

**DEBENHAM PARISH COUNCIL – summary of the annual meeting held Monday 17 May 2010**

A further vacancy has occurred on the Council with the resignation of Mr Gerry Baxter. Gerry has had a long association with the council and his input will be greatly missed. We understand however that he has other commitments, we thank him for his work on behalf of the community and wish him well in his future interests.

Lynne Cockerton was elected Chair and Frankie Winrow-Giffin Vice Chair. With the most recent resignation, we are now a parish council of eight members with five vacancies. It is important the Council is well represented within the village and as such we are keen to fill the remaining vacancies. With parish council elections looming in May next year, now would be an ideal time for interested parishioners, 18 years and over, to familiarise themselves with parish council work.

The next Council/Police Surgery on July 3, 10.30am – 12noon at Dove Cottage would be an ideal opportunity to discuss this with existing councillors on an informal basis, please call in if you are passing.

A number of parishioners attended the May meeting: Mr Lynden Jackson reported on progress and the future aims for the Debenham Project; a resident voiced concerns over highway and traffic matters, particularly the increase in heavy goods vehicles through the village, these will be forwarded on to County Highways for comment and in response to recent publicity concerning allotments and the growing waiting list, a parishioner requested action on providing additional allotment plots and we are looking into ways this might be achieved.

The website polling question on public transport services only received a total of 57 votes, compared with the skatepark poll which received 216. 35% say that public transport services are ‘very good, good or adequate’; 60% say services are ‘poor or very poor’; 5% have ‘no opinion’. Thank you to all those who responded, the survey findings will be forwarded on to Suffolk County Public Transport to assist them with their survey.

We have entered the Village of the Year Competition 2010 open to Villages with up to 3000 on the electoral roll. The competition is not just about pretty villages but has much emphasis on community spirit and we thank Cllr Kevin Voller for preparing the lengthy entry papers.

Date of next meetings : Monday 14 June (planning/finance)  
Monday 21 June (ordinary)  
Saturday 3 July (Police/Parish Surgery at Dove Cottage – 10.30am – 12 noon.