

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Little Bealings held at Bealings Village Hall on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April 1986.

Present were seven members of the Council.

Mr Bestow as the Parish's Member on Suffolk County Council

Group Captain Sledmere as the Parish's Member on Suffolk Coastal District Council

Five other Members of the Parish.

Mr Theodosius, as Chairman of the Parish Council, took the Chair and welcomed those present.

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> April 1985, were read, confirmed and signed.

In his report, Mr Theodosius said that during the year, eleven Meetings had been held and sixteen planning applications had been submitted and considered by the Council. The Martlesham By-Pass had been approved by the Department of Transport and work is due to commence sometime in 1986. Sadly this will mean the loss of some woodland and Mr Theodosius expressed appreciation to Mrs Cook for planting and looking after new trees in the Parish. Flooding on the Martlesham Road had received some attention from the County Highways Department. Bus Services are to be de-regulated this year and the present service – Bickers – have indicated their intention of maintaining an adequate service. The Annual Parish Precept has been kept at 1p and an annual contribution has been made to Suffolk Accident Rescue Service.

It is hoped that the telephone kiosk may be moved to a more central position possible outside the Angela Cobbold Hall. Confidence seems to be returning to users of the Level Crossing and when the icy state of the road caused concern, the Highways Department responded quickly and effectively sanded the road regularly and provided additional grit heaps.

The Ipswich Eastern Fringe Plan has been discussed at Council Meetings and it has been unanimously agreed that Little Bealings should remain broadly unchanged and this Council would strongly resist any attempt to absorb the Parish into the Borough of Ipswich.

Mr Theodosius concluded his report by expressing appreciation to his fellow Councillors for their efforts on behalf of the Parish and to the Clerk Mrs Seager. It was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously, that the report be adopted.

The Chairman of the Friends of Bealings School asked for comments on a report in the local press indicating that all Primary Schools with two or less teachers would be subject to review within the next two years with a view to closure. The Chairman said that while no one would wish to lose the Village School, he asked Mr Bestow to comment on the report. Mr Bestow said that there were three priorities under which he considered the problems facing smaller schools. First, the best education, 2. Cost – and thirdly the effect on the village. He understood that the County Council had set out guide lines of a minimum of three full time teachers with a roll of at least 60 children. To achieve this target and ensure that Little Bealings Primary School remained open, he suggested that if other small schools with less facilities were closed, then those children might transfer to Bealings. Parents in the three Parishes which served the School should be encouraged to support it and the local M.P. Mr Gummer could also be asked to help – when more details were known and the facts and figures assembled. Mr Theodosius suggested that as the Ipswich Eastern Fringe Plan had indicated no major housing estates in Bealings, it was unlikely that there would be a sizeable population increase in the future. He suggested that the Friends of Bealings School collect as much information as possible and liaise with the Parish Council. This was agreed.

A horse rider asked whether it was known what the voltage of the railway line at the level crossing was as his horse had experienced an electric shock recently. The Chairman suggested that British Rail might be contacted.

A Parishioner asked if any action could be taken to lessen the danger for traffic at the junction of Holly Lane and The Street, near the Village Hall, which was now used as a bus stop. Mr Theodosius said that the bus timetable had just been received and would be discussed at the Council Meeting which would follow.

The Meeting closed with thanks to all those who had attended.

J. C. Theodosius  
Chairman  
30/3/87