

# Scaldwell Parish Council

Chairman: Mr Eugene O'Leary      Parish Clerk: Mrs Lisa Callan

## Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Scaldwell Parish Council held on Wednesday 17 May 2017 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall, School Lane, Scaldwell

**Councillors in attendance:**      Mr E O'Leary (Chair)      Mr M Wharton  
   Mrs P Long                      Mr P Purcell  
   Mrs M Vinton                  Mrs S Thorne  
   Mr D Cross

**Public:** Mr R Thorne, Mrs D Masterson-Jones, Mrs S Dodds-Smith

1. **To note any apologies.** Apologies received from County Councillor Irving-Swift and District Councillor Fraser-Allen.
2. **To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held 18 May 2016.** The minutes were approved and duly signed by the Chairman, Cllr O'Leary.
3. **To receive report from Scaldwell Parish Council Chairman covering activities for the year to 31 March 2017 - Eugene O'Leary**  
This is my third annual report as Chairman of Scaldwell Parish Council. The role of the council is to represent the needs of the village and to try to improve quality of life. My report is a summary of our activities during this past year but should you wish to learn more about the role and work of the Council, further details may be found on the village website.

### Meetings and general activities

The Council held 6 statutory meetings during the year including the Annual Parish Meeting. In addition, we held a number of further meetings throughout the year to consider various planning applications. All our meetings are held in the Village Hall and we welcome all parishioners to attend. We always provide an opportunity for questions, concerns or comments to be raised.

We are very grateful to our District Councillors, Cllr Fabienne Fraser-Allen and Cllr Kevin Parker who attend meetings whenever they are able and are a vital link for us with the District Council. At a county level, we extend our gratitude to our County Councillor, Cecile Irving-Swift.

After an uncontested election in May 2016, we welcomed two new councillors, Phil Purcell and Matt Wharton which then left two vacancies which we filled by co-option in November when we welcomed Sally Thorne and Dudley Cross onto the council. Our thanks to all those who expressed an interest in joining the Parish Council.

During the year, Alicia Schofield resigned as clerk to the council in order to take up a new position elsewhere within the county. Council would like to express its deep gratitude to Alicia for her commitment and contribution to the successful and smooth running of the council. In October 2016, we were lucky to appoint our new clerk, Lisa Callan,

One of our biggest challenges this year has been the provision/installation of superfast broadband. Although it has been a long and at times frustrating process, Gigaclear has finally completed the installation of superfast fibre-optic broadband to all premises within the village. We hope that those villagers who have signed up to superfast broadband are satisfied with the outcome.

Council continues to set aside monies for street lighting, as well as for the installation of a defibrillator and work on trees within the village. However, through careful planning and budgeting we have been able to keep the increase of the parish element of your council tax to a minimum.

In last year's Report, I stated that, as a result of producing a 5-year action plan, we formed a Highways working party which looks into ways of improving traffic management and parking related issues within the village. As a result, road markings have been highlighted on both the Old and

Brixworth entrances to the village. Members of the working party have met with the Police and Crime Commissioner as well as with the county Highways Department looking at possible and realistic solutions to the problems faced by increased traffic flow and inconsiderate and at times dangerous driving through the village.

Early this year, we approached BT with the intention of acquiring ownership of the Telephone booth to enable the installation of a defibrillator. We are in the final stages of completing the acquisition and are very grateful to County Councillor, Cecile Irving-Swift for awarding us a grant towards the cost of installing the defibrillator

During the year, Martin Neale, of The Old Fox, redesigned and offered to host a new village website. He has also put the village on Facebook. Thank you, Martin! Also, due to the efforts of Councillor Phil Purcell and our clerk, Lisa, all the Council's documents and files have now been transferred onto the new website.

We also supported the Daventry lead "Paint means Poo" campaign.

The council has also stayed abreast of developments within Brixworth regarding their Neighbourhood Plan and we shall review our own position in the coming months.

### **Playing Field**

Our close working relationship with the 'Friends of the Playing Field' group continues to thrive ensuring the playing field remains well kept and maintained for the benefit of all. Special mention and thanks to Georgina Carter, Michelle Wharton and Stella Simons from the group, who devote so much of their time to the upkeep of the playing field and for co-ordinating the fundraising efforts. The 'Friends' held tidy days in July, October and March. Each morning was well attended by a great team of volunteers who helped with the gardening, sterilising the sand pit, turning the bark and pruning the shrubs. The volunteers were rewarded for their hard work with bacon sandwiches kindly provided by Scaldwell Men's Breakfast Club and expertly prepared by Tom Joyner. Thank You! The council is sincerely grateful to all who help at the playing field.

### **Membership and representation**

The council remains a member of the National and County Association of Local Councils and our Clerk is a member of the Society of Local Council Clerks. These organisations offer help and support to Clerks and Councillors and are invaluable in keeping us up to date with developments and legislation. As a village with a conservation area and with increasing development within the County, we are also members of CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England) and ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England). We also have representation on the Village Hall Committee, the Parish Trust, the Relief in Need Charity, the Thomas Roe Foundation and Neighbourhood Watch. We would like to thank our Footpath Warden, Phil Purcell. We are also very grateful to Dylan Lewis, our former Tree Warden, for all the help and advice he has given to Council over the past few years.

**Finally** – I would like to thank my fellow Councillors for all their hard work during the past year and especially to Pam Long, our Vice Chair, for all her support and commitment. I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to our new Clerk, Lisa whose efficiency, skillful organisation and patience has helped both me, in my role as Chairman, and has been invaluable to the smooth running of the council.

#### **4. To receive reports from the District Councillor - Fabienne Fraser-Allen.**

Wow, what a year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for allowing me to represent your views and opinions on Daventry District Council.

If there is anything more I can do then please do not hesitate to contact me [FFraser-Allen@daventrydc.gov.uk](mailto:FFraser-Allen@daventrydc.gov.uk)

I have tried to take things slowly in my first year using it as an opportunity to learn as much as I can. Undertaking training sessions on Public Speaking, Treasury Management, Planning, Risk Management, Finance and Code of Conduct to name but a few. As a result of these courses I have registered my interest in sitting on the Member Development sub committee to ensure that the very best training is offered to Councillors enabling them to work to the best of their abilities for you. I have also been representing the ward at Full Council, and for Corporate Governance. The latter is

an important committee as it allows us the councillors to audit the work of the council and ensure that our Officers who work tirelessly are meeting their performance indicators and if not why not. I have also been representing the council on Northampton Acre, this is a charity which supports rural communities in the county through engagement and development. Their aim is to reduce rural isolation and vulnerability. I have also been asked to be a judge on the Best Village Competition which has given me a great insight into what villages need but also what

The best way to engage with the people in our ward I have found is to attend as many Parish Councils as I can, I am pleased to say that I have attended all the Parishes if not once then more than once and I have found this not only interesting but helpful and I hope that you have too.

I have also been helping residents in our ward securing funding for local projects, assisting with planning issues, working on village confines, answering queries and following up on issues raised with the Council.

We at Council have all been busy working on a variety of different strategies, and I am proud to say that we recently been awarded a green accolade for our environmental efforts. As many of you area ware we are moving to 123 waste and recycling scheme, now this I know is not the most popular of decisions but it will enable us to keep costs down whilst still maintaining a high service level.

We at the Council have also recently approved a new retail scheme to the North West of the Town Centre, offering new employment opportunities in the area.

In addition to this Daventry's canal arm will bring regeneration creating a thriving town centre.

Along with the Woman's Tour which is soon coming to the county the Council continues to support Health and Wellbeing in the area.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or my co councillors.

Thanks again for electing me to represent you and our ward.

#### 5. To receive reports from the village groups and organisations.

##### **The Foundation of Thomas Roe.**

Current Trustees Chairman Mr. R.A. Turney

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Representative Councillor C. Irving Swift (Northamptonshire County Council), Mrs. Margaret Vinton and Mrs. Pam Long (Scaldwell Parish Council), Mr. Richard Monk and Mr. Kevin Parker (Brixworth Parish Council), Mrs. Ruth Walter.

Meetings The Trustees met in April and September.

Objectives The main objectives of the Charity are to apply the net income of the Charity in to assist in providing items, services and facilities for the pupils of Brixworth VC Primary School, which are not generally provided by public funds. Also in generally providing financial assistance in connection with the education of children of school age and young persons whom are resident in the parishes of Scaldwell and Brixworth.

Assets Charinco Income Shares were valued at £7,282.32 on 5th October 2016.

24.569 acres agricultural land in Creaton Road, Brixworth. Let to Mr. James Mallard on a Farm Business Tenancy determinable on a year's notice at a rent of £89 per acre per. (£2200.00 annually).

Cash at Bank - £901.24

Building Society account - £756.40

Income and Expenditure

The total income of the Charity for the year ended 31st December 2016 was £2,488.57 (£2413 in 2015).

General administration expenses amounted to £658.37 (in 2015 £484.92).

Grants Grants made during the year amounted to £2,000 (£2340 in 2015). These were made to 6 applicants.

##### **Relief in Need.**

The Scaldwell Relief in Need charity is constituted by a Scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 3rd February 1977 and is registered with them under No. 205281. The current address for the Charity is The Old Barn, High Street, Scaldwell, Northampton, NN6 9JS

The Trustees of the Charity are:-

Co-opted Trustee	Mrs. S.M. Thorne (Chair)	Co-opted Oct 13
	Mr. R. Morgan	Co-opted Mar 12

	Mr. M. Monk	Co-opted Nov 11
	Mr. M. May	Co-opted Nov 14
Nominative Trustees	Mrs. M.E. Vinton	Nominated March 2015
	Mrs. P.M. Long	Nominated March 2015

The Clerk to the Charity is Mrs. S.K. Dodds-Smith

The Scaldwell Parish Council has the right to nominate two trustees who serve for a period of four years. Other Trustees are co-opted for a period of five years.

After paying the expenses of the charity the Trustees are to apply the income towards the relief of persons in need who are resident in the Parish of Scaldwell. They may also make donations to other organisations which themselves provide services for people in need in the village. The Trustees should also pay for the holding of the annual Bread Service.

One grant was awarded to a villager in the current year and the annual Christmas Gifts to Senior Citizens were distributed and the Bread Service was held in the Church

The value of investments as at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017 totalled £20,509.03 compared to £18,706.05 on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2016.

#### **Friends of the Playing Field - Georgina Carter**

We have had one playing field tidy day already, in the middle of March to get the field ready for Easter. It was very well attended and we got all the jobs done we wanted to. The remainder of the old broken fence at the neighbours boundary was removed and most of it was taken to the tip. Both the willow runs were giving a severe trim and lots of weeding was done. Emrie and Sinead (don't know surname ) very kindly offered to have the rest of the garden waste removed for us. All the information and safety signs were screwed into position. The wooden badgers were given a new coat of paint by the children. The mornings work was rewarded with bacon sandwiches kindly provided by Tom from Scaldwell Men's Breakfast Club.

The Friends of Scaldwell Playing Field and the Parish Council have been struggling to work out how to deal with the cat problem in the sand pit. We are still cleaning it weekly and sterilising the sand at every tidy day. We purchased two cat scarer units which were fitted to the wooden fort in the middle of the sand pit. They seemed to be working and the cat mess has been reduced over the last few weeks. Unfortunately, someone has now ripped the units from the fort and damaged the fittings so they cannot be re-screwed back up. We now have to decide whether to try again with the cat scarer or replace the sand with a different type of safety surface. We are aware that the sand levels need to be higher but wanted to get the cat problem sorted before ordering more top up sand.

The broken fence that ran the length of the playing field has been replaced with a super new one with private property signs which will hopefully stop people crossing the neighbours fields as a short cut from the road to the playing field.

We had a very successful Easter Egg Hunt as a fund raiser. We had sponsorship from Marks and Spencer who supplied the raffle prizes and Northampton Pets in Brixworth who bought all the hunt prizes and a few raffle prizes too. We ran a tombola this year too and we raised almost £200.

We plan to run a hunt for the children at the Open Garden Day at the beginning of June.

We have two more tidy days planned for 2nd June and 15th October.

The Friends of Scaldwell Playing Field would like to thank the Parish Council for all their support and help in keeping the field safe and looking so good.

### **Scaldwell Club - Paul Anstice**

This is my final report as Chairman of Scaldwell Club as I have completed my three year maximum term as Chairman and am standing down from the Committee under the terms of the Constitution. I would like to start by thanking each member of the committee for their continued hard work, not just during this year but throughout my three year tenure. This year the club has been fluid. Last summer Michelle Spinks resigned from the committee for personal reasons followed by Cheryl Barrick because of increased business commitments. At the beginning of this year, sadly Angie Farmer died and as a result, Dave felt he could no longer continue as a committee member so also resigned. Angie was a stalwart of the Club committee for many years and I would like to place on record the committee's thanks for all she did for the Club and its deep sympathy to Dave and her family at her death. To cover some of these resignations two people were co-opted onto the committee, Tim Simons and Helen Johnson, and I would like to thank both for stepping up to the mark at a time of need. Like last year we had a team of secretaries this year. The role was shared by Michelle and Cheryl at the beginning of the year and Dave took over when both were unable to continue. In latter months, Tim has taken over the role and will be continuing in next year. I would like to thank all of them for their various inputs into the role. I would also like to thank Jackie for her continued diligence as Treasurer. Like me she has completed her three years as Treasurer and has to stand down. I wish Helen good luck when she takes over next year. My thanks go to all the volunteers that serve behind the bar in order to keep this club running and providing an essential service to the village and in particular to David Keir for his cellar work. I would like to thank Martin Neale for producing and maintaining the Club's website and creating a corporate flyer design to advertise club events.

This year the financial statement shows that sales and bar profits have increased compared with last year. Having absorbed price increases by Green King and other suppliers for nearly three years, the committee took the steps to review and increase bar prices. It is hoped that prices will now stay constant for a couple of years. The bottom line profit is down this year but that is due to the need to replace capital equipment in the bar, namely a new bottle fridge and glass washer. There is still a need to replace the fridge/freezer in the cellar so that the bar can once again provide ice in drinks as the ice maker was also condemned as unserviceable this year.

The club has continued to put on social events during the year for the benefit of the village which were mainly very successful. Our Quiz Night was yet again a very enjoyable evening and I would like to thank Peter and Julie Barfoot for all the hard work they put into preparing and running the Quiz. We held a Snail Race in October after not organising one for a couple of years and this was also a resounding success. Our biggest success was our annual Firework Display with our biggest number of spectators we have ever had. I would like to thank everyone who worked tirelessly to make it a memorable evening, all the ladies who cooked and helped to sell soup and burgers, Neville for providing the generators, all the committee members for erecting and dismantling the marquee and David, Martin and Peter for setting off the fireworks. However, such a success creates its own problems and we did run low on food and drinks in the marquee, we could have done with a larger viewing area and cars were parked at every available spot in the village and beyond the village boundaries. These are issues being addressed by the committee along with the need to find a new site for setting off the fireworks. Our only disaster was the summer 'Picnic on the Green' event on the village green which fell victim to a thunderstorm and torrential rain as it was about to begin.

At Christmas we held our annual Senior Citizens' Christmas meal and Christmas starters. Yet again I would like to thank Claire Worth for the efficient way she organised the meal and for all the cooks in the village that prepared the food and the committee members that served and washed up afterwards. I would also like to thank Scaldwell Charity for its kind donation towards the cost of the Christmas meal. Christmas Starter is always hugely popular and this year was no exception. I would like to thank all the committee members for their hard work in collecting prizes for the tombola and auction, David for acting as auctioneer, June Keir and Jackie in preparing and running the tombola stall and, of course, Father Christmas who managed to fit both events into his busy schedule.

Behind the scenes, the cellar had a major clear out this year which freed up more space for storing drinks. In recent weeks, thanks to an agreement with the Village Hall Committee the Disco equipment has moved from the cellar to a cupboard in the hall which will allow more shelving to be installed in the cellar making further improvements.

As I said at the beginning of this report I have completed my three year term as Chairman of Scaldwell Club and I am now standing down from the committee. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to have held this position. I am sure that the Club will continue to be a focal point in the village, providing a beneficial service to the villagers and social entertainment. I wish next year's committee good luck and continued success.

### **Village Hall Management Committee - Russel Vann**

I once again give present this report as temporary Chairman of Scaldwell Village Hall Management Committee.

The primary objective of the Committee is to maintain the village hall to a standard that allows the residents of Scaldwell enjoyment of the facility.

There are two distinct elements that need to be managed, firstly, there is the general maintenance and enhancement of the village hall and secondly, the generation of sufficient funds that enable us to meet the primary objective.

Looking at the maintenance side of the hall we have had an ongoing issue with a leak in the kitchen. We have investigated this on several occasions and tried all the suggestions.

Unfortunately, none of these have worked and we are now looking at more substantial work to provide a permanent fix for this intermittent issue. We hope that this will provide a long-term solution and that the users understand that we have had difficulty in obtaining a definitive answer to why this leak is happening.

No doubt all those present will realise that Gigaclear have completed the installation of fibre to the residents of Scaldwell, enabling fast digital subscriber line access to the internet. During the process the company offered Scaldwell Village Hall the opportunity of a free service for one year, which ends in December 2017. So far it looks as though this is a popular service and one which we will consider extending even after the free period has ended. The committee will survey the users of the facility and assess the overall desire to keep the service. We will also need to consider carefully the cost of such a service compared to the benefits that the hall gains. The hall is unfortunately in a dead area for any mobile signal reception and the WiFi Internet access does provide users with a method of communication not otherwise available. Whilst this is probably not essential to how much rent is generated, it does provide an extra incentive for the users to keep coming back.

Turning now to the income side of the hall, we have fortunately been successful in letting the hall on a regular basis. This is in part due to the high standard to which the hall is maintained but is also due to the effort put in but the bookings secretaries. As you will all know we lost Angie during the year, who managed the bookings of the hall extremely well. The role has now been handed over to Di, who no doubt will be equally as efficient and we look forward to maintaining the income and bookings during the coming year. With the agreement of Angie's husband, we will be acknowledging her contribution to the village with a permanent commemoration.

The village hall relies on the efforts of the volunteers that work on the committee. This year we need extra volunteers to replace those that will not be able to devote their time in future. We have the need for a permanent Chairman and a Treasurer, both posts being filled on a temporary basis at the moment. In addition, Georgina has stepped down from the committee. I should like to ask you to volunteer or suggest someone to volunteer to come on to the committee. We only meet three times a year although there is activity all year mostly via emails.

I should like to thank all the committee members who have served during the year for their efforts in keeping the Village Hall a popular and well maintained venue.

### **Parochial Church Council.**

I would like to start by thanking all the PCC members for their help and support during 2016 and 2017. My thanks go to Rev Káren for her spiritual leadership and guidance, to David for his support as Church Warden, to Sue as our Treasurer and to Paul as Secretary. Thanks are also due to David, Joan, Christopher, Katherine, Tom, Maia and Paul for acting as readers and leaders of prayers and all the other members of the PCC that have been invaluable in the smooth running of the church and services. Sadly Michael Monk our organist and musical leader was ill for a long period of last year and eventually died. He has been deeply missed by us all. After a period of using CDs and a 'ghetto blaster' Gwen Sharman and Ted Dean have started to play the organ and I would like to record my thanks to them for doing so. I would also like to thank Nick Masterson-Jones for finding and down-loading many hymns that can be played from a memory stick on the Clavinova and has provided us with a credible back up when Ted and Gwen are unable to play the organ. Thanks go to David and Elaine Greatrex for training and leading our bell ringers and congratulations are in order the members of the team for achieving various proficiency levels in bell-

ringing this year. Finally I would like to record my thanks to all those that regularly clean the church and look after the flowers.

This year has been another busy year of Sunday services led by Rev Káren and other members of the Ministry team which included a Sung Evensong in mid-March which was well received and well attended. I would like to thank Ted Dean for assembling his family choir and leading the singing. Since 1st April 2016 there have been three Baptisms, no weddings, four funerals, two internments of ashes and Bishop Donald visited in December to hold a Confirmation service. In June there was a special service of celebration to commemorate the Queen's 90th birthday. We have continued to hold monthly morning Holy Communion services on the first Wednesday of each month.

The church was packed for our Christmas Eve Carol Service with standing room only. Our thanks go to Tom and Victoria for their efforts in organising the service. Yet again the children in the village participated by helping to build the crib, singing hymns and reading some of the passages in the service. Along with the other churches in the benefice, Scaldwell embraced the call by Archbishops Justin and John to hold a week of prayer entitled 'Thy Kingdom Come' and a notice board of themes was thoughts around the theme was created and displayed in St Edmund's chapel. An evening prayer vigil was held.

The Men's' Breakfast Club has continued throughout the year and has flourished and grown in numbers. Thanks go to Tom, David and Paul for their efforts.

Our fund-raising activities have been a bit hit and miss this past year. We have held another 'Call My Bluff' Wine Tasting Quiz which was successful. We had planned a music evening but because of Michael Monk's illness and subsequent death, this did not happen. The Christmas Fair in the church was also cancelled because most of the regular stall holders had booked into events elsewhere. The lesson learnt from this is to start organising this event earlier in the year. However, Christopher Angeloglou produced yet another magnificent set of Christmas cards which once again was popular with the villagers.

I would like to conclude by thanking everyone that helps in the running of this church and to Sue for her hard work in applying for and obtaining grants to help pay for its maintenance. As we embark on the repairs to the church highlighted in the quinquennial report, obtaining funding through grants will be invaluable.

#### **Scaldwell Parish Trust**

The Scaldwell Relief in Need charity is constituted by a Scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 3rd February 1977 and is registered with them under No. 205282. The current address for the Charity is The Old Barn, High Street, Scaldwell, Northampton, NN6 9JS

The Trustees of the Charity are:-

Co-opted Trustee	Mrs. S.M. Thorne (Chair)	Co-opted Mar 13
	Mr. R. Morgan	Co-opted Mar 12
	Mr. M. Monk	Co-opted Nov 11
	Mr. M. May	Co-opted Nov 13
Nominative Trustees	Mrs. M.E.Vinton	Nominated March 2015
	Mrs. P.M. Long	Nominated March 2015

The Clerk to the Charity is Mrs. S.K. Dodds-Smith

The Scaldwell Parish Council has the right to nominate two trustees who serve for a period of four years. Other Trustees are co-opted for a period of five years.

After paying the expenses of the running of the Charity, the Trustees are to apply the income of the Charity as they think fit for any charitable purposes for the general benefit of the inhabitants of the Parish of Scaldwell.

During the year the Trustees have made grants to the P.C.C. towards the upkeep of the churchyard, The Scaldwell Club towards the Firework Display and the Senior Citizens' Christmas

Dinner, the Playing Field Committee, a grant towards the cost of the Village Newsletter and a grant towards the costs of the Mens' Breakfast Club.

The value of the investments as at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017 totalled £27,121.42 compared to £26,923.88 on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2016.

6. **To take questions and receive comments from parishioners regarding Scaldwell Parish.**  
None.

DRAFT