



Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of East Hunsbury Parish Council held on **Tuesday 2nd April 2019** at 7:00pm at Blacky More Community Centre.

Present: Cllr M Allen, Cllr D Lewis, Cllr K Moore, Cllr A Morris, Cllr J Nunn, Cllr T O'Neill, Cllr Mary Roach, Cllr D Savage, Cllr C White (Chairman)

Also present: Jenny Evans (Clubs for Young People), Liz Carroll-Wheat (Community Projects Officer), Sgt Nick Paul (Northamptonshire Police), Cllrs Phil Larratt and Brandon Eldred (Northampton Borough Council), David Warrington (The Abbey Centre), David Smith (South Northants Community Responders), Mrs C Holgate (Clerk)
16 members of the public

1. The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 2018 were accepted.
2. Cllr C White welcomed everyone to the Annual Parish Meeting for East Hunsbury Parish Council and gave a short report.
Appendix A – report, East Hunsbury Parish Council
3. East Hunsbury Youth Clubs
Jenny Evans gave some information about the youths clubs in East Hunsbury, and a short film featuring youth club members was presented by the youth club member who made and produced the film. The youth clubs are a valuable service to those young people who attend, and is a place where young people can express who they are.
Young people who have moved on to the senior group are now volunteering at All Stars (Yr 6s) and making an outstanding contribution.
Attendance at the youth clubs is good and a quarterly report is prepared for the parish council and available for members of the public.
If you would like to find out more about the work the youth clubs do in the parish please contact Jenny.
4. Reports:
 - Cllrs Phil Larratt and Brandon Eldred, Northampton Borough Council
Cllrs Larratt and Eldred gave a report to the meeting.
Appendix B – report, Northampton Borough Council
 - Sgt Nick Paul, Northamptonshire Police
Sgt Paul explained how the operating model changed last year. Demand has increased over the last 12 months, which has had an increased impact on resources.
There has been an increase in crime in East Hunsbury, but this is a trend across the town and the county, and East Hunsbury is a safe place to live.
It is sad to see the volume of insecurities we still see; items are left on display or vehicles/property left insecure. A crime prevention evening will be held on April 17th for residents to access information, and find out about the Neighbourhood Watch scheme.
Our local police team have a good relationship with the parish council, and are in regular touch with the parish clerk.

- East Hunsbury Primary School provided a report for distribution
Appendix C – report, East Hunsbury Primary School
Simon de Senlis Primary School sent a film showcasing children’s work which you can view here - <https://sway.office.com/NdvI4H2oGq5IG1ac?ref=Link>
- David Warrington, Pastor – The Abbey Centre
David gave a short report to the meeting – Appendix D
- David Smith, South Northants Community Responders
South Northants Community Responders are a community based charity, made up of volunteers who are trained to provide emergency care until the ambulance service arrive. Volunteers are based locally and can reach people quickly. The volunteers carry all their own kit, and the charity was pleased to receive a grant of £2,000 from the parish council this year to replace 2 defibrillator units.
- Cllr Maggie Allen, East Hunsbury Seniors Club
Cllr Allen gave a short report to the meeting – Appendix E

5. No comments were received from members of the public.

Signed _____

Dated _____



East Hunsbury Parish Council

Chairman's report to the Annual Parish Meeting

2nd April 2019

The Parish Council differs from other levels of Local Government in that we are neither Political nor Parochial. We are funded from the precept and every household within the Parish of East Hunsbury contributes around £1.30 to £1.50 per week from their rates, depending on the band. The Parish Council, as custodians of public funds, ensures that the money is spent directly on the Parish. All our meetings are open to the public and our accounts are available for scrutiny.

This year started with a challenge from nature. In May, the flash flooding caused considerable damage to a number of properties in the parish, particularly those adjoining Wootton Brook. The Parish Council visited a number of the affected householders and lobbied the Borough and County Councils and Anglian Water for change and remediation work to prevent a recurrence of this problem. I am pleased to advise you that a great deal of work was undertaken by the Borough Council, as the riparian owners, particularly in Penvale Park and other areas adjacent to the Brook. Please be assured that the Parish Council will continue to monitor the situation and ensure that maintenance continues which should ease the problem.

Councillors represent the Parish on a number of important planning issues in order to influence the decision making process. These include the Bovis development and both the Strategic Rail Freight Interchanges namely Roxhill and Rail Central. We continue to express concerns regarding additional traffic and pollution. We have representation on the M1 smart motorway community panel and the contractors advise us in advance of any overnight road closures which may have an impact on residents.

Locally we are concerned for our environment and have organised litter picks with residents and local schools and I am pleased to advise you that East Hunsbury Primary School children are our Litter Heroes for this year. Simon de Senlis School and Wootton Park School are involved in Skills swaps with Seniors, exchanging knowledge and encouraging better understanding and empathy from both age groups. We have provided additional litter and dog poo bins so there really is no excuse for unsocial behaviour.

We liaise with the local police presence and councillors attend the Police and Crime Commissioner briefings. We have listened to residents' concerns and our local police team have planned a Crime Prevention Evening for 17th April which will be held at the Community Centre. You may have noticed SID (Speed Indicator Device) This was purchased by the Parish Council and is proving effective in Speed Reduction.

During this year we have had a few visits from the Traveller Community to our parks and supermarket and we are grateful particularly to Councillor Larratt at NBC for the provision of the wooden bollards to prevent further illegal encampments on the green spaces.

Across the year we have held a number of successful events to benefit the whole community. The Summer fair was well attended with face painting, strawberries and cream and stalls. The Christmas fair had a lovely community feel, with Father Christmas in attendance, mince pies and mulled wine to greet you as well as many interesting stalls. The profits we made were donated to East Hunsbury Primary School to go towards their SU Project Playground, and we hope we can support other local groups in the coming year. This year we were able to make a grant to the South Northants First Responders to purchase 2 defibrillators so that residents may benefit from this local fast response if required.

We held a Summer programme for children with Northampton Town Football Club Community Trust which was well subscribed and this year we intend to again facilitate a programme of activities for our young people during the summer holidays. For adults we are working with local providers of Thai Chi and Boot Camp to encourage Health and Wellbeing and to utilise all the lovely green space of which we are all so proud.

As 2018 was the centenary for World War 1 we agreed that the sacrifice could not go unrecognised and purchased 3 Tommies and 100 poppies for the lamp posts. This was so well received by residents that we have now ordered 3 commemorative benches that will be sited in the parks across East Hunsbury.

This year we were very fortunate to employ Liz Carroll Wheat, our Community Projects Officer and she has transformed the vision we intend to implement for the benefit of all residents. Liz is working with many providers that we would not necessarily have heard of and by joining up we will be able to provide a much wider programme to address wellbeing, mental health and social isolation as well as many social events for the benefit of residents. There is so much already happening in East Hunsbury and our aim is to make sure everybody knows about it.

The elephant in the room continues to be the Community Governance Review. We continue to have a presence in various meetings to represent the Parish and hope that it may be an opportunity rather than a threat to the Parish. We are hopeful that a number of assets may be transferred to the Parish so that we may protect them for the benefit of our residents.

I believe that we are a transparent and democratic layer of influence working on your behalf and that the Parish Council continues to offer good value for money. Our professional Parish Clerk, Caroline Holgate continues to advise us and may be reached by residents at the Parish Office based in East Hunsbury Library.

Cllr Claire White
Chairman

EAST HUNSBURY PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – 2nd April 2019



Borough Councillors Report

It remains our privilege to represent East Hunsbury on Northampton Borough Council.

Throughout the last year we have continued to assist members of the community with their individual problems and concerns. While it isn't always possible to resolve every matter to each individual's satisfaction, in the main we have been successful in resolving issues satisfactorily.

We have also worked with the Parish Council and have supported it in its endeavours.

It has been a very busy year for us both within the Council. Brandon, as the Cabinet Member responsible for Finance in these times of austerity, has been wrestling to ensure that the Council lives within its means, provides value for money for the taxpayer, and delivers a balanced budget. Phil as Deputy Leader of the Council has, in addition to discharging his allocated responsibilities, i.e. the Market, Sports Clubs, Performance, NBCs Street Lighting, and Rail, been greatly involved in the establishment of the new Unitary Council for West Northamptonshire, and the Councils Governance Review that is seeking to establish new Parish / Community Councils and a Town Council across the Borough.

As Borough Councillors we each get a Community Fund of £3,000 per year to support local organisations and projects. Over the last year or so we have been able to support: the Friends of Hunsbury Library; Hunsbury Towns Women's Guild and the Seniors Group with travel costs; events at The Saints Study Centre for children attending Simon de Senlis and East Hunsbury Primary Schools; a football tournament / competition at Goals for East Hunsbury Schools to participate in; the purchase of items to commemorate the end of WW1 within East Hunsbury; and the provision of new security bollards at the Grangewood Club. We have also supported charities with a local connection and town wide events such as Twinfest, Crysaly, Northamptonshire Trampoline Academy, Inspiration FM, and a Guinea Pig Sanctuary. Please contact us if you feel that there is a worthy project or cause that you would like us to support.

There are several local issues / matters that we have been involved in over the year including: the refurbishment / extension of Overslade House being undertaken by Northampton Partnership Homes; tree works in the vicinity of King Richard Court; the enforcement of planning and environmental legislation in relation to development in Swallow Close; planning issues relating to the desecration of Wootton Hall Park; bollarding to prevent illegal encampments; flooding that occurred during the year; and tree works generally across the area.

During the year we saw the Councils new Environmental Services Contractor, Veolia, commence their 10 year contract. Generally the changeover went smoothly although there were some initial teething problems that were soon overcome. The contract has seen the provision of new wheelie bins for

recyclable waste that have caused recycling rates to increase, new bin rounds, and a better standard of grounds maintenance and cleanliness. There are still issues with the cleanliness of the A45 and its slip roads that the Council is trying to resolve with Highways England to get the required lane closures to enable safe litter picking.

Currently we are: pursuing a tree survey of all the trees in East Hunsbury; seeking to resolve problems of damp in bungalows in Overslade Close; getting trees and shrubs cut right back on the footpath behind Danes Camp Leisure Centre that are a problem for residents of Kentford Close; getting trees and shrubs cut back around the subway under Towcester Road, near Overslade Close to open up the area creating a more open and safer environment; and seeking to engage with Tesco to address the matter of trees and shrubs on the old access road and redundant car park in the vicinity of the library in conjunction with the Parish Council, Library, and Northampton Partnership Homes.

Within the Council there is much to be done this year. We have to complete the Governance Review for elections to take place to new Parish / Community and Town Councils in 2020. The new Unitary Council needs to be established ready to come into being in 2020. Northampton's new Local Plan needs to be progressed and submitted for examination in the autumn. We need to provide more sustainable temporary accommodation for homeless people, and address the problem of rough sleepers across the Borough. The Veolia contract needs to be monitored to ensure that high standards are maintained and that quality services are delivered. Lastly, but not least, we need to maintain a tight grip on finances and deliver value for money.

All this will keep us both extremely busy, but primarily we are elected to serve the residents of East Hunsbury and we will continue to make ourselves available and to represent and help our constituents to the best of our ability.

Please feel free to contact us at any time.

Brandon Eldred

cllr.beldred@northampton.gov.uk

Phil Larratt

cllr.plarratt@northampton.gov.uk



Report for Parish Council from East Hunsbury Primary School – April 2019

This year we feel the school has benefitted from its involvement with the Parish Council in many ways, not just in the financial contributions the Council have kindly made to us.

Councillor Michael Campbell has shown his on-going support as a member of our Inclusion Working Party and has also been to school to take part in an assembly sharing information with our older pupils about his career, in order to inspire pupils to aim high.

Thank you, Michael, for giving freely of your time to support us in both our assembly and our on-going mission to ensure inclusion is at the heart of all we do.

We have also met with Liz and Jenny regarding Community Projects and the following things are in the pipeline:

- Seed planting with the school Gardening Club at Stone Pit Hollow with the Seniors – May 8th
- Ongoing involvement with Gardening Club for some of the Seniors – work to be done by school around safeguarding and risk assessments before this commences – dates to be decided
- School Parliament representatives to attend a Parish Council Meeting to talk about their Parish Walk and their findings regarding litter and the parks – date to be decided
- East Hunsbury Litter Heroes – Councillors to come to introduce Litter Heroes via an assembly. EHPS to be the first Litter Heroes committing to 6 litter picks a year – date to be decided
- School to support the Great Get Together on Saturday July 6th – School Parliament to run the coconut shy and bring some information about school to share with the local community

Financial Contributions from the Parish Council

Family Room refurbishment - £400

Our Learning Mentor, Hazel Gibson, works with families in school offering them support with issues such as domestic violence, bereavement, homelessness and family separations. With a £400 donation from the Parish Council she has been able to create a new family room, so she now has a quiet, comfortable space to talk privately with families. She also uses this space to work with vulnerable children on interventions. This calm and relaxed environment helps the children to feel at ease ensuring they can access the support Hazel gives them more fully. Hazel and the school community is incredibly grateful for this donation and we are already seeing the benefits of having this new space in school. Hazel was able to purchase a sofa and chair, bookcase, desk and desk chair as well as a kettle and mini fridge. This has helped to turn an unused changing room into a relaxed space and

has made her role much easier in providing a safe and confidential place to talk.



Donation to our SU "Project Playground" - £270

The Parish Council donated monies raised at the Parish Christmas Fair to our SU Project Playground. The £270 donated will go towards new bikes for the playground as we need to replace all 5 of our well-loved and incredibly well used bikes. In total the school has now raised £25,000 towards a new SU playground. Work should start on this redevelopment, known as Project Playground, in the summer holidays. Parish Councillors will receive an invite to our grand opening once we have a date for this! Maggie Allen and Liz Carroll-Wheat came to school to present the cheque to the children and staff. It was lovely to see Maggie and Liz in school and the children thoroughly enjoyed receiving the large cheque!



If any Councillors are interested in finding out more about our Project Playground, please get in touch with Lucy Boswell at ingmanl@easthunburyprimary.org We are still fundraising for this project as in total we expect to spend between £35 - £45,000 to complete all areas.

From everyone at East Hunsbury Primary School we would like to say a BIG thank you for the support the Parish Council has given us this year. We are looking forward to being involved in more Community Projects throughout the remainder of this year and into next year. We hope to continue to build positive community links with yourselves and all members of the East Hunsbury community.



Lucy Boswell

SU Lead & Assistant Head

On behalf of East Hunsbury Primary School pupils, staff and families

ABBEY CENTRE BAPTIST CHURCH

Report for East Hunsbury Parish Council

Introduction

The church, began life in Far Cotton as Abbey Road Baptist Church in 1893. In 1987 it moved to a new home in the Abbey Centre, East Hunsbury. Opened by HRH Princess Diana and funded by the generosity of the members and local organisations, the Abbey Centre seeks to provide space for community groups to gather, community minded businesses to function, and for local people to hire rooms on a one-off basis and to provide social and spiritual help in a Christian context for members of the community. We seek to be a welcoming and affirming congregation, and in our gathering for worship on a Sunday morning we seek to demonstrate the hospitality of God to everyone, from different backgrounds and all walks of life. This is summed up in our strap-line: *'Seeking to serve the spiritual and social needs of South Northampton by recognising and affirming the presence of God in everyone.'*

Current use

The premises include a multi-purpose building, a youth hall, a chapel and a multi-use games area. There are around 40 regular user groups based at the Abbey Centre consisting of around 4 groups serving the 0-5 age range; 5 groups working with the pre-teens; 5 groups working with older youth; 10 groups working with adults and 4 groups working with the elderly, as well as many occasional users.

The church itself currently runs a Lunch Club for the elderly on Mondays, a youth club for younger teens on Friday evenings, a babies and tots groups for young families on Wednesday mornings and we are now looking at plans to make Friday afternoons a focus for well-being with meditation and relaxation sessions and singing for well-being and perhaps a happiness cafe too. We are looking to partner with EHPC on these developments. We also host a monthly Network Lunch enabling community groups across the area to come together informally to hear a short talk and to spend time getting to know what each other is doing in the community.

There will almost certainly be something at the Abbey Centre for everyone! You will find a welcome in any of the relevant user groups. There are also many opportunities to become one of the many volunteers who enjoy working with people of various ages in a wide range of activities, day-time and/or evenings.

Our Values

As a community of different users we aim to respect each and every one using the building. We ask users to moderate actions and language in the public areas of the building, by smoking only in the designated points outside the building and by keeping the building and grounds free from litter and mess. We maintain a strong safeguarding policy for children, young people and vulnerable adults. And while it is the responsibility of all users to maintain a safe space for all children and vulnerable adults, we also have a Safeguarding Office to whom any untoward behaviour in this respect should be reported directly.

Governance

The Abbey Centre belongs to the Abbey Centre Baptist Church and is ultimately managed by the church trustees (Deacons) but we are in the process of involving the wider community in this process by setting up a management committee. Our Borough Council has nominated the two local councillors to represent it on this body and we are looking for other volunteers who have skills and an interest in developing the work of the Abbey Centre to join us in the new adventure.

For More details

For more detailed information and contact details for the Centre: Telephone: 01604 767568 or

email: admin@abbeycentre.org.uk or acbc.pastor@gmail.com or visit: www.abbeycentre.org.uk

ABBAY CENTRE – CENTRE USERS BY AGE GROUP

All Age Groups

- Abbey Centre Baptist Church
- Emmaus Church

0-5

- Baby and Toddlers
- Tots Play and Sign/Sensory
- Abbey Centre Pre-School
- Childminders

Pre Teen

- Beavers
- Cubs
- Brownies
- Guides
- MAD (Music and Drama) club

Youth

- MAD Club
- Youth Zone
- Scouts
- Jazz Hands
- Princes Trust

Adult

- ACT (Abbey Community Theatre)
- Short Mat Bowls
- Aikido
- Art Group
- Slimming World
- LEAP (for adults with learning difficulties)
- Stamp Fairs
- Postcard Fairs
- Theological Society
- Vets (Closing soon)

Senior

- Lunch Club
- Cloud 9
- Parkinson Society
- East Hunsbury PC Seniors

REPORT ON SENIORS CLUB

by Chairman of Community Eng Committee

The parish council should be proud of how this club has grown and developed, and this is becoming even more apparent now that we have our Community Projects Officer on board.

From our start with 25 members we now have 168 and the club is rapidly evolving into a real community experience, with the coffee mornings having become one-stop shops for information and advice, where people can be signposted to other agencies and activities for help and support. We have a growing number of members with partners who have special care needs, and the coffee mornings provide respite and interest for these members.

Last Friday we had a litter pick which was manned by 12 Seniors members

On Saturday a 2nd litter pick group included 8 Seniors members

Coffee mornings, the backbone of the club, have improved vastly since we originally used the Collingtree pub as our venue, now that we meet in Green's and the Abbey Centre. This morning we had a record attendance of 65 and during that single session we filled a coach trip and an Easter event as well as hearing from a guest speaker about a local transport scheme, for which quite a few members signed up.

From only having one local school on board for the School of Life events where Seniors and school pupils join together for skill swapping etc., we now have all 3 of our schools, with Simon de Senlis now signed up for some activity sessions with our Seniors

We have 3 official representatives from the group who attend committee meetings and help decide on events by gathering feedback and discussing ideas with other members; they also help manage events and they host their own informal meetings to discuss ideas, which they consolidate and bring to committee. This is in line with our aim to give the members some ownership of the club.

We are looking at helping E H Primary school renovate their exterior play and garden area, used by their special needs unit, with Seniors offering to carry out wood restoration, painting and gardening etc.

The Seniors Club has become widely known and we often have people from neighbouring parishes asking if they can join.

The majority of members are very involved, willing to help where possible, and are constantly offering to pay – at present coffee mornings are fully funded by the PC but we are considering whether to charge a token amount as the club continues to grow.

Last week, sadly, Paula and I attended the funeral of one of our members, a lovely lady whose son thanked us profusely for the club as he said since his father had died, mum had become rather solitary and the family were concerned about her. Since she joined, he said she looked forward to coffee mornings and had made new friends, and the family were pleased to see this positive change in her.

Lots more in the pipeline – partnering with the Abbey Centre and others ref. activity sessions, a pop-up café etc. as joint initiatives. Working together as a team, for the good of our parish.