

## **GT. BEALINGS PARISH COUNCIL**

**([www.greatbealings.co.uk](http://www.greatbealings.co.uk))**

**The Annual Meeting of Gt. Bealings Parish Council was held in the Angela Cobbold Hall on Monday 19th May 2008 commencing at 7.00 p.m.**

### **PRESENT**

Mr Eric Barnett	Chairman
Mr Julian Haywood-Smith	Vice Chairman
Mrs Sally Johnson	
Mr Paul Norris	
Mr John Carter-Jonas	
Mrs Emily Lynch	
Mrs Sarah Cartwright	Parish Clerk
Mr Peter Bellfield	County Councillor

### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Mr Ken Willcox.

At the commencement of the Meeting the Chairman welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

### **2. MINUTES OF 21st MAY 2007**

The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record of the discussion at that meeting. The Minutes were then put to one side to be signed by the Chairman at the end of the meeting.

### **3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

None.

Signed .....  
Chairman

#### **4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman reported that the Village Playing Field had been formally opened by Miss Jill Ganzoni on Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> May. He congratulated everybody for all their hard work and thanked the sponsors for their financial assistance. Thanks were paid to County Councillor Peter Bellfield for the various sums of money his locality fund had contributed starting with the money that had been given by Steve Hudson at the very beginning of the project.

The Parish Plan is moving forward, with Mr Paul Norris, the Parish Council representative reporting on this later in the meeting. Thanks were expressed to Mr Paul Norris for representing the Parish Council as were congratulations to the Steering Group.

Another thank you was paid to Mr John Midwinter for his series of 5 lectures on Global Warming. A great deal of time and effort went into these, which had filled the Committee Room. An ad hoc environmental group was meeting at Regency House on Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May to continue the work on with environmental issues. They are hoping to cover topics such as wind turbines for the village and loft insulation for householders.

The Chairman reported that there had been about 6 planning applications in the year mostly relating to house extensions.

Finally the Chairman said the precept had been set at £3,000 for another year and the balance on the accounts was healthy and at the right level.

He thanked Parish Councillors for their work and support during the past 12 months.

#### **5. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR PETER BELLFIELD**

The schools reorganisation has recently been completed in the first two areas to change to the two-tier system. This has proved controversial with those associated with the middle schools however; independent advice is overwhelmingly to continue to implement the change, which SCC are doing.

The County Council has identified its preferred site at Great Blackenham for an incineration plant producing electricity. However, should one of the bidders for the PFI be able to offer a better alternative this will be considered. It is not expected that a planning application will be made before 2011. The total cost of the project over 28 years is estimated at around £640 million, a little over a third of which being the capital cost of the plant. The balance represents the operating costs of the plant over the years.

Signed .....  
Chairman

SCC had been pleasantly surprised by the amount of the grant from Central Government for the coming year. The Council received £155m, which is £10m more than last year compared with their expectations of less than £4m. This will help them to reduce the adverse effect of some of the £16m of savings, which they are having to make. Council Tax went up less than the RPI. (RPI – 4.1% and Council tax – 3.75%) Mr Julian Haywood-Smith asked, “Are you more efficient or have you cut services?” to which Mr Bellfield replied that they have cut costs a little with “Care” but other cost cuttings are not taking place at all. Whilst Councillor Peter Bellfield didn’t feel he needed to justify why SCC was paying their new Chief Executive so much money he did report that SCDC and SCC needed to reorganise at the top level and needed someone who can drive them to ensure that the four star status of the County Council is maintained. Andrea Hill filled those credentials.

The planning application on Debach airfield has been withdrawn. This was due in considerable part to the County Council Highways authority recommending refusal on the grounds that the local road network was unsuitable for a warehouse and distribution operation on the site.

County Councillor Peter Bellfield also reported that the U-turn on the Ipswich Unitary Bid meant it was not going ahead. What the future for local government in Suffolk will be we do not know. The County Council is in favour of one unitary council for the whole of Suffolk, which they feel saves the most money and could mean the lowest future council tax. Other options which are being considered by the Boundary Committee are: 1. East Suffolk, West Suffolk & Ipswich. 2. East Suffolk and West Suffolk. 3. North Haven & North Suffolk. 4. ‘Yartoft’ – Great Yarmouth & Waveney.

Mr Eric Barnett asked if Suffolk had joined in on Essex’s investigation of possible improvements to the A12?” Mr Peter Bellfield replied that they were keeping an eye on the study and while they supported it there are no financial implications for SCC.

There had been a great deal of interest expressed in the Local Development Framework which has produced draft suggestions for housing development in the Suffolk Coastal District.

The three bin system and waste recycling is working well with up to over 50% of waste being recycled. SCC want to get to 60%.

A copy of Councillor Peter Bellfield’s report will be available on the website shortly.

Signed .....  
Chairman

**6. PARISH PLAN – Little Bealings, Great Bealings & Playford**

Mr Paul Norris handed around copies of a report from the Steering Group which had been prepared by Phil Holmes. A copy of this report will be made available on the Parish Council's website.

It was noted that the Stakeholder interviews were nearly complete and the individual questionnaires were being piloted and likely to be distributed to residents, householders and young people shortly. Some examples of common concerns listed so far included:- parking around the school, speeding, protection of the verges and the bus services.

**7. UPDATE ON PARISH PLAYING FIELD**

As reported previously Miss Jill Ganzoni had formally opened the Playing Field. A lot of hard work had gone into the day's activities and particular thanks should be paid to Mr Malcolm Watson for organising the Fun Run and the other inter-parish activities - football and netball matches. It was pointed out that the permissive path granted by Mr Nigel Rolph over his land made a big difference for residents from Great Bealings accessing the Village Playing Field and school and small children and mothers delighted in using this route. The Maintenance phase of the Village Playing Field is next on the agenda and it is hoped that regular activities will start to be phased in. Various meetings are to follow.

The meeting ended at 7.40 pm

Signed .....  
Chairman