

**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF GLEMSFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT GLEMSFORD VILLAGE HALL
ON 17TH APRIL 2007**

The Vice-Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

001 POLICE REPORT

There was no police presence at the meeting but a report was sent.

During this last year 135 crimes have been reported within the parish, this compares to 100 for the same period the previous year.

Burglary to dwellings - 9 reports have been received during this period.

Burglary to other buildings - 6 reports have been received during this time.

Criminal damage - 22 offences have been recorded within the parish this last year.

Vehicle crime - 38 offences recorded during this period.

Violent/Public order - 37 offences have been recorded during this time.

Thefts - 18 offences have been recorded during this time.

002 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18th April 2006, having previously been circulated, were approved and signed.

PROPOSED: Cllr. Suttle

SECONDED: Cllr. Boone

003 PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS

Mr. Suttle presented the accounts of the United Charities.

Mr. Creed presented the accounts of the playing field committee.

004 GLEMSFORD PARISH COUNCIL'S CHAIRMAN REPORT

As the Chairman was in hospital, the report was delivered by the vice-chairman.

For the past few months the village has had the benefit of a Community Support officer, in the form of Stuart Spindler, who has been spending a great deal of time with the youths in the village, and things have calmed down since his arrival. Vandalism and damage have decreased on a large scale, and it was hoped that this would continue.

A mosquito alarm had been installed outside the door of the village hall which served to move the youngsters on from this area and has alleviated problems for nearby residents and the library users. This is working well and would be reviewed during the next month as at present, it is on loan from the police force.

The bus lay by at The Broadway had now been sited and has served to alleviate traffic congestion in this area. There is the odd case of buses who drive straight past it and stop on Fair Green, but thankfully this does not happen very often!

The youth facilities park has now been moved to the Recreation Ground and is proving to be a big success. A youth shelter has also been provided, which is well used.

The Glemsford Gossip has been revived, but instead of being sent to houses, this is now being placed in shops and pubs around the village so residents can just take a copy when they are buying a pint of beer or some postage stamps. It is not being produced on a strict timescale, but the council aim to produce an issue once a quarter.

Babergh, the police and the Parish are working together to provide sports courses for the youngsters in the village. At present Samba soccer sessions are being held in the village hall on Thursday evenings, which are proving to be quite successful. This week basketball sessions will begin and we are also hoping to run powerlifting sessions in the near future. Leaflets will be sent out to all the children in the surrounding schools.

Three new street lights have been erected, on Bells Lane, Flax Lane and Pannels Close. Three more are being placed in the village hall area and Highbank.

There would not be an election this year for Parish, and have our quota of ten councillors for 2007-2008. There will be an election for District Councillors, which will be held on 3rd May at the Village Hall.

The negative thing for the past year is that £11,000 of public money has been spent on vandalism and damage to public property because of the behaviour of just a core group of youngsters in the village. To this end, residents were urged to report ANYTHING that they see, so that a conviction can be pursued and then the Council would not have to raise their precept for the following year.

005 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Over the last few years Babergh has:

Delivered its pledge contained in the Financial Strategy to try and keep Council tax increases to within the rate of inflation.

Vastly expanded the number and range of successful sports and arts related projects aimed at improving the health and ambitions of young people and others – including the Beacon winning BE Active scheme.

Made access to its services (including information about those services) easier than ever before through the use of both new technologies and locations away from its Hadleigh HQ.

Nearly tripled its recycling rate through a range of innovative schemes

Made a significant contribution to the building of new affordable homes and laid the policy groundwork through the new local plan for even more to be built in the future.

006 SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The County Council met to set a council tax of 4.5% for 2007/2008 and is facing a shortfall in its budget of around 21 million.

Many savings are proposed which include a reduction in service to people with learning disabilities, increased charges for day care and transport to day care, increased charges for community meals, reduction in support for recycling schemes, reduction in sponsored bus services, and increased charges for home to school transport.

Suffolk County Council voted to move to a stage two review of school organization in Suffolk, with a preferred option of a two tier system. Two petitions had been received, containing 16,000 signatures.

Approved

Date