

ERPINGHAM with CALTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Martin K Campbell, Well Cottage, High Street, Southrepps, Norwich NR11 8AH
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Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting for Erpingham with Calthorpe held on Wednesday 14th March 2018 in the Village Hall, Erpingham

Present: Mr D Clayton, Mr W Goreham, Mrs C King, Mr N Smith (Chairman), Mr A Witham.
In attendance Cllr J Timewell (NCC) and nine members of the public.

1. Chairman Norman Smith welcomed those present, apologies being received from Mr G Cox

2. The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on March 13th 2017 were taken as read.

3. Chairman's Report – In a quiet year the Chairman referred to issues such as dog fouling which the Council was working towards some improvement with signs and a new bin. He looked forward to the use of a 'SAM' speed reduction sign which would be in varying locations in the villages. The Council was reviewing the additional car parking area at the Village Hall and would seek improvements and he referred to the financial implications which were restrictive at the time of the original application.

4. Other reports

4.1 Norfolk Police - none

4.2 Erpingham Village Hall

We were pleased to welcome to the committee Jinny and Dennis Wells, Christine Jupp and John Home. Tony Moore stood down from his chairman role in March and finally resigned from the committee in November 2017 and John Longhurst resigned in January 2018. During the year a chairman was elected for each meeting.

New folding tables were purchased to replace the old wooden ones that had woodworm. A spring clean of the kitchen and storage cupboard above the kitchen was carried out. The volunteers continue to clean the hall on a monthly rota for the hall and the committee had several work parties to clean, weed and paint the outside of the hall. A new sound system, blue ray player and projector have been installed in the hall. This has enabled a successful film night to take place, used for parties to provide music, the USA art group to play videos and use a lap top for demonstrations and carols with film at xmas coffee mornings. The annual quiz night was well attended with everyone enjoying a fish and chip supper during the interval. The play ground had a major clean up and a rotting post on the swing has been replaced. There is an issue with mares tail weed in one corner which is still to be resolved. Glass recycling is still a major contributor to the village hall funds. Regular bookings are up for the year and the hiring of the hall to shooting parties during the season brought in unexpected revenue. Events planned for the coming year include more film nights, another quiz night and by popular request another wine tasting evening. Please remember that the village hall can only survive with your help and the committee are always ready to welcome new members.

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14.3.18

APM

page 2

4.3 Erpingham Football Club

Since the report that was presented last year the club has had a number of ups and downs. We are currently fielding two teams in the North East Norfolk League, on a Saturday afternoon, and have also introduced a Veteran's team, on a Sunday afternoon. Following the problems with tyre tracks on the pitch at the end of last season, which were very kindly sorted out for us, it has been the moles that have gradually moved further onto the pitch this year. These are currently being addressed and show signs of improvement. The goalposts reached the end of their days, with one rusting right through and developing a nasty lean which meant it needed to be taken down. As I write this report a new set are due to be delivered, so hopefully will be in place by the time of the AGM!

The North East Norfolk league has proved a tough challenge for the Reserves team, as all the teams are now in one Division and there are many more hard games than there were in the old Division Two. That being said players are still turning up and we are actually attracting new players despite the results. The first team have had a better season, despite some of the results and score lines suggesting otherwise.

The Veterans team have also not seen the results that their play has merited. Coming together virtually from scratch the team have competed and contested in all of their games, with the exception of a heavy defeat at Sheringham, and could have secured more than the one win so far.

Unfortunately it was the Norfolk County FA Veterans league that brought into question the facilities at Erpingham, which has resulted in the bulk of the home matches being played at Young's Park, Aylsham. Things were acceptable for the North East Norfolk league, but there were more strict requirements from the Veterans League, which we were not aware of at outset.

Many thanks are due to Norman Smith and the Parish Council, who have agreed to try and take the lead on possible refurbishment and improvements to the changing rooms. Plans are in place to meet with representatives from the Village Hall Committee, the Leisure Hub and other regular users of the MUGA to formulate a plan. We have also met with the County FA, who have offered support and backing as we look to raise funds for the project. The Calthorpe Town Lands Trust have kindly pledged £500 towards this work, while the County FA have also granted us £500 to help with the day to day running costs.

In closing it was sad to arrive at the Village Hall on Saturday morning and find that the changing rooms had been broken into, a reminder that some people seem to overlook the benefits that the Village Hall and the playing field bring to so many. From a personal point of view I am very grateful to be playing at Erpingham and am doing my best to try and keep the club moving forward. If there is anyone else who would like to get involved please feel free to contact me.

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page 3

4.4 North Norfolk District Council – the Chairman advised that he was now an ‘independent’ in the changed allegiances at NNDC.

4.5 Norfolk County Council – Cllr Timewell reported on the difficulties experienced by the Highways Dept during the bad weather, that NCC had submitted a ‘completion’ proposal to the government for the NDR and the Scottow Business Park was generating funds for NCC.

4.6 Erpingham WI –

The WI continues to be an enthusiastic hirer using the hall for its monthly meetings. In addition, this year they organised a garage sale with refreshments on sale in the hall which saw a steady stream of visitors to the village and a good community atmosphere generated.

As well as the garage sale they initiated and produced a new map of the village. The launch of the event was held in the hall and exhibits from the history group and archaeological dig made it a popular and well supported event. Refreshments were served in the hall and it was good to see so many people taking an interest in the geography and history of the village.

Later in the year the Christmas dinner was held in the hall and a well supported and very enjoyable evening was had by all.

4.7 Erpingham and Calthorpe Parochial Church Council - none

4.8 Erpingham V C Primary School –

Angie Hamilton, executive head gave a brief and positive update on the progress and future of the school.

4.9 Erpingham Hub and MUGA – for Village hall meeting

The meeting closed at 19.40

Signed Chairman

May 2018