

AUBOURN AND HADDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 1st April 2009 at 7pm
in Aubourn Enterprise Hall.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies from Mrs. Knott, PC Roberts and PCSO's Czjakowski and Boyle.

1.1. Present at the Meeting

Cllrs Mrs. P. Woodman MBE (Chairman), M. Coulson (joined during the meeting), N. Wetherill, D. Knott, County Councillor R. Phillips, District Councillor Sue Howe, 10 members of the public and the clerk.

2. POLICE REPORT

The clerk had received a report from the police that there had been 11 offences in Aubourn and Haddington during the year which was a decrease on 2008/9 when there were 15 crimes. Out of the 11 offences, 5 had been detected. There were no crimes reported during March 2009. A Neighbourhood Watch meeting was being arranged for 6pm on Thursday 11th June 2009 in the Enterprise Hall.

Cllr. Mrs Woodman reported that the police had attended all of the Parish Council meetings during the year and had been monitoring Dovecote Lane, Haddington and speeding in the villages.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

These were read, agreed by the meeting and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Dog fouling was reported as a problem at the meeting and residents were asked to report any incidents that they had witnessed to NKDC.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

The clerk gave a summary of the financial position of the Parish Council and the parishioners were given a copy of the accounts for the last financial year 2008/09. This was proposed, seconded and accepted as a true record by the meeting.

6. REVIEW BY THE CHAIRMAN

Cllr. Mrs. Woodman reported that highways matters continued to dominate the Councils work during the year. New village gateway signs had been erected and the Speedwatch initiative resulted in many warning letters being sent to speeding motorists on the Harmston Road. Dog fouling was another area which the Council had tried to address in 2008/9 with the installation of a new dog waste bin. The Clock Tower had been opened during the summer of 2008 and the parish council held a successful Coffee Morning in aid of the Lincs. & Notts. Air Ambulance in December. The Clock Tower lightning conductor had been repaired, heater guards provided and an electric urn purchased for the Community Room. Cllr. Mrs Woodman told the meeting that Lincoln Co-op Monumental Masons had quite unexpectedly offered to clean the War Memorial free of charge and this had recently been completed. She suggested that the villages should re-start a poppy collection in aid of the British Legion. Cllr. Mrs Woodman thanked Grace Smith for repainting the water pumps, A. Ogg for grass cutting, Tony Kullich for acting as Internal Auditor, Don Whitlam for litter picking and Tony Goddard for keeping the area near the Dovecote tidy. She also thanked the councillors and the clerk for all their support during the year.

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7. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr. Phillips reported on the funding provided for new fire appliances and stations during the year, Highways matters including the Eastern Bypass project, the reduction in the Library Service in the rural communities and the new waste recycling plant.

Parishioners raised concerns about the condition of the roads in Aubourn and Haddington and the numbers of vehicles using the C103. There was a suggestion to provide some traffic calming near to the playground area on Chapel Lane.

Cllr. Phillips was thanked for his attendance and he left the meeting.

Cllr. Malcolm Coulson joined the meeting.

8. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR MRS. SUE HOWE – NORTH KESTEVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Cllr. Mrs. Howe reported that NKDC had been recognised as one of the best planning authorities in the country and that it had been given the Investors in People award. There were a number of initiatives that had been launched during the year by NKDC – Wheels to Work, local training facilities in conjunction with Job Centre Plus and from 1st April free swimming for under 16's and over 60's.

10. SPEAKER – BEN SHEPHERD OF LIVES WITHAM GROUP

Mr Shepherd provided an overview of the work of LIVES and how the group of responders operate in our area. The Cluster group of parishes had recently provided funding to set up a group based in Bassingham which would cover the villages of Aubourn and Haddington. Mr Shepherd was co-ordinating the setting up of the new group and thanked the Council for the funding. More volunteers were required to assist in the running of this new group and this would be advertised in the Witham Staple.

Cllr. Mrs Woodman thanked Mr Shepherd and the parishioners for coming and declared the meeting closed at 8.20pm.