

MINUTES of the THIRTY THIRD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SWANSCOMBE & GREENHITHE TOWN COUNCIL held at the THE COUNCIL OFFICES, THE GROVE, SWANSCOMBE on THURSDAY 15 MAY 2014 at 7.00 PM

PRESENT:

- Councillor Ms L M Cross
- Councillor K G Basson
- Councillor Mrs S P Butterfill
- Councillor P M Harman
- Councillor P C Harris
- Councillor Ms L C Howes
- Councillor R J Lees
- Councillor Mrs C K Openshaw
- Councillor B R Parry
- Councillor B E Read
- Councillor P J Scanlan

ALSO PRESENT:

- Mrs M Bull – Friends of Swanscombe Heritage Park
- Mrs B Bobby – Friends of Swanscombe Heritage Park
- Mrs A Duke – Walk Tall / St Peter & St Paul Church
- Mr M Munn – Age UK North West Kent
- Mr W Unsworth - KCC Community Warden, Swanscombe
- Ms C Bates – KCC Community Warden, Greenhithe
- Mr J Norman – 1st Galley Hill Scouts Group
- Nr J Marsh – 1st Galley Hill Scouts Group
- PCSO Stephen Howard – Kent Police
- Police Constable – Rob Payne – Kent Police
- Police Sergeant Sarah Tyler – Kent Police
- Mr S Newton – Cambria Sea Scouts
- Ms S Barden – Northfleet & Ebbsfleet Lions
- Mr D Mote – Greenhithe & Swanscombe Royal British Legion
- Ms G North - Greenhithe & Swanscombe Royal British Legion
- Mr D Mote – Greenhithe Community Association
- Mr C Cross – Istead Rise Bowls Club
- Mr C Hester – WW1 Swanscombe (online memorial)
- Ms L Jackaman – Ebbsfleet Academy KCC Youth Leader
- Ms M Dabb – Advice Service Dartford
- Ms K Milton – Senior Citizens Lunch Club
- 8 x members of the public
- Graham Blew – Town Clerk
- Rebecca Rawlings – Administration Assistant

ABSENT:

- Councillor A Harvey
- Councillor Mrs A R Harvey
- Councillor J B Harvey

1. TOWN MAYORS INTRODUCTION.

The Town Mayor, Councillor Ms L M Cross, welcomed everybody to the 33rd Annual Town Meeting. She explained that it was a meeting whereby reports from the three main committees of the Council were given and it was also an opportunity for the electorate and members of the public to ask questions of Councillors and give reports from their local organisations.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors' Ms L M Hall (other commitments), J M Harman (work commitments), J A Hayes (DBC Meeting), V Openshaw (other commitments), Mrs I A Read (unwell) and PA Read (work commitments).

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 09 MAY 2013.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 May 2013 were approved and signed as a true record.

4. REPORT OF THE RECREATION, LEISURE AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE.

The Chairman of the Recreation, Leisure and Amenities Committee; Councillor K G Basson gave a report as follows:

On behalf of the Recreation, Leisure & Amenities Committee the Chairman thanked the Town Clerk and the administration team for all their efforts throughout the previous year which had enabled the following works to be successfully completed.

SWANSCOMBE PARK.

Councillor K G Basson informed that the public bowling green had received accolades from the users and had had remedial work undertaken to the playing surface and the path around the green.

Unfortunately SwanscombeDowns Bowls Club were unable to continue operating due to a lack of members and the Town Council are maintaining the green they used until an appropriate use for this area is agreed.

Councillor K G Basson informed that regrettably the Workshop and Store Room within Swanscombe Park were victims of several incidents of criminal damage and thefts during the last year which had resulted in the Town Council (with a heavy heart) having to take steps to reduce the likelihood of these types of incidents re-occurring.

Councillor K G Basson was pleased to be able to advise that, on a much more positive note, to help commemorate the centenary of WW1 the 12m flag pole had been re-instated to its former glory and this was undertaken in time to enable us to fly the flag of St George on 23 April 2014. Armed Forces Day would also be celebrated on 28 June as well as the Centenary of WW1.

MANOR PARK.

Councillor K G Basson informed that the Town Council had invested a considerable sum of money to enable the upgrade of a large piece of play equipment.

HERITAGE COMMUNITY HALL AND COUNCIL OFFICES COMMUNITY HALL.

Councillor K G Basson reported that both the halls continued to be used on a daily basis by a pre-school and had seen an increase in the regular use by a variety of organisations in the evenings and at weekends.

Councillor K G Basson advised that the Heritage Community Hall had recently encountered issues with radiators flooding and damaging the flooring but that this had been dealt with and a new, more appropriate, floor covering had been installed.

OLD FIRE STATION COMMUNITY CAFÉ.

Councillor K G Basson informed that the Community Café had continued to operate successfully and that the Council were proud to be working in partnership with the Citizens Advice Bureau in ensuring that this much needed service was regularly available in the Town for free Advice Service Dartford surgeries (every first and third Wednesday of the month between 11am and 1pm).

It was also hoped that the KCC Community Wardens would again hold their regular surgeries in the facility as these had proved to be very successful in the past.

CHILDREN'S SUMMER ENTERTAINMENT.

Councillor K G Basson was pleased to announce that the summer entertainment, provided by the Town Council, in the parks, including fun cricket, puppet shows etc. had again proved to be a huge success and had been attended and enjoyed by large numbers of the community.

The Town Council had worked in partnership with the KCC Member for Swanscombe and Greenhithe and this had resulted in additional entertainment being scheduled to be provided by the Town Council this year (to include a petting zoo!). Dartford Borough Council have also arranged to put on entertainment in the Town Council's parks (look out for the adverts/posters coming shortly).

TREES.

Councillor K G Basson informed that to encourage and assist with improving the environment the Town Council had obtained and planted;

- 207 assorted trees
- 18 assorted hedges,

Once these have further matured they will be planted in both Swanscombe & Greenhithe.

LEISURE CENTRE.

Councillor K G Basson advised that the Leisure Centre's popularity continued to grow and it had been awarded a mark of "Highly Commended" by a recent Quest Assessment. The centre had undergone a fantastic upgrade/refurbishment and continued to be a very popular and successful asset for the Town.

SWANSCOMBE AND GREENHITHE PARKS.

Councillor K G Basson informed that the Town Council had increased the amount of football pitches being used by 2 which meant that there was now 3 full size and 3 mini pitches available and that these were extremely popular with 6 senior teams and 11 junior teams playing approximately 180 football games over the course of the season. The cricket square had also received excellent feedback from the 2 teams that used it on alternate weekends and this too saw 20 matches being enjoyed.

The Town Council's 7 children's play areas and 4 large parks continued to be well used and enjoyed by the residents and visitors of the town and were well tended by the Parks Dept. It was felt that it was often overlooked how fortunate Swanscombe and Greenhithe was to have such a large wonderful expanse of open spaces and play areas within a busy Town.

ST PETER & ST PAULS CHURCHYARD.

Councillor K G Basson informed that the Town Council were responsible for maintaining the churchyard and wall. Unfortunately it had been necessary for the wall to have repairs undertaken due to anti-social behaviour but the Town Council had received many compliments regarding the appearance of the churchyard over the last year.

LITTER PICK.

The meeting heard how Dartford Litter Pickers had organised a community litter pick in Swanscombe on 12 April where approximately 20 volunteers (including Town and borough councillors) collected over 50 large bin liners of litter and fly tipping from Pilgrims Road.

Unfortunately the Town, like many other areas nationally, experienced anti-social behaviour regarding dog fouling. The Town Council gives out free dog fouling bags and also supplies, and empties, 22 dog fouling bins throughout its open spaces and also supplies and empties 37 litter bins on a daily basis.

CAR PARKS.

Councillor K G Basson informed that the 2 free car parks provided by the Town Council continued to be utilised by the residents and visitors and the Town Council were proud to be a parish within Dartford that provides this much needed facility to help with the already congested roads.

GENERAL.

Councillor K G Basson advised that the Town Council had been liaising with the Royal British Legion and as a result the Parks Department would soon be planting poppy seeds throughout the Town as part of the Royal British Legion's "The Real Poppy Campaign".

Councillor K G Basson then gave an opportunity to receive questions from those in attendance.

5. REPORT OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE.

The Chairman of the Finance & General Purposes Committee; Councillor B E Read gave a report as follows:

DONATIONS.

Councillor B E Read informed that the Town Council had made donations to local organisations including the Friends of the Swanscombe Heritage Park, Ingress Park Management Family Fun Day, Citizens Advice Bureau and Istead Rise Bowls Club.

Councillor B E Read informed that the Town Council continues to support 2 pre-school organisations that use the Town Council's Community halls on a daily basis.

INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL AUDITS.

Councillor B E Read informed that the Town Council had received a glowing report from the internal and external Auditor who was extremely complimentary on the professionalism and diligence of the Council, its Administration team and the way it is operated. The internal audit report had been upgraded from "a very *good* standard" to "a very **high** standard" which the internal auditor confirmed he had only ever used once previously (from approximately 60 parish councils he audits).

OLD FIRE STATION COMMUNITY CAFÉ.

Councillor B E Read informed that the Community Café was supported by the Town Council for the use of residents and visitors of the Town. The free Advice Service Dartford information available are extremely important for residents to be able to gain free advice when needed.

COUNCIL TAX RATES.

Councillor B E Read informed that the Town Council had, through prudent financial planning, been able to freeze its part of the Council Tax for the current year whilst all but One of the boroughs other parishes had increased theirs. This was achieved not only during a difficult financial climate but also after the Town Council had been the victim of several break-ins or attempted break-ins.

The Council had worked hard to keep its share of the Council Tax as low as possible over the years and were still of the opinion that the breadth of services and facilities on offer to residents represented excellent value for money.

Councillor B E Read then gave an opportunity to receive questions from those in attendance.

6. REPORT OF THE PLANNING, MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS, TRANSPORTATION & THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE.

Chairman of the Planning, Major Developments, Transportations & the Environment Committee; Councillor B E Read outlined the Town Councils role as a planning consultant and gave the following report:

PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

Councillor B E Read informed that the Town Council had been consulted on, and submitted observations on approximately 111 planning applications in the last year. He advised that this process allowed the Town Council to forward/relay the aspirations of local people on to the Planning Authority and Kent County Council.

Councillor B E Read informed that the Town Council was aware the Government had plans for a Garden City at Ebbsfleet which was in the boundaries of Swanscombe. He advised this would require a lot of work to ensure the infrastructure of the area was sufficient for the proposed developments.

Councillor B E Read informed that the Town Council worked alongside Kent County Council and residents regarding Kent County Council's Safe and Sensible Lighting scheme and the Town Council was one of the first Councils to write to Kent County Council informing them of its concerns.

Councillor B E Read advised that the Town Council had been working closely with Dartford Borough Council on the parking controls in Greenhithe Village.

The Town Council was expecting to be involved in several large applications in the coming year with consultations being undertaken with the likes of the proposed Paramount Theme Park and Ebbsfleet Valley and also smaller applications like the old Empire site (back of Knockhall Road, Greenhithe). It had recently been announced that Eric Pickles MP had given the Paramount Theme Park “national importance” status which would mean that it would not go through the usual planning process but be dealt with directly by the Secretary of State.

Councillor B E Read then gave opportunity to receive questions from those in attendance.

7. REPORTS OF LOCAL ORGANISATIONS.

KENT POLICE.

PCSO S Howard introduced himself as the new PCSO, he advised that he had been doing a lot of work behind the scenes investigated the burglars in the area and he had been on patrol to help with Anti-Social Behaviour.

PC R Payne advised that he was the named officer for Swanscombe, Greenhithe, Castle and Stone. He aimed to deal with community issues and crime. He informed that the crime levels in Swanscombe were the same as last year, he said that crime happens in one hit then the Town has minimal crime for a while then a large bulk of crime occurs. He informed that Greenhithe has the same kind of trend.

PC Payne advised that motorbikes are still an issue in the Town especially on the Heritage Park. He also confirmed the parking on the “zig zag” lines outside the shops on the High Street in Swanscombe was being patrolled.

PC Payne advised that the Police were trying to set-up Neighbourhood Watch Groups in the Town and were also trying to set up a “shop-watch” group so the shops in the Town could join together to reduce crime.

PC Payne advised the Police were holding surgeries and attending community events as well as organising a crime prevention day at the allotment site in Keary Road.

WALK TALL.

Mrs A Duke advised that it had been a very tough year as Walk Tall had changed its set-up and were now organised into 3 main areas: Art, Education and Therapeutics. Walk Tall have been holding an arts industry group for job seekers which was mainly attended by graduates and post graduates and was very popular.

Mrs Duke advised that they had won an award from the Kent Messenger as Dartford and Gravesham Charity of the Year, and were extremely really proud of this award.

The counselling work was going from strength to strength and they now had 21 counsellors helping children aged from 4 – 18 years. This was a free service and there was also a low cost adult service which ran throughout the week and was Walk Talks most popular non-funded service.

Mrs Duke advised that Walk Tall, along with Townm Councillor Ms L C Howes and Mr Christoph Bull, were involved with the Swanscombe and Greenhithe Great World War 1 Memorial project and that this involved looking at the 3 memorials in the area. Walk Tall would also be involved with both the Dartford Festival and the ever popular Ingress Park Family Fun Day. Walk Tall now has 4 new trustees and were working with the Greenhithe and Swanscombe Royal British Legion and the World War 1 commemorative project.

Finally, Mrs Duke thanked the Town Mayor, Town Council and the community for all their support and encouragement.

GREENHITHE & SWANSCOMB ROYAL BRITISH LEGION.

Mr D Mote advised that the Greenhithe & Swanscombe Royal British Legion had over 500 members of the club and were almost at their maximum level; although ex-service personnel were always welcome as members.

Mr Mote advised the hall at the Club was used by a number of community organisations on a regular basis and as a polling station when required. The Club were currently in talks with Knockhall Primary School and nursery trying to arrange for parents with pushchairs to park in the Club car park and walk around to the school as this was hoped to ease congestion around the School area. It was hoped this arrangement would be reciprocated to allow additional parking when the Club held large events. Mr Mote informed that Club had also recently affiliated themselves with the Dartford Shed Project, an organisation for ex-service men.

Mr Mote advised that last year the government had adopted the RBL's Real Poppy Campaign as part of their national activities to mark the centenary of World War 1 and that members of the Greenhithe & Swanscombe RBL had attended 10 Downing Street to meet the Prime Minister regarding this initiative which had been rolled out nationwide.

Mr Mote advised the meeting that on Saturday 28 June the Club would be celebrating Armed Forces Day and that the Club would also be supporting the Ingress Park Family Fun Day on Saturday 10 August 2014.

FRIENDS OF SWANSCOMBE HERITAGE PARK (FOSHP).

Mrs M Bull explained to the meeting that Friends of Swanscombe Heritage Park were a small group of volunteers who aimed to attract more people to visit and use the Heritage Park. Mrs Bull advised that the group holds 4 annual events; the Back To School Party, the Easter Egg Hunt, the Teddy Bears Picnic and the Halloween Disco.

Mrs Bull advised that unfortunately the Easter Egg Hunt had to be cancelled this year due to the Heritage Hall being flooded. During the last year the Friends had decided to purchase a new willow tree which had been planted in the play area within the Heritage Park with the help of the late Councillor, Mr Les Bobby.

AGE UK NORTH WEST KENT.

Mr M Munn informed the meeting that the Swanscombe Oast House had now closed and that all the residents who attend the centre other than 1 person had been attending the Dartford or Gravesend Centres and were very happy, to help reduce costs smaller transportation was being arranged.

Mr Munn advised that Age UK NWK were organising a meal a day to ensure the elderly were receiving a proper meal. Age UK NWK were also involved with respite care for those affected by dementia.

NORTHFLEET AND EBBSFLEET LIONS CLUB.

Mrs Barden introduced herself as a member of Northfleet and Ebbsfleet Lions Club and informed that the Lions club had supported many organisations including Kasbah, Women's Aid and the 1st Galley Hill Scouts group.

Mrs Barden said the Lions club were now concentrating on a new project called "Message in a bottle" which was designed to help emergency services who attend someone's home to gain access to the person's medical details quickly.

ISTEAD RISE BOWLS CLUB.

Mr C Cross thanked the Town Council for its help with the bowls pavilion funding and also acknowledged the high standard the Council maintained the green to and thanked the council for this. The Club continued to operate successfully but acknowledged that it needed promoting to gain new members.

WW1 SWANSCOMBE.

Mr C Hester advised the meeting that the WW1 Swanscombe was an online memorial project to the men of Swanscombe killed during the First World War. He said the project went live in September 2013 and the website has had over 7,700 visitors. The memorial attempts to tell the story of the men who were born &/or lived in Swanscombe and

originally started with just over 100 names. Ongoing research has identified a number of new names that have also been added to the site and the total now stands at 163. The site also has a twitter feed which has 352 followers which included the Imperial War Museum, the BBC Great War project and other WW1 historians.

Mr Hester also advised that it is envisaged that the website will soon incorporate an interactive map showing addresses relevant to each man i.e. home address, place buried or remembered and from the 4th August 2014 there will also be a section to remember each man as the 100th anniversary of their death occurs. Mr Hester also informed that this project is an official partner of the Imperial War Museum's centenary project and has been approached by Gareth Johnson MP to assist with the production of a Great War centenary book for children of the Dartford Borough.

Lastly Mr Hester thanked the Town Council and especially Mr Graham Blew, the Town Clerk, for their continued assistance and support.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL COMMUNITY WARDENS.

The Local Community Warden covering Greenhithe, Ms C Bates introduced herself and the new warden covering Swanscombe, Mr W Unsworth. Ms Bates advised that she assisted with local schools, and Social Services, in getting to the actual source of the problem and that these issues once revealed can be of a very sensitive nature.

Ms Bates advised that as Community Wardens they try to be available, visible and helpful as often as possible within the community, working closely with a wide range of other agencies to provide the best service possible. She said some of the early part of this year was taken up with their involvement in emergency planning issues across the County due to the inclement weather, flooding and all the associated issues.

Ms Bates advised that by them attending local group meetings across the age spectrum, Sure Start, Youth Groups, Elders Groups they were able to build relations and a rapport with those most likely to require help and assistance. The Community Wardens had received training/induction on a number of issues recently including Vulnerable Persons in the Community, Being Dementia Friendly.

The Community Wardens new project was to be able to set up Neighbourhood Watch Groups in the Town.

Mr Unsworth introduced himself and informed that he had already been involved in issues to do with Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), neighbour disputes, fly tipping and community payback. Mr Unsworth has also been regularly attending the Senior Citizens Lunch Club so he could engage with this particularly section of the community.

CAMBRIA SEA SCOUTS.

Mr S Newton introduced himself to the meeting as Scout Leader for the Cambria Sea Scouts, who are based in Dartford and Greenhithe. He advised that they are the only sea scouts group in the area and that during the last year the group had doubled their amount of scouts and explorers, he explained that this was partly to do with the help of the Dartford Locality Board "Involving Young People" grant which had enabled the Sea scouts to promote their group.

Mr Newton advised that now that the lighter evenings were here the Sea Scouts had resumed boating again on a Friday night. This year the Sea Scouts had 6 new sailing dinghies (funded partly by the Masons) which were proving to be a great success with the children, as well as new lifejackets and new VHF radios (possible through funding by Kent County Council Members Grant and to Laing O'Rourke).

Mr Newton advised the meeting that the sea scouts had been presented with an award from the Thames Heritage Trust for the most outstanding volunteer project along the River Thames, the project in question was the construction of the boathouse in 2013. Mr Newton said this was a huge award for the group and it was fantastic to see their efforts recognised in this way.

Mr Newton thanks the Town Council for their continued support and acknowledged the assistance given by the Town Council to the Sea Scouts.

Mr Newton advised that the Sea Scouts had their annual raft race last June which was a huge success as the weather was on their side with the raft race being scheduled to be held on Saturday 28 June 2014 this year.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – YOUTH WORKER.

Ms L Jackaman advised the meeting that she was based at Ebbsfleet Academy and she ran the youth group in the school on a Tuesday and Thursday which includes a young people's hub and a drop in group.

Mr Jackaman advised that they run a number of projects covering a variety of issues including healthy eating, health and wellbeing, disability and discrimination, etc. She informed that some of the projects that have been run include addressing anger and behavioural issues, positive relationships, friendship issues, vulnerable girls, self-esteem and confidence boosting. Mr Jackaman informed that she was supporting young people back into school and offering a rapid English programme for some students. Mrs Jackaman informed that the group had funded a summer scheme called "Happy Days" during the summer holidays last year which had been very successful and it was hoped that this project could be funded again this year.

Mr Jackaman advised that the past year has been challenging yet rewarding and she hopes to continue to work with the people of Swanscombe and the surrounding areas.

GREENHITHE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION.

Mr D Mote advised the meeting that the Greenhithe Community Association ran the busy Greenhithe Community Centre, Alexander Road, Greenhithe. The centre was an important local facility that has many regular users such as a pre-school, cubs and beavers, Local Councillors' surgeries and many other local organisations / groups.

Mr Mote advised that over the last few years the Greenhithe Community Association had arranged for new double glazing to be fitted in the building, all the toilet facilities had been upgraded and, through a donation by a local firm, the lighting in the hall had been upgraded to modern LED lighting and the whole hall has been repainted and protected from damage. Mr Mote said the association had also had a complete kitchen refurbishment and the area of the car park which was over grown had now been cleared by the community payback team and the area has been block paved to provide almost double the amount of parking available. Funding was gained from Kent County Council and Dartford Brought Council to assist with the refurbishment programme.

Mr Mote advised that the Association is run by a small group of trustees and these trustees had attended a "Trustee training workshop" and the Greenhithe Community Association was a member of community matters and Action with communities in Rural Kent (ACRE).

SWANSCOMBE TIGERS FOOTBALL CLUB.

Councillor K G Basson spoke as Chairman of Swanscombe Tigers FC. Councillor Basson advised they had been running since 1986 and were a leading youth football club within the borough.

Councillor Basson reported that the Football Club worked in the community for the residents of the Town and had many youth teams and ability teams which were becoming even more popular. Councillor Basson informed that funding had been received from the local Kent County Councillor to enable the continued success of the club and that the Club had continued to make donations to Bosnia and Ghana of its old kits.

Councillor Basson stated that the club would continue to fly the flag for Swanscombe and had again had great success with the International Women's Day tournament organised and run in partnership with Town Councillors Mrs S P Butterfill and Ms L C Howes.

1st GALLEY HILL SCOUT GROUP.

Mr J Marsh advised that the Group catered for young people from 5 to 14 year olds with three sections; Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. Mr Marsh was pleased to report that numbers had increased over the last year and new members were always welcome. The Group had been involved in several camps in the last year which had proved very successful.

The Group had gained funding from Northfleet and Ebbsfleet Lions club, St Peter and St Pauls Church, Swanscombe, Kent County Councillor Mr P M Harman and the Town Council and local businesses which had been used to purchase new kit for camp and a kitchen refurbishment had taken place.

The Group had continued with their friendship groups and had enjoyed exchanging letters and badges, talking on the internet and learning of their different experiences, and would definitely be keeping in touch. The Group would be involved in the parade at the Ingress Park Family Fun Day on Saturday 28 June 2014.

Mr Marsh thanked the Town Council for all the help and assistance given over the last year.

KENT COUNTY COUNCILLOR (KCC) MEMBER REPORT.

Councillor P M Harman started by informing the meeting that he had now been the KCC member for a year and represented Swanscombe, Greenhithe and Castle. Councillor P M Harman advised that he was on several committees at Kent County Council including the Planning Regulations and the Appeal Panel for School Transportation.

Councillor P M Harman advised that he had been taking up the comments from residents regarding the Safe and Sensible Street Lighting Scheme especially the consultation and had been gaining peoples view.

Councillor P M Harman advised he had been involved in many highway issues including School Drop-off Points, to ease school congestion, Ingress Park Parking issues as well as Orchard Road and Alma Road Swanscombe access issues for dust carts and emergency services.

Councillor P M Harman advised he had supported many local organisations by providing funding from his Members Community Grant including Swanscombe Tigers FC , The Swanscombe and Greenhithe Community Pavillion, the Town Council's Children's Summer Entertainment, Stone Parish Council's Children's Summer Entertainment, WW1 project, Walk Tall and the Ingress Park Family Fun Day.

Councillor P M Harman advised that he felt that Neighbourhood Watch Groups were very important and that he would be supporting and assisting in the setting up of these initiatives.

INGRESS PARK FAMILY FUN DAY .

Councillor Mrs S P Butterfill reminded the meeting that there would be another Ingress Park Family Fun Day on 10 August 2014, and that she hoped that Councillors and the community would again turn up to support the event with any assistance offered being gratefully received.

Councillor Mrs S P Butterfill informed that to mark the WW1 centenary there would be a parade at the beginning of the Family Fun Day from the entrance to Ingress Park down to the Ingress Abbey.

The Swanscombe and Greenhithe Residents Association have shown their support for this event in the past and the Greenhithe & Swanscombe RBL were involved this year. Councillor Mr S P Butterfill re-iterated that the fun day was not just for the residents of Ingress Park or Greenhithe but the wider community too.

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORT.

Councillor D Mote advised that Dartford Grammar School's catchment area had been amended so that it now included Swanscombe, Greenhithe and Longfield which was good for the local area and for the children of the local area.

The Town Mayor, Councillor Ms L M Cross closed the meeting by thanking all those present for attending and for all that they did for the community of Swanscombe and Greenhithe

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 9.05 pm

Signed (Chairman)