

SWANLAND VILLAGE ASSOCIATION 27TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SWANLAND VILLAGE HALL 12TH NOVEMBER 2015

Meeting commenced at 7:30pm

Present: Jan Rogerson, Yvonne Dumsday, Louise McFarlane, Val Anderson, Angela Carpenter, Linda Mitchelson, Marion Escreet, Karen Cowing.

1. Apologies: Richard Fowler, Julie Swift, Belinda Jones, Mally Cracknell.

2. Minutes of last AGM (10/11/2014)

The minutes were accepted by the meeting.

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Chairman's report:

Jan Rogerson welcomed the audience to the AGM and thanked all the committee for their hard work during the last 12 months. She reported the resignation of 2 committee members, Belinda Jones and Karen Cowing, and thanked them for the work they had done for the SVA. Special mention was given to Belinda's work with **Alyson Ell** of the **Pond Partnership** to secure funds for the pond area work. She requested the audience to consider volunteering for the now vacant positions of **treasurer** and **minute's secretary**.

Thanks were expressed to **Mally Cracknell** and his **gardening group volunteers**.

The **2016 Swanland Festival** is being arranged for 8th July to the 17th of July.

Jan asked **Yvonne Dumsday** to give the report for **Swanland screen / LIVE**: To date **72 films** have been shown and Yvonne thanked everyone who attends every 3rd Saturday each month and all those who help with the setting up and clearing away. The last **LIVE** event "BERYL" was a complete sell out with 120 people attending. Overall these events break even financially.

John White asked for thanks to be given to Yvonne for organising these village events.

Jan reported that a new **village sign** has been funded, mostly by the **Parish Council** with help from the SVA. This is soon to be installed down Occupation Lane. Thanks were expressed to **Geoff Chapman** for supporting this project and the generous donation on behalf of the Parish Council. There is now a village sign at every entrance to the village apart from Woodgates Lane.

The **Pond Partnership** has completed the autumn pond clearance, led by **Alyson Ell** and 20 volunteers. Repairs to the east and west walls have been completed. Plastic waterproof

pilings were inserted along the full length of each wall and then filled with concrete to create new walls. Thanks were expressed to **Alyson** for her tireless work on this project and the pond generally.

Jan noted the great service to the young of the village provided by the **Playing Fields Association** and how successful the GALA had been.

There is a new chairman of the Parish Council, **Derek Shepherd**. Thanks were extended to the retiring chair **Geoff Chapman** for his hard work through the years and for his support of the SVA during this time.

The Village Hall enjoys continuing success under the guidance of **Godfrey Burley** and his committee.

The Swanland Show had a large number of entries and visitors.

Jan asked **Linda Mitchelson** to give the "litter picking" report:

There are now only 28 volunteers on the rota and Linda asked the audience to volunteer and / or ask neighbours to join.

Jan gave thanks to Linda for her work throughout the year and the volunteers for keeping the centre of the village tidy.

Jan thanked **Richard Fowler** in his absence for keeping the FACEBOOK page up to date.

The SVA newsletter is compiled and edited by **Marion Escreet**, who works hard to produce this excellent publication. Jan expressed thanks to Marion and also to **Roy Kennington** and **Graham Latter** for their support and involvement in this.

Jan thanked **Angela Carpenter** for arranging the distribution of the SVA newsletter.

Angela thanked the 27 volunteers who help deliver the newsletter to 1700 houses in the village, three times a year. The next delivery will be in March 2015 and Angela requested further volunteers for this.

Jan invited **Louise McFarlane** to give the **membership report**:

Membership is slightly up on last year with 43 new members; but remains below the level achieved in 2013. The SVA funded a "pink form" to be inserted in the newsletter to encourage membership. Residents are encouraged to pay by standing order, so renewals are not forgotten. Separating business from general membership has worked well. Thanks were given to **Yvonne** for taking in membership applications at her home and **Roy Kennington** for delivering the membership cards.

Jan congratulated those involved in establishing the **Heritage Centre** which is now open twice a week. Yvonne reported that they had 20 volunteers helping out but requested more “friends” who were willing to donate £10 a year to help with funding (pay the rent).

Jan invited **Val Anderson** to report on Business membership:

There are now 24 business members of the SVA which is an increase of 7 from 2014. Each business is given an annual window/door sticker to advertise their membership. Belinda Jones has kindly agreed to arrange provision of new stickers for the next 5 years.

Graham Latter asked Val to mention to local businesses the option to advertise in the newsletter, the website and in the planned new edition of SIGNPOST.

John White asked the SVA committee to comment on the proposed removal of the willow tree from by the pond. Jan replied that the issue was to be discussed by East Riding council and **Graham Latter** added that an application for felling the tree had been made and this can be viewed and commented on online. Some discussion about this issue took place and ended with Yvonne suggesting registering individual opinion online.

Jan spoke of Swanland being very special and an exceptional place to live and then ended her report with the resignation of the officers and committee members and asking **Ian McFarlane** to conduct the election of a new committee.

7. Election of officers and committee:

CHAIRMAN: JAN ROGERSON, proposed by Yvonne Dumsday, seconded by John White.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: YVONNE DUMSDAY, proposed by Angela Carpenter, seconded by Louise McFarlane.

ELECTION OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS: ANGELA CARPENTER, MARION ESCREET, VAL ANDERSON, LINDA MITCHELSON, LOUISE McFARLANE proposed by John White, seconded by Jan Rogerson.

ABSENT MEMBERS: JULIE SWIFT, RICHARD FOWLER proposed by Jan Rogerson, seconded by Louise McFarlane.

There were no volunteers for the roles of TREASURER and MINUTES SECRETARY.

There were no objections to the elections.

5. Election of examiner of accounts:

JEREMY ALLISON has kindly agreed to continue this role for a further year.

Proposed by Jan Rogerson, seconded by Val Anderson.

6. Treasurer's report: The report from Belinda Jones was given in her absence by Marion Escreet.

Thanks were given to Louise for collecting membership payments, Graham Latter for gathering in advertising revenue, Yvonne for money received from film / live shows and the Parish Council for their donations towards: duck grain, bulbs, cleaning and signage.

The combined bank accounts stand at £6200, compared to £9100 last year. The reduction is mainly due to expenditure on the new village signs. The total includes monies held for the HISTORY GROUP (£1146) and the WILDLIFE GROUP (£1025).

Belinda offers her successor her best wishes.

8. Membership: Jan had received an email from RICHARD HOYES with suggestions on how to improve membership, including sending a Christmas card with an enclosed membership form to all village residents.

Jan suggested an annual membership day with joining and information sites placed throughout the village.

John White suggested a village clean up day, Linda felt more volunteers were needed in order for this to happen.

Richard Hoyes spoke of the need for a phone mast in the village, which led to a general discussion.

9. A.O.B.

Marion reported the date for OPEN GARDENS 2015 to be Sunday 10th July.

Sue Ayton asked why the AGM was held in November; Yvonne explained that this was the stated date in the SVA constitution.

David Mitchelson asked about the new platform at the pond and the upgrading of the pond fence. Yvonne replied that the state of the fence has been mentioned to the Parish Council.

The meeting was closed at 8:23pm and followed by an interesting and entertaining talk by local resident **JOHN WHEELER** about THE LOST HOUSES OF SWANLAND.

The evening concluded with cheese and wine.

