BINHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes 2014/06

Annual Parish Council Meeting held Monday 19 May 2014 at 1930 at the Memorial Hall

Those Present: Amanda Able, Liz Brown, Mike Chapman, David Frost, (Chairman) & Tim Walduck Keith Leesmith (Clerk), Peter Terrington (NNDC) & 6 members of the public

1) **Election of Chairman** Resolved – David Frost – declaration of acceptance of office signed
2) **Election of Vice-Chairman** Resolved – Liz Brown
3) **To confirm dates of meetings for the coming year** The following dates were agreed: 21 July, 15 September, 17 November, 19 January 2015, 16 March 2015, 18 May 2015
4) **Apologies** William Wales, Roger Winkley**,** Jonathan Savory (NNDC), Police Marie Strong (NCC) coming later; at other Parish Council meeting
5) **Declarations of interest:** None
6) **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 17 March 2014** agreed and signed

Marie (& Mike) Strong (NCC) arrived during the following

7) **Reports**

b) North Norfolk District Council

PT had taken part in a walk on a local tributary of the River Stiffkey as part of the 9 Chalk Rivers Scheme. He had found the experience very interesting. The Cromer office of NNDC has been reorganised and looks better. It also has a new telephone system. The Big Society Fund is still available, but this may not be for long as Norfolk County Council, which currently rebates to the Districts 40% of the "second homes money" (the difference between 50% and 95% of their share of the Council Tax) is thinking of scrapping this arrangement to help pay for the failed incinerator costs. There is a new business rate relief scheme, which should benefit small businesses. The LDO for alternative energy development at Egmere has been approved by Cabinet and will go to the next main Council Meeting. Throughout the District 102 properties have now been brought back into use by the Enforcement Board since it commenced work. The April Council Meeting had been cancelled.

c) Norfolk County Council

With regard to the "second homes money", MS believed that one year's money would fill the funding gap. She intended to try to get a commitment that the current system would be restored after one year. The County Council is about to move away from governance by cabinet, and back to governance by committee. This will improve the democracy of the Council as committees will have a politically balanced membership, whereas the cabinet was made up of the majority party only. There are five major committees covering Adult Social Care, Children's Services, Environment Development and Transport, Communities, and Policy and Resources. No committee will be able to spend more than £100million on any decision without going to full Council, and The Leader of the Council, Committee Chairmen, and the Managing Director can also refer any matter to full Council. The total budget of NCC is £1.46 billion. MS offered congratulations on Binham's bid for the SAM2 machine – not all bids were successful. The Better Broadband Scheme is currently ahead of target, with all work planned to be finished by the end of 2015. The government has given more (match-funded) money, which will enable fibre to be installed in more outlying areas.>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>