

Minutes of the Annual Assembly of the Parish of Lower Halstow held on Tuesday 6 May 2014 at 7.00pm in the Memorial Hall, Lower Halstow.

Present: Cllr Mick Drury (Chair); Cllr John Knight (Vice Chair); Cllr Chris Mayes; Cllr Steve Gates; Cllr Steve Parker; Cllr Robert Smith; Cllr Barry Tucker and Parish Clerk Mrs C Fordham.

County Councillor Lee Burgess and 6 members of the public.

1. **Apologies**, None

2. **Minutes of the Annual Assembly 2013**

It was proposed by Cllr Tucker, seconded by the Chair that the Minutes of the Annual Assembly 2013 be accepted as a true record; all Councillors were in favour and the minutes were duly signed.

3. **Matters Arising**

4. **Chairman's Report**

The Chair gave a report on the Council's activities during the year. Particular attention was drawn to the success of the Friends of the Park fund raising activities and the consequent installation of the new play equipment. Thanks were also extended to the Friends of the Brickfields for the work being undertaken on the site and their fund raising activities

5. **Report on the Council's Accounts for 2013/14**

The Clerk circulated a report on the Council's accounts for 2013/14. It was noted that these figures had not yet been subject to internal or external audit. The major items of expenditure were highlighted, mainly the new play area and the lighting repairs and energy costs.

6. **Questions from Electors**

a) The Friends of the Brickfields presented an initial plan for Memorial Woodland on the former Bean field area of the Brickfields. The area would have a central path with a stand of silver birches in the middle. There would be a plinth with a metal plaque recording villagers who had fallen in conflict. The Friends of the Brickfields were asked to consider whether it was possible to have a second plinth to make provision for a memorial plaque for others. Grants had been applied for from Swale WWI commemoration funds and the Woodland Trust. A final proposal would be put to the Parish Council for approval as soon as possible. It was anticipated that planting would start in the late autumn.

b) The Church Warden advised that they had been approached asking for evidence of their use of the car parking area on the Brickfields.

c) A resident was concerned that no action had been taken on her request for some remedial work in the Burial Ground. She was advised this matter would be dealt with in the Council meeting which followed the Annual Assembly

d) Friends of the park were concerned about the vandalism in the play area and wondered when the CCTV could be installed. This matter would be dealt with in the Council meeting which followed on.

e) A suggestion was made that improvements could be made to the village website and links made to social network websites. The Council advised that they would consider the possibilities of whether and how to expand the use of social media to promote the village.

f) A resident advised that a youth service van was visiting the village every week, but no-one seemed to be using it. She felt that the service needed to be advertised more.

7. **Any Other Business**

None

The meeting closed at 7.40pm.

Date:

Signed:

Chair.