

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF FOWLMERE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT ST MARY'S CHURCH DOROTHY PLUCK ROOM ON TUESDAY 5TH MAY 2015, AT 7:30 PM**

PRESENT: Cllr L Wragg - Deputy Chairman, Cllr T Bearpark, Cllr D Roberts, Cllr M Sunderland.
Mrs J Wright – Parish Council Clerk

IN ATTENDANCE Mrs H Mepham – Headteacher, Fowlmere School, Mr M Bates, Chair of the Fowlmere Village Hall Management Committee, Mrs D Wood, Mr R Pile, Mrs P Flynn, Mr P Burge, Mrs S Crowther, Mr M McMillan, Mr J Bottrill, Mr A Neal, Mr J Jackson, Mrs M Merritt, Mr R Stockings, Mr M Kibby, Mr W Teasdale.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr C Howe, Cllr J Peacock and resident Lies Blom

2. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF 6TH MAY 2014

Mr Neil queried the draft minutes with the as he feels the wording needs reworking, to remove the wording 'if possible' in items 4, 7 and 8. This was agreed. Cllr Roberts explained her absence at the last meeting due to unforeseen circumstances following family illness and this was also changed.

The minutes were then agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

3. FOWLMERE SCHOOL - Mrs H Mepham, Headteacher

Heather Mepham has unfortunately got a clash this evening with a Governors' meeting but has sent the following report:

"As usual, I start with our mission statement:

'We exist to inspire children to love learning and achieve excellence in all they do within our caring village school'. Our school motto is: 'love learning, achieve excellence'.

We continue to serve the Parishes of Fowlmere, Great Chishill, Chrishall Grange and Heydon. Those living out of catchment are from Foxton, Melbourn and Shepreth. The current roll is 102 pupils. 19 children will be leaving at the end of July to attend secondary schools at Melbourn Village College, St Bede's Inter-Church school and Sawston Village College. The intake for the Reception class in September 2014 is expected to be 13, therefore the school roll will decrease.

The end of Key Stage results for the academic year 2013/14 resulted in very good attainment at the end of EYFS (5 year olds), with outcomes exceeding Cambridgeshire and National. At KS1 (7 year olds) assessments also exceeded national data in reading, writing and mathematics. Expected attainment at the end of KS2 (11 year olds) exceeded national in reading and writing, but fell in mathematics on the previous year. We have therefore focused on mathematics across the school, and can report that good progress is being made.

An Assistant Headteacher, Mr Philip Atkin, was appointed in September to support the Headteacher in driving forward school improvement. Mr Atkin has played an important role in developing mathematics across the school, and also ran three evening workshops for parents to enable them to gain understanding of the strategies used in school and to help them support their children with homework. We began the school year with agency staff in Class 2, due to a teacher vacancy, but we were very pleased to appoint Mr Chris Martin to the post in November.

The children have participated in a wide variety of sporting activities and competitions, including Kwik cricket, athletics, swimming, rugby, football, netball and cross country. The Year 4/5/6 rugby team earned a place at the School Games Spring Finals tag rugby competition, competing against schools across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. They won their pool, and achieved 4th place overall. We had a number of pupils who were placed amongst the fastest runners in both the Y3/4 and the Y5/6 cross country competitions.

We have enjoyed visits to:

The West End theatre production of War Horse, St Alban's Verulanium, Ely Museum, Y5 Well-being conference, Y4 to MVC, Burwell House, Huntingdon cinema for the BBC Ten Pieces project, Y5 Arts Day at MVC, Fowlmere Friendship Club to sing Christmas carols, Fowlmere Playgroup Nativity.

...and/or visitors from:

Rev Trudie Morris, monthly assemblies (Anglican), Mrs Tess Maddin, monthly assemblies (Methodist), and the GenR8 team from Royston, and Quantum Theatre.

We have organised:

Harvest assembly, Red, White and Blue Day, Remembrance Day Assembly, Class 3 museum presentation to the community (WW2), class assemblies, treat days, Christmas craft afternoon, KS1 nativity, KS1/2 Pantomime, Children Challenging Industry project with Johnson Matthey and the University of York, Mothers' Day lunch, Fathers' Day lunch, Easter egg hunt, Cooking day, Class Christmas parties, Cycling Proficiency training for pupils in Year 6

Fundraising this year has focused on Child Cancer charities following the sad loss of Eilish to Wilm's tumour in October. Eilish had desperately wanted to start school in September, and she was able to attend whenever she was well enough. We made a coin trail in the shape of CLIC, for the CLIC Sargent cancer charity and have supported Marie Curie, Child Cancer Awareness, and in particular the Beads of Courage initiative which provides different beads for children each time they have a treatment or hospital visit. Eilish had over 1,000 beads, demonstrating her courage and bravery throughout her illness. We have also supported the Children in Need day and the Save the Children 'Wear a Christmas Jumper' day.

A team of Y5 pupils took part in the Local Authority organised Maths Challenge for Y5 pupils. This year Madame Veronique Sanders from Melbourn Village College teaches French throughout the school. We have again hosted a trainee teacher from Cambridge Universities, providing guidance and support to the training of the next generation of primary school teachers.

We are one of few primary schools that provides voluntarily-run after-school clubs. The clubs are organised by the teachers, parents and community members, and sporting governor bodies. We offer a range of sports and non-sport clubs. We also benefit from classroom support from parents, and members of the community. Cambridgeshire Music provides piano, flute, recorder and guitar tuition to a number of children.

We are extremely fortunate to benefit from the fund-raising efforts of the PTFA. They raise an extraordinary amount to benefit the children at Fowlmere School.

Our new rising 5s will be visiting the school for messy play during this term. The teachers visit the pre-school providers and ensure a smooth transition for the children into school in September.

We are still awaiting an Ofsted Inspection, having received notification that we have sustained our Good performance, and will not be inspected before summer term 2015. We have plenty to do in the meantime, and it continues to be a privilege for me to be leading Fowlmere school.

Finally, our Annual Art Exhibition is this weekend (9/10th May). Please do come along to see the work of local artists and support the school."

4. REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL – Cllr L Wragg

Cllr Wragg reported on the year:

"We have operated with less than a full PC for the last year, with only 7 Councillors and when nominations closed there were only 6 names and they were elected unopposed, with three vacancies and we now have 2 people to co-opt. John Bottrill is not standing again and I would like to say he will be very much missed and for the record, thank him for his valued contribution - he has also put in a lot of time and effort in the Number 31 bus service and on the VH committee.

Traffic - formal traffic surveys appear to be the way forward and are in contact with the police to take this forward.

Village map - we have a new one and are looking to getting it printed and are finalising details for the stand.

Section 106 money has produced new play equipment at the Butts and at the Village Hall for new chairs and tables.

Cemetery regulations - these have been reviewed and enhanced, to minimise the scope for misunderstanding.

Ion Science planning appeal - this was contrary to established planning policy and to the SCDC Local Plan, which the PC support.

Affordable Housing - this was a Rural Exception Site for Fowlmere people. He wished to pay tribute to the work put in by Cllr Roberts on this issue. The allocations of the housing now comply with what was intended for the scheme.

Protected Verges - the PC are responsible for the costs of cutting the protected verges. The solar farm has damaged the verges but hopefully they will be repaired soon.

Savile Way planting - to be started very soon. There has also been some wildflower planting by SCDC on two sites in the village.

Millennium Tree - moving the tree at the wrong time of year caused it to die, but the PC secured a replacement by the Housing Association responsible for the move.

Village tree work - a lot has been completed in 2014 and 2015. For the first time the PC displayed a Christmas tree this year in the pump house, which was appreciated.

Donations made by the PC - Royston Community Transport, Melbourn Youth Club (we would like to see children in the village use it and use should be encouraged), Fowlmere Friendship Club Xmas lunch, British Legion

31 Bus Service - considerable work has happened behind the scenes to help preserve and enhance the bus service.

BT Box in Jackson Way - the PC were unfortunately unsuccessful in getting it moved but the PC did their best.

Chrishall Grange residents were leafleted to find out their views etc and invited them to attend meetings etc.

Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership - Cllr Peacock will lead this and we will borrow a thermal imaging camera in the autumn so we can see where people can further insulate their houses.

Streetlighting – this is not a PC responsibility, but the PC have tried to make sure all remedial measures have been taken.

The Village War Memorial has now been listed by English Heritage.

Questions from parishioners:

Mr Pile - the brass plaque needs to be reinstalled at the Millennium Tree. Cllr Roberts would do so once the ground softens. Mrs Woods asked for the tree to be referred to it as the 'WI' Millennium tree in future.

Mr Teasdale - automatic speed sign, can this be installed at the Cambridge Road end of the village? This might be possible once we have had the official speed survey.

Mr Ayres - how is a speed survey carried out? Cllr Wragg didn't know and asked Cllr Topping to explain - they use electronic monitoring - cable across the road, so it is discrete. Mr Deans asked if speed humps would be an option. Mr Jackson - we have a problem at the Appleacre end of the village, moving the sign further out would be very positive. The Clerk added that the PC is looking at the exits to the village in turn as funding is hopefully achieved. Cllr Sunderland - handheld cameras are an option which we're looking to employ.

Mr Neal - Affordable Housing - the prices of the houses are at the 'going rate' but the land price was very low, so someone somewhere has made a lot of money. Cllr Wragg would not know the answer as figures were asked for but were not forthcoming. Cllr Roberts - maximum paid is £10,000 per plot and so they should have all been rented but the HA changed the boundaries.

5. COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT – Cllr P Topping

Cllr Topping attended the meeting and gave the following report:

"County Council report for 2014-15 to Fowlmere Parish Council

The financial pressures on all local authorities continue, and so we must be diligent to make sure services that we pay for are delivered. I continue to work with your district councillor, Deborah Roberts, and support your parish council in this.

The County faces significant pressure as much of its budget goes on social services. I will keep a very close eye on the proposals to make savings from the county recycling schemes, though there will may be a reduction in the opening hours of the Thriplow recycling centre. My concern is that this could lead to increased flytipping.

Dottrell Hall woodpile & the Flint Cross fire – *I kept the pressure on the county during this year to prosecute the owners of Dottrell Hall woodpile, and this went all the way through the courts. I have asked the county planning enforcement officer to keep an eye on the nearby but separate bungalow site. I rely on local residents to keep me posted on anything unusual going on there. It was a huge frustration for many people that the Flint Cross site was allowed to get out of hand. I will continue to press the county not to restore the licence for waste disposal without assurances that we can have faith in. I pressed for the release of information on air quality during the fire and on the risk of contamination to the water supply.*

Streetlighting – *the meeting that I arranged late last year with the county officers and Balfour Beatty and which your chairman attended to represent Fowlmere helped to ensure that our experience was not as difficult as e.g. Shelford.*

Superfast Broadband – the junction boxes went live during the year, bringing superfast broadband to the village. I worked with the parish council and local residents to get the best possible location for the Jacksons Way box itself, and your chairman and I made the Cambridge News with our protest. I will continue to see if we can get better lighting there.

Cereals Event in June 2014 – I challenged the police and county highways traffic planning for this major event. It will probably be back in 2016 so need to keep an eye on preparations.

Transport: 31 bus route – I attended various consultation meetings and I am pleased that the proposed route goes to Addenbrookes as people wanted, rather than Babraham, and that it will call in at Shelford Rail Station. It may be that congestion charging will again be put forward for Cambridge and I will continue to oppose it on behalf of the many people in South Cambs who work, but cannot afford to live, in Cambridge itself. I am hoping to have a meeting involving parish councils regarding HGV rat-running off the A505. Gritting routes are unchanged for the moment.

I have had some success in getting Mike Cooper, the hard-working highways maintenance man at the County to repair various signs that were not working and road surfaces and drains.

The booming Cambridge science phenomenon is reflected in the **Cambridge City Deal**, which brings large sums of money to build infrastructure to further grow the local economy. We need to ensure that:

- (a) some of that infrastructure money comes our way, and isn't spent all in Cambridge;
- (b) accompanying pressure to build houses does not completely change the village by imposing significant numbers of additional houses where they are unwelcome.

I serve on three county committees: the audit committee, where we discovered that no-one was checking the bills being sent in by the power companies for street-lighting, the health committee and the children committee. If people have experiences of access to health services that would like to share with me in confidence, I would find that very helpful in being able to hold local health providers and hospitals to account. I also serve on the Local Access Forum, which is about ensuring sensible access to the countryside. I am a governor of the newly opened Technology College in Long Road, which will do much to provide young people with a science-based education, linking in with so much of the bio-tech industry that is developing round here.

If you need to contact me please use my email peter.topping@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or call 07825 876582. You can see what I have been doing by visiting my blog petertopping.blogspot.co.uk or for the adventurous I am on twitter @petertopping."

Cllr Topping commented on the well-attended meeting. There were no questions and Cllr Wragg thanked Cllr Topping for attending the meeting.

6. LOCAL POLICE REPORT – PCSO Lindsay Gardiner

PCSO Lindsay Gardiner was unable to attend the meeting but sent in the following report:

"There has been a total of sixteen crimes since the last annual meeting.

The most frequently reported incident is theft from motor vehicle we have had ten reported in the last year all of these have been at the RSPB Nature Reserve there is a suspicion that the number of thefts is higher and that some haven't been reported. Could you please spread the message of reporting crime and suspicious behaviour though our 101 number. We have tried to tackle the thefts by carrying out extra patrols and advising drivers if they have left valuables on display whilst their car is unattended. Alarmingly on just one occasion I have seen five cars out of a possible eleven with items that might tempt an offender on display. These car owners were notified.

01/02/2015 14:30 – 15:30 - Fowlmere Nature Reserve

Theft from motor vehicle, rear window smashed offenders stole a handbag.

04/03/2015 07:00 – 21:00 - Rayner's Close

Burglary, unknown offenders smashed a rear downstairs window to gain entry and stole jewellery and cash.

11/03/2015 15:30 -16:25 - Fowlmere Nature Reserve

Theft from motor vehicle, front passenger window smashed handbag taken.

12/03/2015 14:30 – 16:00 - Fowlmere Nature Reserve

Theft from motor vehicle, rear window smashed handbag taken.

23/04/2015 14:20 – 14:45 - Fowlmere Nature Reserve

Theft from motor vehicle, passenger window smashed by offenders handbag was taken.

23/04/2015 14:05 -14:35 - Fowlmere Nature Reserve

Theft from motor vehicle, front passenger window smashed handbag taken.

We have had complaints of youths using Butts Lane recreation ground to take nitrous oxide. Evidence of this has been left at the location in the form of metal canisters. We are keen to speak to the young members of the community about the dangers of carrying out such activity so if you see any gatherings of youths then please call 101 stating the reason for requested assistance."

7 DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT – Cllr D Roberts

Cllr Roberts spoke about the year:

I will concentrate on two areas of information - what do I do at SCDC - I sit on several main committees at SCDC, namely Licensing and Planning - my record of attendance is 100% again this year and I also attend other meetings/committees as extra, as required.

The Local Plan is a very important document which will set into place the next 20 years - landowners can put their land forward to be examined and considered to be added to the Village Envelope. In Fowlmere there were 7 pieces of land brought forward, in Foxton, 3. 19,000 new homes are required which need new sites in SCDC and the major growth will be in Waterbeach and Bourn; Cambourn and Melbourn will take smaller developments. The officers decided that Fowlmere was not to be extended for the next 20 years.

The Local Plan went through to the Inspector, last Spring and is still ongoing, expecting to end at the end of 2015.

Whilst in this state of flux, there are speculative applications going in which can be very upsetting for residents and there is a large one going through the application stage at Foxton, and a lot of extra work for the officers to do, pressure on the planning department and strain on villages. Foxton had overwhelming support to reject the application for 95 houses, undertaken in a survey by the PC. It is important to stick to planning policies. There are big villages in the local area, but Fowlmere is a rural village and can function well. It would be nice to have a village shop and premises are no longer available in the High Street where it is a successful spot.

Questions from parishioners:

Mr Teasdale - I would like to see the village expand and resurvey the village, I think there are people who would like to see 'limited' development. Cllr Roberts, the Foxton survey was done *after* the planning application came in, during the search for sites, none were found to be suitable. Further Affordable Housing could be built and there is another possible site, more children at the school would be welcome. It's a difficult balancing act. The PC should be proactive in seeking opinion as to how the village should be developed over time.

Mrs Flynn - Is Ion Science coming to the site at The Butts? - as far as the PC knows, Ion Science won the appeal and the site has been cleared but nothing further. Cllr Roberts found it hard to understand how Welding Alloys didn't receive any support. Mr Bates - Ion Science would appear to be the only employers, the village is slowly fading away and employment and housing needs to be developed, whilst accepting the Local plan is set in stone but there ought to be more consideration given to Mr Walton's comments.

Cllr Roberts - Cllr Wragg and I met with Senior Officers to indicate the Welding Alloys site to remain as an 'employment site' rather than convert it to housing. SCDC attitude said they would be very loath to have that employment use taken away from a village.

Mr Jackson - timescale on Local Plan - it's a 20 year period and it's taken 5 years after it starting if it started in 2011. Cllr Roberts explained it's a long process. It's a failure of SCDC Planning.

Mr Neal - Fowlmere is your village too and you seem to be opposed to things residents in the village want in his opinion, like a retail unit at Deans Farm. Cllr Roberts - the decision had to be based on planning criteria. The PC did not refuse it, they make a recommendation and all can put in their views to SCDC. The Deans Farm site was refused by SCDC on planning criteria. Mr Neal also queried an ambiguity in Cllr's Roberts' election documentation. Mr Bates added that both decisions were overruled by appeal. Mr Deans said he got 100% costs for his appeal but this was not correct. Mr Deans made a further point about his planning application about him not being a farmer and then left the meeting.

Mr Teasdale - the PC should really find out what the people in this village want in terms of development. Cllr Wragg - to be talked about at the next meeting.

Cllr Roberts - everything the PC has done has been done in an open manner - SCDC have done the work now on the Local Plan and they have made their conclusion.

8. PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE – Cllr D Roberts

Cllr Roberts spoke about the year:

It's a lively committee which has held 13 meetings in the last year. The greatest majority have seen the PC support them and it's a small percentage that are recommended rejection by the PC. Decisions are made based on planning decisions, to the best of abilities. Housing is very attractive in the village.

9. PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE REPORT – Cllr M Sunderland

Cllr M Sunderland gave the following report.

"Good evening.

I took over as Chair of the Finance and General Purposes committee at the October meeting and I'm pleased to be able to say that we worked within our budget for the last financial year.

Our first responsibility was to gain agreement for and pass the proposed Precept for 2015 – 16. There was a need to increase the Precept by just 3% in order to achieve our aims for the coming year. This takes into account a low level of inflation and an acknowledgement that costs do increase.

We continue to be able to support the Village Hall in the work that the committee does and the facility that the Hall provides. We needed to make sure that the committee was complete before we could confirm the financial support that they were requesting. They have had a difficult year and we are glad to be in a position to support the committee.

General maintenance of the assets around the village take up a sizeable part of the Precept, for example boring things such as grass cutting, maintenance of protected verges, street lighting. As far as maintenance is concerned, we try to support local enterprise. More interesting ventures include replacement and addition to the toys at the Butts recreation area, new village maps which will be placed at two different sites – the current map just outside the church here is more or less illegible now.

We had many favourable comments regarding the lit Christmas tree next to the well and would like to repeat the experience this coming Christmas. We are open to suggestions for the further enhancement of Fowlmere.

Fowlmere Parish Council will continue to work hard to ensure that Fowlmere is kept in a good state of repair making it a pleasant place in which to live."

Questions from parishioners:

Mrs Flynn asked why is the TT Table is being put at The Butts and not the Village Hall? The Butts is more central to the village and many more people use that play area.

Mr Neal questioned the take up of the Melbourn Youth Club - and thought no children had gone to Melbourn Village College in the last intake - this was proven to be incorrect.

Mrs Flynn asked if a Youth Club could be started at the VH? Mrs Woods replied there was one several years ago but it didn't have enough interest to continue but things could have changed.

10. VILLAGE HALL REPORT – by Mr M Bates, Past-Chair of the Fowlmere Village Hall and Recreation

Mr Bates attended the meeting and gave the following report:

"The year since the last Annual Parish Meeting in 2014 has seen further changes for the Village Hall.

The Hall continues to be used for a series of community activities run by volunteers and for all age groups ranging from Mothers and Toddlers, Brownies for girls, and through to Senior Citizens for the over 65's. In addition there are a number of leisure activity groups ranging from Aerobics to Badminton, to Bowls, to Ballroom Dance, to Ceroc modern dance etc. Local groups such as the Fowlmere and Thriplow Gardening Club hold some of their regular meetings alternating between our hall and Thriplow Village Hall during the year. There are two football clubs based at the hall and using the facilities, Fowlmere Football Club (two teams – first and reserves) and Fowlmere Metals Football Club. Cricket continues to be played at Fowlmere with teams from Thriplow Cricket Club involving younger players and women. The hall user groups are either community groups or groups run on a more commercial basis.

The debt to the Village Hall Committee from the former Fowlmere sports and Social Club remains unsettled and the Management Committee has decided, for the present, to leave the debt on the books. This has been reported to the Charity Commission.

Very considerable voluntary time and effort has been given to making that part of the building habitable again. To that end grateful thanks are due to Management Committee members and friends, particularly Les and Maureen Thurley and family for decorating, Tony and Christine Deans who funded the materials, Tom Ginty who funded replacement security glass and Bruno Curuk for other necessary work.

The Village Hall issues a periodic newsletter distributed to all households giving up to date information about current and forthcoming activities to keep our community aware of what happens. The Village Hall also has a web-site which is regularly updated.

The hall is run by a Management Committee made up of representatives of user groups and local people elected because of their interest in local community life and keeping the hall and its facilities available for local people. The Committee has met usually on the first Wednesday of each month to deal with the on-going business with the necessary organisational activities in the meantime usually carried out by the Elected Officers. From the Annual meeting in October at which the Chairman and Secretary resigned, they have continued with the administration of the charity, until new volunteers came forward recently. As of April 2015 the Committee were very pleased indeed to welcome Dorothy Woods as the new Chairman and Julie Fletcher as the new Secretary. Past Chairman Michael Bates supports Dorothy as Vice – Chairman. The other key role is that of Book-keeper/Treasurer held by Jane Cryer, who handles the finances and is supported in producing the accounts by Chris Neild. Bookings Clerk duties have been handled by Michael Bates.

Thanks go to all Officers, the Management Committee and numerous other volunteers for their work.

The Committee has a development plan and works to slowly improve the hall. That work is expensive and requires the financial means to carry it forward. In helping to achieve progress to date grateful thanks go to the Fund Raising Group who are all volunteers – Mandy Thornton, Rachel Collins, Christine Lawrence, Carol Sims, Jane Cryer, Pat Flynn, Jeannie Grisoni, Kate Stevens, Lamorna Thomas (and their respective partners). Without their efforts organising the range of interesting and stimulating community activities, such as Farmers' Markets (second Saturday of each month), Jazz Evening, Ceilidh, Quiz Night, an Outdoor Theatre Performance and more the hall would not be in the healthy position it is today, indeed could not continue to operate at all. Similarly thanks are due to Maureen Thurley and her team of volunteers for funds raised at the Jumble Sale.

An important contribution has been made by Leslie and Joyce Price, authors and producers of the excellent Fowlmere book, the updating of the Fowlmere 2000 Volume, who have very generously donated the proceeds of sales of the book to our charity. Most grateful thanks to Mr and Mrs Price. Thank you also to the Parish Council for a contribution to the costs of renewing furniture.

Most recent upgrading work saw completion of the work to improve the acoustics in the main hall which has much enhanced the enjoyment of all using the facilities, overcoming the echo previously experienced. Thanks to Christine Lawrence for that and also to both Christine and Kate Stevens for their work in upgrading some of the hall furniture.

The hall can only continue to function meeting the needs of the local community if it is used by we the local people and there is **space available to accommodate more community activities**. Also existing user groups would welcome newcomers to their activity and anyone wishing to set up a new activity should approach the Chair and or the Bookings Clerk Michael Bates to talk about their idea or make the booking. Details of existing groups/activities can be found on the hall notice board and the web-site.

A key opportunity for all our village people, in addition to increasing use of the village hall more generally is the availability for hire of the newly decorated area, called the Pavilion Room (formerly occupied by the Sports and Social Club). There will be a launch evening in the near future, so do come along and see the new facility.

The space has the potential for much wider use than was previously possible, daytime Monday to Friday as well as at weekends for a greater range of activities.

The Village Hall is a very much a **going concern** and would be much the stronger for further support from you our village community.

Do please support your Village Hall – thank you"

Cllr Wragg thanked Mr Bates for his report. Cllr Sunderland asked about the newsletter frequency - Mr Bates said it was overdue and a piece is appearing in the next FATN.

Dorothy Woods will be looking at all aspects and updating - and has passed a letter to the PC.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs Flynn asked why, in her opinion, the PC aren't seen at anything? Cllr Wragg added that invitations are always warmly received.

Mr Bates said that the PC reported that 6 members have been re-elected unopposed and 2 members will be co-opted, so there will be one vacancy - in his opinion, there are a number of people in this room who would make excellent Cllrs. Cllr Wragg hopes someone will come forward to fill the last vacancy.

Cllr Roberts - 2 people came forward after seeing something in the FATN. Foxton have 12 people for 9 seats. Costs have been avoided of an election in Fowlmere.

Everyone was thanked for attending and the meeting closed at 9:10pm.

**Clerk to the Parish Council: Mrs J Wright
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