

**NORTH FERRIBY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES**  
**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**  
**27<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2016**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Hookem (Chairman), Abraham, Black, Blogg, Clark, Dennett, Hyland, Payne and Swindin.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - Councillors Burney and Taylor submitted apologies

**PUBLIC FORUM** – There was no members of the public present.

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING – RESOLVED** –That the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2016 be confirmed and signed as a correct record. Proposed by Councillor Abraham and seconded by Councillor Swindin.

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

First of all, I would like to say that being Chairman of North Ferriby Parish Council over this past year has been a privilege, and I have great pleasure in presenting my first Chairman’s Report for 2016/17.

Unfortunately, there is not room to mention all that has occurred since the last Chairman’s Report in May, but hope the following gives a brief overview of some of the events.

Once again there have been changes to our Parish Council over the past year, and we have welcomed Councillors Blogg, Burney and Clark to our ranks who I am pleased to confirm are now all taking an active role in the various sub committees as well as the Council as a whole.

Our Ward Councillor, Julie Abraham, continues to be a huge support to us not only in a personal capacity, but also by bringing her invaluable knowledge and experience of local government to the table.

**Meetings**

Meetings of the full Parish Council are usually held once a month, and all residents are welcome to attend and speak on any matter which appears on the Agenda. Details of all meetings with their Agendas, be it full Council or one of the Sub Committees can be found on the Notice Boards around the village, the main one being in Coronation Gardens. If there is something you think should be brought up at any of the Council Meetings, then please do not hesitate to contact either the Clerk or one of your Councillors who can ask for it to be added to the relevant Agenda.

The current Sub Committees cover Planning, the Playing Fields, the Environment (including Riverside Walkway), Emergency and Personnel.

Please note, only matters which are on the published Agendas can be discussed at the meetings, and sometimes it is necessary for us to exclude the press and public when discussing matters of a confidential nature, for example if the matter is commercially sensitive or subject to legal action.

**Parish Precept and Finance**

The Parish Council has set a budget of £73,000 for the coming financial year and is used to finance such things as maintenance and upkeep of the Playing Fields and Riverside Walkway, the village Christmas Tree, steam cleaning of the War Memorial, as well as the more obvious salaries, insurances and office running costs. Regrettably this has led to another increase on the Parish precept to take account of recent pension obligations on employers, and means that a Band D property will now pay £42.98 per year, an increase of £3.42 a year or 28.5p per month, with proportional reductions for Bands A – C and increases for bands E – H. Be assured however, that we do realise that this is ‘your money’ and we strive to obtain the best value in everything we do.

Signed by the Chairman.....Date.....

**Playing Field**

Regrettably I have to report that there have been a number of incidents of minor vandalism to the play area over the past year, and would ask that if residents see any suspicious activity they report it to either the police or Parish Council. We do have CCTV installed which is monitored and can be examined and passed to the Police as necessary. Not only is such action extremely anti-social and potentially dangerous, the cost of repair has to be borne by the Parish Council and ultimately the residents.

We have also had complaints of another sort of anti-social behaviour on the Playing Fields, this time by inconsiderate dog owners letting their dogs foul the playing fields and not picking the mess up. We have therefore erected a new sign politely reminding owners to pick up after their pets – this is after all an amenity which is used for sport and play by adults and children alike.

**Riverside Walkway/Reed Pond**

Following the securing of grants, work to save the Reed Pond from overgrowth of reeds commenced in Autumn 2015. Unfortunately due to extremely wet weather, this has taken much longer than expected, but the majority of the work has now been completed and the Pond looks so much better for it. However, we would ask that when walking alongside the pond, you keep to the designated pathway and if exercising pets that you do not let them on to the newly grassed areas or into the water for your and your pets’ safety.

This financial year has also seen the refurbishment of the outline boat on the Riverside Walkway, and we would also like to thank both Linden Homes and Co-operative Funeral Care who have donated new replacement seats.

**Planning**

North Ferriby Parish Council Planning Committee usually meets twice a month and considers all planning applications within the village which are referred to us by East Riding Council, along with applications which although outside the village may have an impact on us. All residents are welcome to attend these meetings as detailed above and can speak on any matter which appears on the Agenda before Councillors make their recommendations.

Unfortunately however the Committee can only make recommendations, it is not the final decision maker. Although our views do carry weight, on some occasions decisions are made that in our opinion, are not in the village’s best interests.

I would also like to take this opportunity to highlight a change that is being made in how residents are alerted to forthcoming planning applications, in as much as East Riding Council will no longer send out notifications to neighbouring properties, but notices will be placed in the vicinity, for example on nearby lampposts. It is therefore now up to residents to watch out for these notices or regularly check the Parish Council’s notice boards to see if there is anything which may affect them, or on which they would like to comment.

With regard to future development in North Ferriby, following examination by the Planning Inspector of the East Riding Local Plan a report has been issued on the allocation of sites for future housing, and a total of 160 homes have been approved which will result in 113 homes being built at the east of the village off Ferriby High Road. There is no named developer at present, but when one is in place the Parish Council will do our best to influence their choice of the type of housing to include properties suitable for older residents, such as bungalows, or supported living, something which it is shown there is a distinct lack of in Ferriby at present.

**Melton Fields**

There is nothing to report at present regarding the proposed housing development as we are awaiting the outcome of the hearing in the Court of Appeal in London which will take place in early June.

Signed by the Chairman.....Date.....

## **North Ferriby United AFC**

First of all congratulations to North Ferriby United on last year's promotion to the Vanarama National League. This has certainly put North Ferriby on the map. On the downside, however, this has caused some problems with parking on match days with increased crowds, and the unwelcome behaviour by a small minority of drunken fans. We have taken residents' concerns over this on board, and have passed these on to the club as a result of which residents will have been aware of a higher police presence for 'big games' and a ban on serving alcohol in both the Co-op and the Duke of Ferriby immediately prior to kick off.

## **War Memorial**

I am pleased to advise that Historic England has confirmed to us that on 6 June 2016, North Ferriby's War Memorial has been included in a list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest compiled by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport under Section 1 of the Planning Act 1990. The Memorial is looking splendid at present, thanks to it being recently steam cleaned and is of course a major focal point in our Remembrance services.

## **Open Gardens**

North Ferriby Open Gardens and Scarecrow Festival took place last year on 19 June and once again was a huge success, raising £4,440.82 for North Ferriby School. Thanks to all involved, be it participants or organisers, and we look forward to a repeat performance, this year on 2 July, so perhaps it's time to start planning your scarecrows now.

## **Carols at the Lychgate**

The final Wednesday before Christmas once again saw Carols at the Lychgate this year accompanied by the Church Band and Riverside Quintet, and I am pleased to report that the occasion was much enjoyed and very well attended. Soft drinks and mulled wine were served afterwards, along with mince pies which were very kindly donated by the Co-op.

The date for your diary for this year (sorry for mentioning Christmas in March) is 20 December 2017.

And last but not least, as you will have read in the Village Newsletter, our very knowledgeable and experienced Clerk Pat Lambert, is retiring at the end of March after ten years of excellent service both to the Parish Council and to the village as a whole. Her husband Maurice, our Park Warden has also decided to retire at the same time and I would like to wish them both a long and happy retirement together.

Whilst we are still in the process of appointing a replacement for Maurice, I can confirm that we do have a new Clerk, Jo Haslope, who is stepping into Pat's shoes, and I would therefore now like to take the opportunity of officially welcoming her to this position. Jo can be contacted on the same telephone number as before, although there is a slight change to the email address. Full details can be found on the North Ferriby Parish website, which is maintained by Graham Latter, who also produces our Newsletter. Thank you Graham.

If anyone has not yet looked at the website, can I recommend that they do so – it is full of both up to date and archive information about our Parish Council, along with details of other clubs and societies in the village.

In conclusion, I would like to encourage everyone to join in and support all village activities wherever possible as these are what gives North Ferriby its individual personality – and perhaps even propose new ones. Remember your Councillors are here for you, please don't be afraid to contact them.

***Belinda Hookem (Chairman)***  
***North Ferriby Parish Council***  
***27 March 2017***

Signed by the Chairman.....Date.....