consequently, the proposals were dropped.
- Suffolk Coastal and Waveney Districts to Amalgamate. After close cooperation for many years, it has been agreed that Suffolk Coastal and Waveney Districts will formally combine to form a new District to be called East Suffolk District Council. It is intended that this should be in time for the District council elections in 2019.

### ***District Councillor's Report cont...***

- **Office Move** The District Council has moved from its old buildings at Melton Hill and are now well established in East Suffolk House, Riduna Park, Melton. Council services are available from the Library in Woodbridge. The official opening of the new building will take place on 15 June 2017.
- **The Tour of Britain comes to Suffolk Coastal** The country's top road cycling event is returning to the County with a large part of one stage taking place in Suffolk Coastal. Stage Six of the OVO Energy Tour of Britain will take place entirely within Suffolk on Friday 8 September. The stage starts in Newmarket and heads eastwards across the County finishing in the centre of Aldeburgh. It will snake around the roads of Suffolk Coastal visiting towns such as Framlingham, Woodbridge Saxmundham and Leiston, as well as many of the villages in between. It will pass from Burgh through Grundisburgh and Culpho to Tuddenham and the Tour website <http://www.tourofbritain.co.uk/stages/stage-six> will eventually carry more detail of expected times.
- **Suffolk Armed Forces Weekend** This is being hosted by the District Council and is being held at Felixstowe on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> June. It is an attempt to say, "Thank You" to our armed forces. The weekend will include live music from choirs and military bands, an evening of pop and rock, military displays, children's activities, firework display etc. Volunteers are needed to help with the various roles including welcoming our VIPs, visitors and families from the Armed Forces. For further information on becoming a volunteer contact Felixstowe Forward on 01394 444577 or [felixstowe.forward@eastssuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:felixstowe.forward@eastssuffolk.gov.uk).
- **Walking Festival** This year's Suffolk Walking Festival is about to begin. The District Council are organising some of the best walks in the festival starting at Sutton Hoo on 13<sup>th</sup> May. The festival runs between 13<sup>th</sup> May and 4<sup>th</sup> June. Details of all the walks can be found at: [www.suffolkwalkingfestival.co.uk](http://www.suffolkwalkingfestival.co.uk).
- **Open-air Cinema in Felixstowe.** Felixstowe's newly created Beach-side Events Area is to host an open-air cinema during the summer months. The general proposal is to show films for children in the morning, young people in the afternoon and adults in the evening. However, on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> July, a day is being dedicated to films for all the family to enjoy and we are seeking suggestions the films to show. Any ideas to: [communications@eastssuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:communications@eastssuffolk.gov.uk).

**6. Reports from Village Organisations -** In Introducing this part of the meeting the Chairman asked if there were any volunteers to become Treasurers for two organisations which currently had vacancies Lyttleton Club – contact Mary Bean 01473-738425 and the Horticultural Society - contact Martin Cripps 01473-738997.

**6.1 St.Mary's Church** Rev Canon Clare Sanders said that the last year has been a good one – the bi- annual CRIBFEST attracted lots of visitors and the Church was honoured with a visit from Lord Williams of Oystermouth- aka Rowan Williams who came and gave the closing lecture to a packed church. The £6,000 raised has gone into the development fund pot... and we are ever hopeful of being able to go forward with this project in the not so distant future.

All the usual activities have continued throughout the year –once again a Harvest Supper – but with a bit of a twist- in that you could only come – if you brought a friend- the idea being especially to invite people who are on their own. This seemed to be a very welcome development and it is hoped to do the same or similar this year again.

The Lunch Club numbers have fluctuated, but there is most certainly a need for it, as there are a number of people in the village on their own, who very much value being able to come out twice a month for lunch- with the occasional celebratory sherry too!

Another need identified in the village and beyond, is the growing number of people caring for family and friends with dementia...this has led to an occasional meeting of such, with a morning on Contented Dementia; the sharing of practical advice, always with tea / coffee and light refreshments.

### ***Reports from Village Organisations – St.Mary’s Church cont...***

A monthly Baby Café has started on the first Tuesday of each month- in the Parish Room – from 9.00-10.30am – for mums, dads, carers of babies and toddlers – with toys to play with and refreshments available...again the idea being to combat the feeling of isolation that there can be, as a young mum especially- even in a vibrant and friendly place like Grundisburgh.

The building development, the provision of toilets is important...not so much as an end in itself...but in order to be able to put the church at the centre of community life and serve the people of Grundisburgh.

Grundisburgh continues to be a fantastic place to live and work and thanks to all villagers who to support the church and not least a thank you to the Parish Council for its financial support in maintaining the churchyard.

**6.2 Grundisburgh Baptist Church** Pastor Colin Grimwood said “ *In our quiet corner at the top of Chapel lane we share a little space with the wildlife who regularly visit our graveyard. It is a pleasant spot, and we are grateful to the Parish Council for their support with the upkeep. But it is a solemn thing as I go around the graveyard to think that every one of us will end up there or somewhere similar. So, it is good to have the good news to share of the risen Lord Jesus Christ, who came to save us from our sins and who promises eternal life to all who receive him. And that is the message we continue to share with the village and the surrounding area by various means, not only in our Sunday services, but also through personal conversation, the Grundisburgh Link and special events.*”

For those who would like a flavour of the Sunday services, but do not feel ready to attend, sermons can be downloaded from the chapel website, or villagers can listen in at the Open-air service on 27<sup>th</sup> August on the Village Green.

A successful Easter Egg Hunt was held again this year, where people not only find Easter eggs, but also the beautiful Millennium Meadow, which is such a great asset to the village. £96 was raised for EACH.

The church is pleased to make use of the chapel hall for community activities, and regularly hire it out to various groups. At the moment, the room is used to capacity, but one group is moving on in September.

The children’s club continues to be run on a Monday evening, although the two groups which used to run are now combined because of falling numbers. New children are welcomed from Primary age to teenage, and it is hoped one day to have two clubs running again.

Mr.Grimwood was privileged to be sent to India to do some teaching among the churches, and will be doing a PowerPoint presentation of Indian life at the Ladies’ and Men’s meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> June at 2.30. All are welcome to come. Indeed, villagers are welcome anytime. The groups meet on the first Wednesday of the month, but will be taking a break for the summer.

**6.3 St.Botolphs Church** Church Warden Mr.Richard Garnham reported that St Botolph's continues to enjoy a varied and successful role within the community. Apart from the regular services throughout the year during the last 12 months, several musical concerts and lectures have been staged. These events have raised monies not only to bolster church funds but also to support local charities. In addition, a Strawberry Supper on a warm summer's evening at Wood Farm was held with entertainment provided by the excellent Shingle Street Group was enjoyed

The 5-year electrical safety certificate was renewed during 2016 and whilst contractors were on site carrying out maintenance work the opportunity was taken to upgrade the lighting system in the chancel.

The Church is able through the work of volunteer's to be able to keep the fabric of the church in good day to day repair and are most appreciative of the grant given by the parish council for the upkeep of the churchyard.

Philip Merry our curate and his wife Denise, an elder, have been providing valuable support in the benefice to our incumbent Celia Cook. We congratulate Philip on his appointment as full time minister for Walsham Le Willows and 5 other parish's, we wish both Philip and Denise every success and happiness as they begin their new journey

At present 2 services a month are held Holy Communion on the 3rd Wednesday at 9.30 and an Evensong at 3.00 on the 3rd Sunday. Anybody would be very welcome to join us

### ***Reports from Village Organisations cont...***

**6.4 1<sup>st</sup> Grundisburgh Scout Group and Fynn Valley Explorers** Scout Leader Archie Adams reported another excellent year with lots of exciting and adventurous activities – continuing the aim of developing young people to become responsible members of the community. Most importantly the young people and leaders have had great fun. Reflecting the national surge in membership there are about 70 children in the Beaver/Cub/Scout/Explorer sections from Grundisburgh and surrounding areas. The usual challenge is the number of Leaders – with 6 spread across the 4 sections. Sam Brown from the village was welcomed as a new Leader. Additional help – full or occasional would always be welcome! The Group celebrated 60 Continuous Years of Scouting in Grundisburgh in 2016 – started in 1921 before stopping a couple of times and re-starting in 1956. We also celebrated 100 years of the Worldwide Cub Scout section.

Activities – a sample:

- This weekend Leaders and Scouts/Explorers have taken part in our annual Scout Cycle Camp 100 miles around Suffolk and Norfolk over 3 days.
- 8 Day Scout Summer camp in Nottingham area.
- Loads of local camps – Halloween camp in Ipswich, Cub camp at Glenham Hall estate, camped on the playing field, Link camps with the District.
- Many hikes – for example Scout Expedition Challenge hike in March – involving route planning, map reading and walking back from Saxmundham and Framlingham before staying on the playing field overnight and then attending the Mother’s Day Parade.
- Cubs had an Incident night hike in March, walking for several hours around the surrounding villages completing challenges.
- Visiting a Buddhist Centre
- Attended the village panto where a new member was invested on stage
- Tobogganing
- 10 pin bowling
- Toured the Police Museum
- Made and filled ‘Shoebboxes’ to send to children abroad
- Renewed Promises at Sutton Hoo
- Halloween and Bonfire nights
- Celebrated the Chinese New Year
- Made gifts for Mother’s Day
- Been Geocaching, Orienteering
- Tied many knots and untied a few of them
- Experimented many times with Backwoods cooking.

Forthcoming events involve the Grundisburgh Beavers/Cubs/Scouts/Explorers/Brownies & Guides completing a ‘Monopoly Challenge’ around the village and then all camping on the playing field – great for all uniform sections to be seen out and about. Also have a major summer camp taking place at Bentwaters where Scouts and Guides from across the county will be enjoying many activities.

The Archery Team continue to be successful and will be attending the National Finals in Hertfordshire on 6/7<sup>th</sup> May, and in July the Group will host a District Archery Tournament.

In terms of the proposed replacement HQ, directives are awaited from various people so that plans can go forward. The village will be kept updated. The Group continues to raise funds through a number of activities, such as the annual Duck Race which raised another £2,300 – the 2017 event is booked for 24<sup>th</sup> June. The inaugural Fireworks on the Playing Field was very successful despite the awful weather and raised another £1,200 – the 2017 event is booked for Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November. The textile bin on the Playing Field car park continues to be well used and £4,000 has been raised from this in the 6 years it has been there. Scouts have also helped the Guides section with the Pumpkin Festival which this year will return to the village green.

To summarise – another cracking year and a very big thank you to everyone who has and does continue to support the Scout and Explorer Groups it is very much appreciated. .

***Reports from Village Organisations cont...***

**6.5 Lunch Club** Mrs.Youngs reported another successful year for the Lunch Club. The Dog continues to supply meals for which members pay £5. The cost to the club has just been raised to £75 per session. The Wood Trust continue to support the Club and again made a donation of £100. Two people from Burgh attend the club. As members leave to go to a care home or pass away there are always people on a waiting list who are keen to join the club. Currently there are 16 members and 2 on the waiting list. The Club enjoyed some trips during the year.

In the summer members went to Framlingham and had afternoon tea at Clare Sanders home. The helpers provided sandwiches and cake. The weather was not kind but members enjoyed a pleasant afternoon in Clare's sitting room.

The annual trip to the "Hut" in Felixstowe proved to be very popular again. The club was joined by the Lyttleton Club and a donation from the Parish Council of £200 was received. Fish & chips and apple pie and custard was enjoyed by all,

Christmas was celebrated with lunch at Otley Village Hall with local caterers providing a very good lunch. This was followed with a Christmas sing song accompanied on the piano keyboard by Wendy. Everyone left with a "goody bag".

Finally, a visit to Farlingaye High School for their Christmas Concert with tea and cakes to follow concluded the year.

Mrs.Youngs thanked all the helpers and drivers who support the club throughout the year.

**7 New Village Hall Update** Mr Peter Kendall reported that planning permission had finally been given for the old village hall to be demolished and for two chalet bungalows to be built on the site. Visits has been made to several halls recently mainly to see their ecological features. The intention is to build a hall which is easy to keep clean, well-insulated, energy efficient and will last 80 – 100 years. He was pleased with the positive response from villagers. It is intended to ask individuals/village organisations to raise money to buy individual items for the new hall – e.g. furniture, kitchen equipment, sound & light systems etc.

Designs and plans for the new hall are on display at this meeting and an up to date display will be staged in the summer.

**8. Any Questions** Mr.Dunnett asked what funds had been raised to build a new Scout & Guide HQ. Mr Adams took the question replying that as he was not part of the negotiations he was unable to answer the question.

**9. The Year in Pictures - Grundisburgh & District News** Mr.Peter Kendall of the Grundisburgh & District News gave an impressive slide show of "News" photographs of village events during the year.

The Chairman closed the meeting and refreshments were served

## GRUNDISBURGH & CULPHO PARISH COUNCIL

### ANNUAL REPORT

1st APRIL, 2016 - 31st MARCH, 2017

<u>Chairman</u>	Telephone
Stephen Barnett, 57 Gurdon Road, Grundisburgh IP13 6XA	07714-798265
<u>Vice Chairman</u>	
Ann Willetts, 14 Gurdon Road, Grundisburgh IP13 6XA	01473-738831
<u>Parish Councillors</u>	
Vanessa Barker, 7 Charles Avenue, Grundisburgh IP13 6TH	01473-735818
Mary Bean, 6 Alice Driver Road, Grundisburgh IP13 6XH	01473-738425
Judith Bignell, 34 Orchard End, Grundisburgh IP13 6UA	01473-735459
Geoff Caryer, The Chestnuts, Rose Hill, Grundisburgh IP13 6TG	01473-738108
John Dunnett, Squeech Farm Cottage, Grundisburgh IP13 6TL	01473-735515
Sally Grahn, 15 Alice Driver Road, Grundisburgh IP13 6XH	01473-738219
David Higgins, Walnut House, Meeting Lane, Grundisburgh IP13 6UB	01473-738694
John Lapsley, 1 Abbey Farm Barn, Culpho	01473-738008
Peter Kendall, Ford House, The Green, Grundisburgh IP13 6TA	01473-738267
Richard Youngman, White House Farm, Grundisburgh IP13 6RR	01473-735221
<u>Clerk</u>	
John Ager, 8 Post Mill Close, Grundisburgh IP13 6UU	01473-735541
<u>District Councillor</u>	
Tony Fryatt, Alby Green, Woodbridge Road, Debach IP13 6BZ	01473-737218
<u>County Councillor</u>	
Robin Vickery, 7 Framlingham Court, Valley Road, Ipswich IP1 4EF	07545 423827

**Meetings** The Council met bi-monthly and three Extraordinary Meeting was held. The Council's Finance, Planning and Footpaths & Environment Sub Committees also met during the year. The Annual Parish Meeting was held in the Village Hall on the 26th April, 2016 where reports were given on three ongoing projects in Grundisburgh which will have a massive impact on the village - an extension to St. Mary's Church, a new HQ for the Scouts and Guides and a new Village Hall.

**Councillor resignations.** We were sorry to lose Cavin Doyle and Norman Wilcock during the year and thank them for their contribution to the work of the Council. We welcomed Mary Bean who was co-opted.

**The late Peter Bellfield** We were very saddened by the death of Peter Bellfield in April. Peter had been County Councillor representing the villages for thirteen years and had been a good friend and supporter. He was held high regard by the many villages he represented and will be sadly missed. Robin Vickery was elected in his place.

**Queen Elizabeth 11 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations** A weekend of celebrations took place on the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> June. A flower festival in St. Mary's Church, a Street Party in the Primary School involving the Lunch and Lyttleton Clubs and children of Primary School age and below. Concert at St Mary's where a variety of local talent performed. A special Songs of Praise was held in St. Mary's Church on the Sunday followed by fireworks on the Village Green to round off a memorable weekend of celebrations.

**Grundisburgh & District News** The Grundisburgh & District News continues to produce a quarterly free magazine for the sixteen villages it serves. We are very grateful to their very devoted team of volunteers.

**Defibrillator** Grundisburgh now has its own defibrillator to be used to help save lives from heart attacks. It is attached to the side of the parish rooms and 19 villagers have been trained by Lisa Barr and Casie Hall both very experienced nurses. The equipment was paid from the Locality budgets of our District Councillor Tony Fryatt and County Councillor Robin Vickery and the training was paid for by the Gurdon Trust and the Parish Council. It was installed free of charge by Doyle Electrical.

**Web Site** The Parish Council's web site <http://grundisburgh.suffolk.cloud> is a vital tool in spreading news and providing information. Over the years, it has grown to include masses of information including the minutes of council and committee meetings for the last year and sections on Planning, Housing, Environment, Local Shops and Businesses, Local History and lots more. It also has many useful links. Please give it a look.

**Welcome Pack** There is always a danger that newcomers can feel isolated and lost when they arrive in the villages. Welcome Packs compiled and delivered by Sally Grahn help enormously to help them feel at home and are greatly appreciated. These packs are full of valuable information to help those new to the area to help them settle in. If you know of anyone who has been missed please let Sally know 01473-738219.

**Planning** The parish council is a statutory consultee for all planning applications in Grundisburgh and Culpho. The council receive details of all applications in the parishes and invited to submit comments to the Planning Authority. Planning is a very contentious subject and people can get very worked up about it but it must be remembered that anyone can object to, or support, applications. It must also be remembered that planning permissions are granted, or refused, by Suffolk Coastal District Council Not Parish Councils. The Parish Council has established a policy which directs how it deals with the various types of applications and these can be viewed on the council's web site or a hard copy can be obtained from the Parish Clerk.

**Footpaths & Environment** The Footpaths & Environment Committee, led by Chair Sally Grahn, has been very busy during the year. It is responsible for the general appearance of the village. Sally Grahn organised the Annual Litter Pick on the 12<sup>th</sup> March.

The Sunday walks have again been very popular leaving the Village Green at 2.00pm on the second Sunday in the month. This is a great way to discover routes you are not familiar with and enjoy the beautiful countryside surrounding the village in good company. The walks last about 2 hours.

22 villagers participated in the Christmas Torch Lit Walk on the 19<sup>th</sup> December in the dark from the Village Green to

Mr & Mrs. Hill's home in Hasketon where they enjoyed mulled wine, fruit juices and festive fare.

The Millennium Meadow, a rare area of wet grass land, which was conceived by the Parish Council as a conservation area to celebrate the Millennium and made possible by the generosity of Lord Cranworth in allowing us a 100 year lease. There is a regular work party on the first Saturday of the month 10.00am – 12.30pm. Please contact the warden John Dunnett on

01473-735515 if you can help. John and his helpers would make you very welcome.

**Affordable Housing** Grundisburgh is better placed than most villages with 134 (20%) of its total housing stock of 664 dwellings Housing Association rented or shared ownership. 54 of these are reserved for those with village connections again a high percentage. The addition of 4 one bed flats and 4 two bed bungalows on the new village hall site is most welcome especially for those wanting to downsize and young people who want to continue to live in their village.

**New Village Hall** Peter Kendall, Chairman of the Steering Group, reports that considerable modifications to the original design have been agreed with the Village Hall Management Committee after detailed research and consultation.

- Separate green rooms to take account of safeguarding and chaperoning regulations. These spaces can double up as storage for table tennis tables, carpet mat bowls equipment, etc.
- After various stage equipment firms were researched, the moveable staging on display was tested and approved. It can be semi-permanent; when in place, access to the stage/meeting room area will be by steps and stable doors from the sides.
- The chosen staging decks by Mainstage will give unobstructed storage underneath using trolleys for stage flats etc.
- Loft storage provides space for e.g. drama costumes.
- An all-electric kitchen will accommodate functions from small groups up to and including weddings. Two serving hatches, 3 phase electrical supply and refrigerated van power points outside will meet all catering needs.
- The length of hall is designed to be sufficient for carpet bowls without moving stage decking.
- Access from the south side of the hall to outside paving and green area beyond will extend hall use in good weather for marquees etc.
- The size of hall is calculated to be sufficient for up to 120 people cinema/conference style, or 80 – 100 (using stage area as well) for large parties/weddings.
- Acoustic folding doors to stage area will allow its use as a separate meeting room.
- Cleaners cupboard to be provided with butlers sink.
- Small secure office adjacent to lobby will accommodate phone, internet/wifi equipment, filing cabinet, outside security monitoring, fire alarm system, heating & ventilation controls, ticketing & booking arrangements.
- Sufficient male and female WCs will accommodate both small and large events.
- The hall's position in the building is designed so that the kitchen acts to limit noise drift towards the large houses nearest the site.
- Footpath access from Ipswich Road will separate pedestrians and vehicles.

Outline planning is about to be granted for demolishing the old hall and building two chalet bungalows on the site. The condition imposed by the District Council is that the new hall must be ready for occupation before demolition of old hall doesn't preclude a prior sale with appropriate conditions attached. The business plan will be completed shortly and then submitted to the Village Hall Management Committee for discussion; this will be followed by an accurate estimate of the building cost and then a funding plan can then be finalised and put into operation.