

MINUTES OF NORTH FAMBRIDGE PARISH PLAN GROUP

PUBLIC LAUNCH MEETING

Held in The Village Hall on Saturday, 10th January, 2009 at 10 a.m.

Present: Trevor Jones, Jeanette Mochrie, Sandra Nunn, Valerie Shawcross, Sue Thomas, Claire Udall.

Guests: Councillor Colin Coleman, Chairman of North Fambridge Parish Council.

Also Present: 50+ Residents from the Parish of North Fambridge.
Members of The Althorne Parish Plan Group.

1. Summary by The Chairman, Sandra Nunn, of Past and Future Roll of N.F.P.P.G.

Sandra Nunn opened the meeting by welcoming the villagers present and then read the following report:

“Following our re-election at the A.G.M. in March, 2008, we set to work on agreeing the format of the booklet. Then the writing of sections was assigned to members of the committee, with two members reserved for the editing process.

North Fambridge Parish Council gave us further funding of £166, which enabled us to apply for the maximum grant from R.C.C.E. An application for a grant of £500 towards the purchase and installation of a finger post sign at Ferry Corner was prepared and submitted to Maldon District Council under their “Civic Pride” projects scheme.

We were very pleased to receive a grant of £2000 from R.C.C.E. in April.

During May and June members wrote, considered and re-wrote sections of the booklet and these were then passed for editing.

We burned the midnight oil at our August meeting, which lasted from 7.30 p.m. until 12.40 a.m.

This time was spent finalising (so we thought) and proof reading the proposed booklet.

In August we received a further grant of £392 from R.C.C.E. and it was finally confirmed that our application for a grant from Maldon District Council was successful.

When Trevor Jones had once again amended the draft copy it was passed to the Parish Council for their comments regarding the actions we expected of them.

In November we considered the quotes for printing and agreed that, with the proviso of a few queries, Lavenham Press provided the best value. Thanks to Trevor Jones driving down to Suffolk and providing all the necessary computer work, the booklets were then printed.

In November some of the members, together with members of the Southminster Parish Plan Group, attended a meeting arranged by Maldon District Council. The forum was attended, amongst others, by representatives of the Police, Essex County Council Highways, Viking Community Transport, East Essex Transport, Maldon District Planning and Adult Education.

The booklets were received in December and hence this meeting was arranged. The Parish Council has already taken action on some of the things requested, e.g. dog mess bins and a visual display speed reminder. Other requests put forward by villagers could be taken forward if there are people willing to come forward and form committees, and there are grants available, e.g. development of recreation ground and further activities for both adults and children.

The committee is willing to continue, though meeting less often, to monitor the progress of the action plan until its completion. However, in order to do this it will be necessary to hold another election meeting in March 2009.

I am not sure how Trevor Jones has managed to stay sane and not lose his patience with us over the past few months when he has constantly been asked to make amendments etc. However, he has managed it and for that I am very grateful. I am also very grateful to all the committee members for their support and hard work.”

2. Update from Parish Council on Parish Plan Actions.

The Chairman of North Fambridge Parish Council thanked members of the parish plan group for all their hard work and complimented them on the booklet produced for the parish.

He stated that there was still work to be done by the Parish Council regarding speeding and danger spots in the village which they are looking into. H.G.V. traffic is being examined and dealt with by M.D.C. E.C.C. Education Department are investigating school buses. Footpaths are still being sorted out. The Parish Council had written to National Express Trains requesting a later train service but has been unsuccessful so far, however, another letter has been written to them. The finger post sign will be erected at Ferry Corner very shortly. Communication with M.D.C. regarding recycling plastics in the village is ongoing as The Parish Council feel they are not doing as much as other district councils to recycle waste. A lot of councils have said, "No", as recycling is not working. Additional dog mess bins have been erected and plans have been made to increase the number of litter bins in the village. The police say that there are no problems in the parish as far as they are aware but they are interested and looking after the village. The recreation ground is a problem as children are destroying equipment. A committee needs to be formed to get something done about it. There have been sheep on the football pitch. No dogs are allowed on the recreation ground. The council are hoping to install a concrete table tennis table on the recreation ground. There is no possibility at the moment of re-establishing a village shop, however, Asda and Tesco do deliver to the village.

Councillor Coleman thanked his colleagues on The Parish Council and the Parish Clerk, Christine, for all their hard work. The Parish Council will take on board the results of the parish plan questionnaire when producing the Village Design Statement.

The Parish Council will provide an update on the implementation of the parish plan every 3 months.

3. Question and Answer Session

A few questions were asked from members of the Althorne Parish Plan Group, present at the meeting, regarding the parish plan process which proved to be informative for North Fambridge residents.

4. Distribution of Parish Plan Booklet

Villagers were invited to view the action plan and other posters displayed and the computerised details on Trevor's lap top whilst partaking of refreshments. Residents were able to ask further questions.

The Parish Plan Booklets were then distributed to those residents present at the meeting.

Meeting Closed at 12 noon