

# ALFRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

## CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

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## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PARISH MEETING held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2007 in the United Reformed Church Hall, Alfriston, commencing at 7.30pm.

**PRESENT:** Cllr G. Knights Chairman  
Cllr J. Apps  
Cllr A. Banham  
Cllr Ms D. Monteath-Wilson  
3 parishioners  
Mr P. Ayers Clerk

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

Apologies had been received from Cllr Mrs Charlton.

### 2. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Annual Assembly Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2006 had been published and circulated previously. They were taken as read. Acceptance of the Minutes was **proposed** by Mr D. Phillips, **seconded** by Mr C. Burden, and **agreed** by all present. The Minutes were then signed by the Chairman.

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

There were no matters arising.

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

Cllr Knights report is appended to these Minutes.

He outlined the work carried out over the year by each Councillor and thanked them for the diligent way in which they had helped to protect and improve the village. He thanked others, in particular the car park attendants for their contribution to the success of the Parish during the year. Finally, he thanked the villagers for their support and interest, and wished the new Council well, when they took office in May.

There were no questions.

### 5. **REPORT BY DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

Cllr Whitehead had tendered his apologies for absence due to attending a family wedding abroad.

### 6. **REPORT BY COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Cllr Garvican was not present and had not tendered apologies.

### 7. **HEARTSTART**

Mr Burden thanked the Parish Council for the help and support they had given to Alfriston Heartstart during the year. There had been a variety of fund-raising events during the year plus a number of training sessions. All volunteers had been CRB checked, and the group was now able to offer full coverage day and night to Alfriston and Cuckmere Valley parishes, even providing some cover for Seaford over the Christmas period.

He thanked the Festival committee, local traders and visitors for their support and paid particular tribute to Sarah Dumelow whose silent auction had raised £2,400. The group now had three de-fibrillator machines with a fourth pack due shortly. They had also been able to up-grade their communications system, sponsored by a local business, so that text messages were received automatically in the event of an emergency call to Ambulance HQ.

They were taking delivery of new red uniforms soon to come in line with first responders generally, but would keep their green Alfriston kit for local events.

The group had been nominated for an award at a recent ceremony at Hickstead, and had secured a commendation. The certificate would be put on display in the War Memorial Hall.

Contact had been made with Deanland Wood Park at Golden Cross, who were interested in the work, and they were working in conjunction with the Posy Bowl in Hailsham who planned a flower demonstration to raise money for young people with heart problems.

Finally, they would be taking part in a series of Save a Life public sessions over the summer months. Cllr Knights thanked Mr Burden for the presentation and congratulated him, and the whole Heartstart team for the excellent work that they had done in such a short time.

## **8. QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR**

- Cllr Monteath-Wilson thanked the Chairman for the incredible amount of work he had undertaken in the four years of the present Council as well as the way in which he had conducted the Council's business. She was sure that more would be said at the first meeting of the new Council on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May.
- Mr Burden drew attention to work that needed to be undertaken on a gate on the Tye.
- Mr Phillips pressed for the decriminalisation of parking and all agreed that Alfriston wished to take ownership of its parking problems so that the village could examine and implement measures suitable for it.
- He pointed out that the kerb line through the North Street pinch-point did not follow a smooth curve, and this in itself might contribute towards the number of minor accidents occurring. The matter would be raised with the Highway Authority.
- Mr Phillips asked when the village website was to be up-dated, as the information it contained was quite out of date at present. The Chairman apologised, pointing out that the Councillor responsible had resigned and the student undertaking the work did not have an adequate wi-fi system at present. This was in the course of being corrected and the site was more up to date now than in the recent past. It was likely that an alternative web-master would be needed shortly.
- Finally, Mr Phillips observed that he had been attending meetings of the Parish Council for over 30 years, and he considered that the present Administration, and its Clerk, were the best he had witnessed. He congratulated all on their diligence. The Chairman thanked Mr Phillips for those remarks.

In the absence of any further questions, the Chairman thanked those present, commenting that an unfortunate clash of meetings had affected attendance this year. Nonetheless, he thanked parishioners for attending. The meeting closed at 8.22 pm.

Signed: (Chairman)

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> April 2008.