

**Minutes of the fourteenth Annual Assembly of Gorefield Parish Council held at
Gorefield School on Tuesday 1st April 2008**

Present: Councillors Humphrey (Chairman) Davall, Carroll, Holt, Cooke, Mrs Hall and Mrs Hunns

No members of the public attended

Apologies: PC Coales and John Dubber Fendland DC Liaison officer

Minutes of last Annual Assembly were confirmed and signed

Chairman's Report

The village continues to grow with the ongoing building work at Oxfield Drive by Twigden and despite local and Parish Council objection another site for 14 homes of High Road gained approval.

Planning also come to the fore on other occasions. One controversial application was the application for a care home at Fitton End and while this was rejected at the first attempt it did get approved in a modified form later in the year.

Another planning application resulted in a complaint against a Councillor being made to the Standards Board for England. This was investigated and dismissed. An appeal against FDC's decision to refuse the application was also lost at appeal.

In September the Parish Plan working group presented the Council with the completed Parish Plan. The Fenland Strategic Partnership has now adopted the plan to enable local views to influence service providers. The Parish Council has acted on some of the point's raised in the action Plan set out by the Plan and will continue to monitor progress and delivery.

Finally able to agree a final draft for the first edition of the welcome pack and this should soon be available for distribution.

Perry Holmes, FDC Monitoring Officer, attended our September meeting to update us on the new Code of Conduct, while Nigel Brown, Head of Planning at FDC attended our November meeting to update us on local planning matter and enforcement.

The Parish Council provided the Christmas tree and lights at the Church and arranged for the planting of a permanent tree at the same location

The Council still has concerns about vehicle speeds through the village along with the parking problems associated with the Oxfield Drive development

Preliminary discussion about the PC becoming Trustees of the playing field....ongoing

During the year the local pub went through a bad spell and subsequently closed. While this is still the case it should reopen soon and hopefully will again be able to accommodate the Luncheon Club

As a Council we continue

- ☐ To be consulted on all planning applications and make comments and observations as appropriate.
- ☐ To administer our Parish affairs and finances and were able to keep our Parish precept increase to a minimum.
- ☐ To comment on all matters concerning the Parish at District and County levels

Thanks must go to PC Coales for her work in the community and her regular attendance at our meetings.

Likewise John Dubber our FDC Liason contact whose has kept the Council informed of FDC issues on a regular basis as well as following up local problems on our behalf. Sadly John is leaving FDC so will no longer attend our meetings. I would like to wish him well in his future employment.

Sadly Councillor Hardy died during the year and following a by-election the Member elected to serve the County Division of Roman Bank was Peter Humphrey

My thanks must go to all the members of the Council for their input and involvement during the year. A special thank you to those of you who have attended any meetings, seminars or presentations for or on behalf of the Council.

Finally special thanks to our Clerk, Rosemary, for all her hard work during the year.

Financial Statement

See attached

Meeting closed followed by Parish Council meeting