



Annual General Meeting Minutes of the meeting of 24th April 2017

The Pavilion, Playing Fields, Boxford

| Present | | Action |
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| <p>Ward Baker (Chairman), Karen Baker, Stephanie Atkins, David Burden, BCC and BPFMC, Lesley Ede, Anne Holdgate, Alan Leeder, BCC and Boxford Bike Club, Tina Loose, BCC, Boxford Society and Primrose Wood, Mark Miller, BCC and Scouts, David Talbot-Clarke, BCC and Boxford Parish Council, Trudi Wild, BCC, Paul Barnett, Boxford Bike Club, Daphne Clark, Edwardstone Parish Hall, Les Clark, Boxford Bowls Club, Trevor Crisell, Boxford Bike Club, David Gasson, Fleece Jazz, Ian Holdgate, Garden Society, David House, Village Hall, Eddie Kench, BRN, Michael Norman, 3PR, Hugh Phillips, villager, Andy Sargent, Parish Council, Matthew Shinn, Boxford Bike Club, Becky Trafford, FOBS, Rev'd Judith Sweetman, Box River Benefice, John Weiland, Boxford Playing Fields Management Committee</p> | | |
| 1 | <p>Apologies:</p> <p>Apologies were received from Jack Clark (Edwardstone Cricket Club), Julian Fincham-Jacques, Veronica Hobbs (Village Hall), Pauline Lamming (BPFMC and Mary's House), Jeremy Osborne (Groton PC and Groton United Charities) and Maggie Thorpe (Boxford Gardening Society).</p> | |
| 2 | <p>Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Monday 25th April 2016</p> <p>The Minutes of the AGM of 25th April 2016 were AGREED as an accurate record of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chairman.</p> | |
| 3 | <p>Matters Arising</p> <p>There were no matters arising from the Minutes of 25th April 2016.</p> | |
| 4 | <p>Correspondence</p> | |

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| | <p>No additional correspondence had been received.</p> | |
| <p>5</p> | <p>Annual Reports from Village Organisations</p> <p>Reports read out in absence:</p> <p>Jeremy Osborne, Groton Parish Council and Groton United Charities</p> <p>Nothing new to report on Groton Parish Council. The affordable housing project continues, and is taking longer than we expected; we are awaiting revised plans from Hastoe Housing Association at the moment.</p> <p>Re the merger of Boxford and Groton United Charities, there has been recent contact with the Charity Commission, and following the latest advice that we have received from them, we hope to complete the merger later this year.</p> <p>Jack Clark, Edwardstone Cricket Club:</p> <p>As an overview of the year it is safe to say we have had success in our efforts as a team. After a successful season we ended up as Division 3 champions, competed in local friendlies and achieved our highest team total – 349.</p> <p>As per usual, our colts system proved successful with over 30 8-15 year olds attending our Saturday morning sessions, which will continue once again this year thanks to the commitment of Tim, Aid and many others.</p> <p>We again participated in our annual tour to Kent which always goes down well and we plan to go again the first weekend in July.</p> <p>As winter descended we held our end of season dinner at The Fox and the preparation for this coming season began. We have extended the sight screen to improve vision and invested in new nets for the team and the whole village to take advantage of.</p> <p>The nets will form the basis of our contribution to this year's 50th anniversary alongside a bowling machine, which we will purchase once the funds are available. One net will be a chance to bat against said bowling machine, whilst the other is going to be used as a speed trap to see who can bowl the fastest. We plan to have a few mini games based around to keep the day moving smoothly.</p> <p>This year certainly will be a test for the team on and off the field but we will always give 100 per cent and are always willing to help so please do not hesitate to ask.</p> | |

Maggie Thorpe, Boxford Gardening Society:

The Gardening Society has started this year with 106 members. Meetings are held on the first Tuesday evening of each month and are enjoyed by 40 to 60 members and our star speaker, Anna Pavord, attracted 75 members and 25 guests to hear her speak on the history of tulips.

Several outings to local gardens are planned for the summer and a coach trip in September to two Essex Gardens: Ulting Wick and Snares Hill Cottage.

Reports given in person:

Mark Miller, Boxford Scouts:

The Scouts continue to go from strength to strength. We would like to be able to recruit more Boxford children; we are doing quite well with recruits from around the district. The big news is that Gordon Edgar was awarded the highest award in scouting – the Silver Wolf.

Boxford Bounty:

The number of members of the Boxford Bounty is diminishing year by year and thought should be given to ways of encouraging new membership.

Tina Loose, Boxford Society:

The committee has continued to follow up all planning applications during the year and make responses to Babergh where appropriate. We always pass these on to the Parish Council for information.

Boxford Village History Walks took place in the summer.

The Society held a talk on the Gainsborough family of Sudbury, their idiosyncrasies and their work. A talk on Sherlock Holmes will be held on Saturday 29th April by David Jones of Groton of the Sherlock Holmes Society.

Society members helped manage the tea party for the over 60s at the Queen's birthday street party organised by the Community Council and also helped with the Village Firework event.

Roger Prosser and Sue Whitely have added substantial village family research to the village archive while Cecil Hughes' lifetime photographic record has been digitalised.

Primrose Wood

We did a count in June 2016 of the Southern March Orchids on the Primrose Wood water meadow. The result was 2,218, with 3 of the rarer

version. We keep an eye on the Bee Orchids on March Road Estate. Unfortunately they were mown too early this year, although one or two locals kept the population going on their own lawns. However, we found a Pyramid Orchid at the Bee Orchid site which had survived the but and may be a first for Boxford.

The 5 acres of meadow being added to the Wood has been handed over to the Woodland Trust and we have planted two trees.

The Society raised £2000 for a new circular seat around the millennium tree. This was prompted by a villager gift of £500.

Additional volunteers to help in the meadow would be appreciated.

There has been planting of Marsh marigolds and yellow iris.

Les Clark, Boxford Bowls Club:

The Club had a good season last year and won the County Durham trophy so this year will be playing in the national knock-outs. As a result of advertising last year we have 30 new members. We opened the green yesterday and there was a good turnout.

Edwardstone Charities:

Last year we funded grants totalling almost £1500.

Daphne Clark, Edwardstone Parish Hall:

I am pleased to report that the issue regarding the work to the disabled toilet is almost resolved and Babergh Council has agreed to carry out remedial work.

It is hoped that we will be able to undertake the project of refurbishing the kitchen which was put on hold when the repair issue arose.

Plants are again on sale at Rose Cottage, raising funds for Edwardstone Parish Hall. Last year we raised £550.

Becky Strafford, FOBS:

FOBS had very good Christmas events. We had our first annual event of the year last week – a Quiz night with 12 teams. A sale trail will be held on 7th May and we are encouraging as many people as possible to have stalls in their gardens selling items. We will be holding a summer fayre soon.

Unfortunately it is difficult to recruit new members and the year ahead looks challenging.

David House, Boxford Village Hall:

The village hall continues to be well used. Bookings are up from last year and to date Veronica and Robert Hobbs have staffed 29 bars. Unfortunately some hall users forget to clean up after use and we need to remind them of this need.

David Gasson, Fleece Jazz:

The Fleece Jazz continues quite nicely. Some events are better attended than others. Because it our 25th anniversary next year we have decided to host events on alternate Fridays during the summer. We continue our connection with the New Wolsey Theatre with a Back to Basie big band night on the 25th June.

The club requires a treasurer if anyone wishes to volunteer.

Eddie Kench, BRN:

The May edition was the 200th edition as BRN; before that it was the Boxford Newsletter. Support from others is much appreciated.

Paul Barnett, Boxford Bike Club:

At the end of last year we had 160 members; probably increased this year. Increase in family memberships this year. Locally we have the largest percentage of family riders. We offer 5 rides a week. The Fleece is very kindly offering coffee and cake at the end of our Sunday morning rides. One of our committee has trained to provide cycle coaching.

The club provided the funding for the 3PR defibrillator and they offered us free training.

The BCC kindly helped out at the Tornado – this year 550 riders registered but approx 490 rode. The club took approx £700 in donations for refreshments and we would like to top that up and present you with a cheque for £1250. The club also presented the Playing Fields Committee with a cheque for hire of the pavilion.

Michael Norman, 3PR:

As you know Peter Hibben had to retire from 3PR due to ill health and his wife Marianne had to leave her post as Treasurer. I am pleased to report that Peter is doing remarkably well. Left a huge gap. Vic Rice stepped in and then Vince Strafford joined us and between them they got things up and running. TL keeps up with the rota and Trudi is our treasurer and now a valued responder. We have 6 full time responders plus one about to undertake training. The number of hours covered amounts to about 88% of all possible hours per month.

We are extremely grateful to the Bike Club for the purchase of the

defibrillator and we were also able to purchase new kit bag, 2 new jackets and signs for cars.

Rev'd Judith Sweetman, Box River Benefice:

May 2016 We welcomed Peter Dilnot as Churchwarden, with Michael Gray as Assistant Churchwarden, helping especially with fabric and gift Aid; also Jan Munro from Belchamp Water, new Treasurer.

Securing the Future of Boxford Church. A meeting was arranged to which church supporters, including many who are not regular churchgoers, were personally invited by letter, to encourage a wider group of people in the running of the church. As a result, several came onto the various rotas and others generously took on the organising of rotas. A further small group offered to support church fundraising events. Rufus Sweetman did a great deal of administrative work behind the scenes to enable all this to take place. Monthly Café Church at Boxford continues to attract the greatest number of people at regular services, between 30 and 40, now including families, who enjoy the craft activities.

July 2016 Ann Kingsbury's death was a shock to all and she is sadly missed. A stalwart of church life, with her cheerful presence and roles as sidesperson and vergier. Ann had already begun training Lennie Southgate towards becoming a sidesperson, and it is much appreciated, that Lennie has taken on her roles. Veronica Hobbs was co-opted to the PCC and has since been elected as a full member. She and Audrey Johnson are helping hugely with fundraising and refreshments – watch out for the Christian Aid Big Brekkie on 20th May at the Village Hall. Audrey has also taken on the role of Safeguarding Officer for the PCC.

The possibility of allowing a phone mast to be placed on the church tower was considered, with PCC members taking different views on the wisdom of this. However, this was not pursued due to the erection of the mast on the bypass.

September 2016 We continue to hope that members of Boxford Bike Club will feel able to ride for the annual Suffolk Historic Churches Trust, held on the second Saturday of September every year, to raise funds for Boxford Church. This year again very few people were able to ride for us.

November 2016 The PCC has discussed the overgrown graves in the churchyard with the Parish Council who manage it.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission, in a new scheme, is providing signs indicating where a churchyard contains ward graves. All 5 churches in the benefice are having such signs.

Angela Tolputt notified us that she would be stepping down from

organising Open Gardens, Boxford Church's main annual fundraiser, after six years. During that time she raised the magnificent sum of over £23,000. She pays tribute to all her helpers, especially to Anne Holdgate, catering for the past 6 years at least and John Kirby for publicity in the last 2 years. Our sincere thanks go to them all too. We were delighted when Sarah Mattocks and Linda Blake very kindly stepped forward to take over from Angela this year.

This year, once more, we hope to hold the Christmas Tree Festival which has proved popular with the whole community. Offers of help gratefully received as it involves much work!

Fundraising events for the year ahead, watch out for concerts, Gift Days, jumble sales, and especially Castaway, on June 17th when I will be interviewed Desert Island Disc style, in a tropical island setting.

In Boxford we hope to welcome people in the new homes like Station Field and Goodlands with a Rogation Walk and picnic (weather permitting) on Sunday 21st May. We hope many in the village will join us.

April 2017 Boxford PCC was bowled over by the BCC's generous donation of £700 to top up the amount given by Ann Kingsbury's family to purchase 100 new hymn books for Boxford Church. Labels will be inserted into the hymn books – In memory of Ann Kingsbury and donated by Ann's family and Boxford Community Council.

Challenges All Church members in all 5 villages have tried hard over the last year to fulfil their roles in maintaining their church buildings and working with me to foster the life of the church, for the spiritual benefit, comfort and inspiration, not only of its regular congregations, but also for its visitors and the wider community. I am very grateful to my fellow ministers Chris Kingsbury and Rev'd David Abel and to all members.

David Burden, Boxford Playing Fields Management Committee:

The field is in very good condition. The Council contract for cutting is very much improved and Ray works very hard to maintain the field. The concrete cricket strip has been lifted; tennis is being played; the allotments are being tended; thanks to John Weiland for doing some very good work on the playground; the car park has been slightly extended and it needs rolling – it allows another line of cars to park on Saturdays for football matches.

Looking to the future we have had plans drawn up for the refurbishing of the pavilion and provision of additional changing facilities. Costs are very high and the challenge will be fundraising. We will need to approach all the sports organisations available for grants. We will need support.

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| | <p>We also need some new committee members.</p> <p>We are looking forward to the 29th July and recognise those people who had the foresight 50 years ago to purchase the land.</p> <p>David Talbot Clarke, Boxford Parish Council:</p> <p>The Parish Council has seen a couple of changes since last year. Sue Green had to retire due to ill health. There are a couple of vacancies but on a positive view we have had a couple of people come forward.</p> <p>A major topic currently is the proposed ongoing development for the village. In development plans Boxford is designated as a core village. It is a sustainable village but not every part of the village is a sustainable route. A recent road use survey has highlighted the high number of vehicles using Swan Street and School Hill, an average of 14,147 per day.</p> | |
| 6. | <p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>The Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2016 were circulated.</p> <p>In looking at the Income for last year you will see several figures such as Fun & Games Night, Games Hire and Donations received were on a par with 2015. Our biggest event was the Firework Spectacular, which again proved very popular and successful. The social events went well and we received a substantial donation again from Boxford Bike Club after we worked with them to provide refreshments at the Boxford Tornado. Last year we additionally received some of the proceeds from the Bottle Bank situated at The White Hart, which the Parish Council organises.</p> <p>Turning to Expenditure for last year: these figures were again similar to the previous year for most events. Our biggest expenditure as expected was the Firework Spectacular, which proved to be worth the high expenditure and huge effort to put it on. The costs were a little higher than in 2015 due to various administration costs and additional display costs to personalise our event. There were fewer funds granted out last year, simply due to the fact we did not receive requests for help. As ever our awards benefit any organisation within the local area and cover a wide spectrum and age range. Whilst on the subject of grants, could we yet again please request that any organisation requiring funds complete the appropriate application form in plenty of time as we only have bimonthly meetings. Also, that once grants are awarded we receive a letter of acknowledgement so that we have an official receipt for audit purposes. We would like to take this opportunity of thanking David House for continuing to act as our auditor.</p> <p>Finally, you will see that overall our accounts show a reasonable surplus for the year of £2,575, an increase from that of 2015, leaving us in a good position to cover all events and still have sufficient to award grants where</p> | |

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| | <p>required and fund the Senior Citizens Outing in its entirety. The Boxford Bounty remains one of our main sources of income, together with income from Social events organised by our Committee. We would like to express our thanks to Mark Miller and his team for their continued efforts with Boxford Bounty. By supporting our events and local lottery you will in turn be supporting many organisations in our area.</p> <p>Over the last ten years we have granted over £30,000, which is a considerable achievement. Thank you all for your support.</p> | |
| 7 | <p>Chairman's Report</p> <p>Boxford Community Council aims:</p> <p>We are a charity that raises money for village clubs and organisations, and spends money on village events. This is only a brief summary of this year's activities.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. JUNE: Sat June 11th - Street Party Celebrating HM Queen's 90th Birthday for children and Senior Citizens in the Three Villages. A marvellous event, soured only by Peter Hibben being taken ill after helping us to set up. The village will always be indebted to him for all he has done and our thanks must go to Veronica Hobbs for organising the Fundraiser in order to aid his recovery. 2. JUNE: Senior Citizens' Outing last year on Tuesday 21st June. We travelled to The Bull at Brantham. A lovely evening with views over the River Stour. Excellent food, drink and a hearty sing-song. Our thanks as ever to all the volunteer drivers, without whom it would not be possible. This year's is on Wed 14th June. Sign up in Post Office. 3. OCTOBER 29th: Fireworks – One of the village's favourite occasions. Approx. 1500 people attended, a very good turn out. The whole event was wonderfully enhanced by even more superb lanterns made by villagers. Sat October 28th is this year's event, to coincide with half term. The application process is already under way. Let's hope for weather as favourable as it was last year! We raised a significant amount of money for village organisations and events. Thank you to the 60+ volunteers who helped set up and run the event. 4. DECEMBER 15th: BRN Thank you party. Eddie Kench once again arranged a very enjoyable evening to thank the distributors of the BRN and the Boxford Bounty. | |

5. DECEMBER 19th: Carols around the Tree at the White Hart. Again, well attended and an enjoyable evening was had by all.
6. JANUARY 28th: Fun & Games Night. Team numbers down this year and with some different games introduced as a result. Still managed to raise valuable money for the village. Again, our thanks to the volunteers who helped run the games.
7. APRIL 9th: Bike Club Tornado - Community Council and Playing Fields Management helped out once again with refreshments for over 450 people. Thanks to Bike Club for generous donation after last year's event.
8. Sat 29th July 2017: 2017 sees the 50th Anniversary of the Community Council purchasing these Playing Fields for the village. PF50. We are putting on a major Village Event up here to commemorate this occasion. So far we have the Beavers and a popular up and coming band Reno & Rome in the evening, demonstrations and competitions from the Cricket Club, Football Club, Tennis Club, Bike Club and Stoke by Nayland Golf Club. Also, various stalls selling wares and giving demonstrations. We would like all village organisations/clubs to be involved in some way, so the village can see the enormous range of activities available in Boxford and the Benefice. We do need help - we can't do it all on our own.
9. Boxford Facts - we are redoing the Boxford Facts booklet (Tina). Please make sure she has the information she has requested as soon as possible so we can get it printed.
10. Beacon Lighting - 11.11.18 - Sir Bruno Peek (Queen's Pageant Master) has been in touch and we have registered to be one of the villages involved in a National Beacon Lighting event in 2018. We hope to involve the school and the Scouts among other people.
11. Grants – Grants and donations totalling approx. £3000 have been made to Boxford Village Hall, Boxford Society (Primrose Wood), Boxford Bridge Club, St. Mary's Boxford, Boxford Playing Fields and Boxford Bowls Club and we are in the process (with 3PR) of purchasing an external defibrillator for the pavilion.
12. Thanks to Boxford Drama Group for their kind donation after the successful panto. Thanks to Edwardstone and Groton Parish Councils who have made a generous donation towards PF50.
13. My thanks go to the Parish Council for all their support, and to the committee who work tirelessly to make everything that we do happen. Also, all the volunteers who have helped with the various

| | <p>events this year. Without them it would not be possible to mount such events for the village.</p> <p>Percy Fletcher memorial - still in discussions with the Parish Council about a suitable memorial and where to put it.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 8 | <p>Election of Officers</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th></th> <th><u>Proposed by</u></th> <th><u>Seconded by</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Chairman</td> <td>Ward Baker</td> <td>Alan Leeder</td> <td>David Gasson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vice Chairman</td> <td>Mark Miller</td> <td>)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Treasurer</td> <td>Stephanie Atkins</td> <td>)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Secretary</td> <td>Lesley Ede</td> <td>)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bookings Co-ordinator</td> <td>Karen Baker</td> <td>) David Gasson</td> <td>Eddie Kench</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td colspan="2">all members elected en-bloc</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Catering</td> <td>Anne Holdgate</td> <td>)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Executive Committee Members</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>David Burden, Alan Leeder, Nick Leppard, Tina Loose, David Talbot-Clarke, Trudi Wild</td> <td>)</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | | | <u>Proposed by</u> | <u>Seconded by</u> | Chairman | Ward Baker | Alan Leeder | David Gasson | Vice Chairman | Mark Miller |) | | Treasurer | Stephanie Atkins |) | | Secretary | Lesley Ede |) | | Bookings Co-ordinator | Karen Baker |) David Gasson | Eddie Kench | | | all members elected en-bloc | | Catering | Anne Holdgate |) | | Executive Committee Members | | | | | David Burden, Alan Leeder, Nick Leppard, Tina Loose, David Talbot-Clarke, Trudi Wild |) | | |
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| Chairman | Ward Baker | Alan Leeder | David Gasson | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Vice Chairman | Mark Miller |) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Treasurer | Stephanie Atkins |) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Secretary | Lesley Ede |) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 9 | <p>Any Other Business</p> <p>There was no further business and the meeting part of the evening closed at 9.30pm.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | <p>Refreshments - thanks were expressed to Anne Holdgate and Stephanie Atkins.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |