

**DRAFT**

**Annual Parish Meeting of Sudborough Parish Council held on Wednesday 13th May 2015 at 7:30pm in the Francis Giffin Memorial Hall.**

**Present**

Peter Stephens  
Stephen Chamberlin  
Robert Ellmer  
Jenny Innes  
Phil Colbourne  
David Neale

Clerk – Richard Reed

District Councillor Sylvia Hughes; County Councillor Wendy Brackenbury

Inspector Julie Mead; Sgt. David McEwan Northamptonshire Police

There were forty-one residents in attendance.

**APM/15/01 Apologies**

There were no apologies.

**APM/15/02 Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 29th May 2014**

The minutes of the above meeting had previously been circulated. It was proposed by Cllr. Ellmer and seconded by Cllr. Chamberlin that these be approved and signed as a true record of that meeting.

**APM/15/03 Matters arising**

It was noted that the hedge in Newton Lane had subsequently been cut back.

Following a suggestion put forward by Mr Denny, a schedule of suggested trees for the application of a Tree Preservation Order had been submitted to East Northamptonshire Council and would be considered when other work demands permitted.

**APM/15/04 District Councillor's Report**

District Councillor Mrs Sylvia Hughes presented her Annual Report, a copy of which is appended to these minutes.

**APM/15/05 County Councillor's Report**

County Councillor Mrs Brackenbury presented her Annual Report, a copy of which is appended to these minutes.

**APM/15/06 Issues to be raised by members of the public.**

Following discussions at the Parish Council meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2015, a circular had been passed around the village stating that in view of the cost of administering the Parish Council, it had been suggested that its future be reviewed with one option being the change to a parish meeting.

The outgoing Chairman, Peter Stephens read out a statement giving the background to the review. A prolonged discussion took place with queries raised over the transparency of the accounts, why the outgoing Parish Council had initiated the matter and the appropriateness of the circular. It was requested and agreed that this be withdrawn.

Mrs Roz Silk spoke of issues involving the FGMH and views were expressed over the potential loss of powers if it became a parish meeting.

It was agreed that the new council would decide the way forward and produce an information package for residents. To this aim, a working group consisting of two councillors and two residents be established to move matters to a conclusion with a statement being prepared by September.

In response to queries from a resident the Clerk explained the financial situation up to the end of the last financial year.

The Clerk spoke of the need to have a website to meet the requirements of the Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities and suggested that this would be an ideal vehicle for communicating with residents.

As there was no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8:57pm.