**ALDERTON PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Held in Alderton Village Hall on Monday 14 May 2018

**Present**: Christopher Langley (CL), Alex Mann (AM), Nicolas Rose (NR), Will Palmer (WP), Robin Gilbert (RG), Bill Vaudrey (BV), Diana Loughlin (DL)

**In attendance**: Joy Andrews (JA), clerk: Christine Block (CB), District Councillor.

**Members of public**: Two

**Chairman’s welcome**:

The chairman welcomed everyone to the Annual Parish Meeting.

**District Councillor’s report**:

District Cllr. Christine Block reported that the most significant current issue is the merger between Suffolk Coastal District Council and Waveney District Council to form the new East Suffolk District Council. District Ward boundaries will be reviewed bringing the number of District Councillors down to around 56. The size of each ward will rise making this current 7 parish ward double in size hence small parishes may be overlooked so it would be a good idea to join together with others to ensure our voice is heard. District Council elections take place in May 2019.

The Deben Estuary Partnership have met recently to discuss the flood defence and it will be necessary to raise between 1.3 and 1.5 million pounds to do the work. There is grave concern over the level of corrosion of the coast.

There will be a consultation period regarding the route of the Coastal Path this year and the Parish Council should ensure their views are made known.

**Chairman’s report:**

The chairman reported that the takings at the village fete held in 2017 were up by 20% on the previous year making it the most successful fete so far. Sincere thanks for all their hard work in organising this event were extended to RC and DL. Two coffee mornings and Santa’s Grotto for the children were held raising £370. The Christmas lunch for older residents in the village cost £300.

The litter pick was hampered by snow this year and it was not possible to pick up along the Woodbridge Road on the day, even so far more litter was collected than previous years.

The zip wire and swings have been replaced on the Recreation Ground with equipment that should need minimum maintenance. The chairman extended thanks to RG for obtaining the necessary grants and over- seeing the project.

There has been discussion throughout the year regarding the Community Land Trust and Alderton PC decided not to join but NR will continue to attend the meetings and monitor the situation.

Charitable donations have been made towards the purchase of a defibrillator for the village (£500) and 3 scouts to attend the World Jamboree (£50)

**Presentation of accounts for year ending 31 March 2018**

All councillors had been given sight of the summary of the accounts and this will be displayed on the notice board and website. The chairman explained that the balance at the bank is high because £5326 has been received in grants towards the new play equipment and this will be paid in the coming financial year.

**Open Session**

There were no comments or questions.

 Prepared by C J Andrews

 Dated 15th May 2018