

Wisbech St Mary Parish Council - Annual report presented to the Parish Assembly
Guyhirn Village Hall on Monday 24th May 2010

List of Councillors

Name	Address	Telephone Nos.
Mr C Allen	Halls Farm, Wisbech Road, Guyhirn, Wisbech	01733 849300
Mr P Barnes	Westview, 38 Murrow Bank, Murrow, PE13 4HB	01945 700200
Mr B Britain	Fort Farm, Gull Drove, Guyhirn, Wisbech PE13 4HB	01733 849262
Mr P Davies	Riverside, Selwyn Corner, Guyhirn, Wisbech PE13 4ED	01945 450234
Mr J Fish	17 Lindens Close, Thorney Toll, Wisbech PE13 4AR	07887754869
Mr T Fowler	Bramble Corner, Plash Drove, Wisbech St Mary PE13 4SP	01945 410425
Mr C Fryett	Llanberis, Gull Road, Guyhirn PE13 4ER	01945 450340
Mrs J Hall	Last Penny, Sand Bank, Wisbech St Mary PE13 4 SE	01945 410315
Mr J Parrin	Paradene, Church Road, Wisbech St Mary PE13 4RN	01945 410539
Mr B Payne	7 Churchfield Way, Wisbech St Mary PE13 4SY	01945 410755
Mrs D Thrower	Acquest, Front Road, Murrow PE13 4JQ	01945 700213

In June 2009 Mr K Bagg resigned from the Parish Council due to work commitments. In January 2010 Mr James Carney resigned from the Parish Council due to the fact that he was moving from the area. I am sure you would wish to join the Parish Council in thanking them for their work and support during their terms of office. No requests were received for elections and both these vacancies were filled by co-option. I am sure you would wish to join with the Councillors in welcoming Mr C Allen and Mrs J Hall to the Parish Council.

- In the 12 months leading up to this Parish Assembly there have been 13 meetings and all councillors have attended on a regular basis, together with Councillor Jill Tuck (County Councillor), Councillor Cyril Bellamy (District Councillor), Mr Robert Scrimshaw (District Councillor) and PC J Coles (Community Beat Police Constable). A number of Parishioners have attended to take advantage of the Open Forum item which appears on each meeting agenda.
- Notices and Agendas of meetings together with Council minutes are displayed on all the parish notice boards and the Wisbech St Mary website at www.wisbechstmary.org.uk. Meetings have been held at different venues throughout the year. Please note below the dates and venues for the Parish Council meetings.

Monday, 21 st June 2010 at Thorney Toll Village Hall
Monday, 19 th July 2010 at Wisbech St Mary Community Centre.
Monday 16 th August 2010 at Murrow Village Hall
Monday, 13 th September 2010 at The Chequers, Tholomas Drove
Monday, 11 th October 2010
Monday 8 th November 2010
Monday, 6 th December 2010
Monday, 10 th January 2011

- The members of the Parish Council all live within the Parish and several also work within the area. They represent a cross section of the community and therefore are on hand to recognise and deal with the needs and concerns of the parishioners they serve. Several of the councillors represent you on Committees and organisations within Fenland and by doing so the voice of the Parish is heard.
- Several Councillors are members of the Pools Allotment Charity, Village Hall Committees, Playing Field Committees and other community based organisations.

Parish Plans

The Parish Plan was completed in 2005 and this now needs updating. The Action Plans for each of the villages, Guyhirn, Murrow and Wisbech St Mary with the help of Fenland District Council Neighbourhood Development Offices and Cambridgeshire Acre are already being looked at. The Parish Council will support these Action Groups to enable them to bring as many items as possible to fruition within financial constraints.

Planning Matters

The Council continues to work to ensure that any building or development plans submitted to the Fenland District Council are for the benefit of the entire Parish.

Streetlights

The Parish Council continues to identify sites for new streetlights and it feel it is better to prioritise and allocate where they are most needed. If parishioners have any comments in this respect please contact your local representatives or the clerk.

Village Property

- During the past 12 months the Council has continued to maintain the bus shelters.

- The trees around the Guyhirn Pond have been cut down or cut back to make this area safe and more accessible. A committee of local people with the support of the Parish Council are working towards making this area an asset to the village of Guyhirn. If you would like to become involved in this, please contact the clerk who will pass on your details to a member of the committee.

Grants to Community

During this financial year grants have been given to various organisations within the Parish including:-

Murrow Playing Field Play Equipment	£29000.00	Guyhirn Playing Field Play Equipment	£4347.83
Royal British Legion	£49.50	Murrow Playing Field	£3000.00
Guyhirn Cemetary	£350.00	Guyhirn Friendship Club	£100.00
Murrow Pre School	£500.00	Voluntary Bureau	£100.00
Wisbech St Mary Social & Community Centre	£2500.00	Murrow Sunshine	£100.00
Wisbech St Mary PCC Churchyard	£ 350.00	East Anglia Children's Hospice	£500.00
Wisbech St Mary Car Scheme	£300.00	Murrow Bowls Club	£375.00
Southea PCC re Churchyard	£350.00	Murrow Book Café	£500.00
Guyhirn Playing Field	£2500.00	Murrow Youth Club	£500.00
Citizens Advice	£1000.00	Victim Support	£300.00
Murrow Methodist Church	£2000.00		

Highways

- The Councillors continue to identify areas that are in need of repair and continue to lobby the County Highways Department to ensure that this work is carried out as soon as possible. This year we put in two bids for jointly funded minor highway improvements. These were a for a new footpath in Bunkers Hill from Rat Row to Bridge Inn and High Road, Wisbech St Mary. We have been informed that neither of these bids was successful. We will try again next year.
- The Council are continuing to work towards reducing speed limits within the Parish and therefore creating a safer environment for us all.
- The Councillors have continually corresponded with the Police to try and increase the safety outside our schools. In previous years we were successful in initiating parking restrictions outside Wisbech St Mary School, traffic calming near Murrow School in Murrow Bank and from Parish Council funds road markings in Guyhirn warning of a school. We will continue to work towards improving road safety outside all of our schools.
- After numerous serious accidents at Bellamy Bridge, the Parish Council continue to lobby Cambridgeshire County Council Highways Department to improve this area. To date the road markings and signage have been improved, but we will continue to request the Police and the Highways to make this area as safe as possible.

Community Fairs

The Parish Council have attended the two Community Fairs in Parson Drove and Wisbech St Mary to enable Parishioners visiting these fairs to pass on any concerns.

Cambridgeshire Housing Association Properties

To ensure that local people are represented, the Parish Council is contacted when a vacancy occurs in Cambridgeshire Housing Association Properties in the parish and alternate between the Fenland District Council in filling the vacancies. A vacancy arose recently and it was the Parish Council's turn to fill this. We are trying to ensure that the Parish Council has a say in all of the vacancies.

Parish Precept

The Precept in the 2005/2006 financial year was £28,000, 2006/2007 £29,400, 2007/2008 £30870, 2008/2009 £43732, 2009/2010 and in 2010/2011 we have made no increase and it remains at £43732.

Finally, if you wish to make your voice heard on any aspect of village life, please feel free to attend any of the Parish Council meetings.

Mrs D Thrower
Chairman of the Parish Council

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