

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish of Little Bealings held on Friday 30th March 1973 at at 8.00p.m. at the Bealings Village Hall.

Present were: Seven Members of the Parish Council and four other Members of the Parish.

1. Brigadier Lindsay as Chairman of the Parish Council took the Chair.
2. The Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on the 6th March 1972 were read and confirmed.
3. The Chairman reported on the work done by the Parish Council over the past twelve months and amongst other items commented on the following:-
 - a) The Parish Council had met 9 times.
 - b) They had dealt with various Planning matters which had been referred to them by the Planning Authority for the Parish Council's views including some development at Little Bealings Railway Station which owing to the fact that this as likely to be light industrial use the Parish Council had recommended should be refused.
 - c) That they had dealt with various matters relating to footpaths and the keeping of these open and the clearing of the same.
 - d) That they had dealt with the question of the gravel pit being used as a refuse tip and that as had been reported in the press the Ipswich Borough Councils application to use a further 45 acres had been turned down but it was thought that the Borough Council would be putting in a further Application for a smaller area to be used for further refuse tipping. The Members of the Council had visited the existing tip on a number of occasions and had been very well satisfied with the excellent way it had been kept.
 - e) The Parish Council had written to the Minister of Transport for E.E.C. pointing out that they would be opposed to any increase being allowed in the weight and size of lorries in the U.K., as the road were quite unsuitable for these monster vehicles.
4. The Clerk reported generally on the effect of the Local Government Act 1972 so far as the Parish Council was concerned, and pointed out that the elections which were taking place shortly were the elections for the new County of Suffolk and that the District elections would take place in June and that the District covering Little Bealings would be known as "Suffolk Coastal" and would comprise what is now Aldeburgh, Felixstowe, Leiston-cum-Sizewell, Saxmundham, Blyth and Deben with a population of about 89,000 covering an area of approximately 220,500 acres. So far as Little Bealings was concerned in the new District this was going to be grouped with Tuddenham, Culpho, Playford, Great Bealings and Westerfield with a total population of 1157 and would be represented by one District Councillor on the new District Council. It was pointed out that one Councillor would on average represent an area which in the past had been covered by three Councillors. The Clerk also reported that it was expected that the Parish Councils would have more influence on Planning matters. The Clerk pointed out that under the new Act where a Parish Council asked to District Council to inform it of Planning Applications then the District Council would have to give particulars of all Planning Applications which they received to the Parish Council for their observations. The Clerk also reported that there had been various suggestions as to the amalgamation of Parishes but that the Little Bealings Parish Council had considered that as there were active Parish Councils surrounding it there would be no point in Little Bealings Parish Council amalgamating with any other Parish Council.

5. The question of the Best Kept Village Competition which for Little Bealings would be next year was considered and it was pointed out that a good deal of effort and organisation would have to go into the preparation and the views of those present were that it was not worth while entering for the Competition but Mrs Sladen said she would mention the matter to the Women's Institute.
6. It was pointed out that every effort was being made this year to plant trees but that so far as the Parish Council were concerned, they did not own any land but that they had been in touch with the owners of the gravel pit to see whether arrangements could be made to plant up that part of the area which had now been filled by the tipping and covered over.
7. The question of trying to get more Members of the Parish to attend the Annual Meeting of the Parish was discussed and it was agreed that if possible some more Notices could be placed up next year and that the Clerk would write to the various Local Organisations informing them of the date of the Annual Meeting and asking them to draw their Members attention to the date and that the date should be published in the Bealings Leaflet.
8. At the conclusion of the Meeting Brigadier Lindsay reported that he would not be standing as Chairman of the Parish Council at the next Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and Mrs Sladen proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman pointing out that he had been on the Council since 1955 and that he had during the whole time only missed 2 meetings and that the Members of the Parish owed him a great debt for all the work he had done.

A Hamilton
Chairman
22 April 1974