

Felsted Annual Report 1997

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST IN 1997:

➔ April 1997

Alms Houses Up in Smoke

➔ April & May 1997

Felsted Parish Council Meeting

Felsted Annual Report 1997

Almshouses Up in Smoke



Almshouses in FELSTED, was under threat after a fire broke out from the roof and left seven brave elderly women including two in wheelchairs homeless. Six fire engines came out to control the fire and rescue the women to safety.

A local man who dialled '999' reported the fire, before running back with extra helpers from the Chequers, as the fire was spreading quickly and the roof was collapsing from the centre of the Almshouses. All seven women were taken to the Chequers for comfort and were given hot drinks until they were found places to sleep for the night. The following morning workmen carried out repairs and an investigation took place as the cause of the fire was unknown.

16TH CENTURY ALMSHOUSES, FELSTED PRIOR THE FIRE



FOUNDED IN 1565 BY RICHARD LORD RICH &
REBUILT IN 1878

Felsted Parish in April 1997

FELSTED PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

OF THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY OF FELSTED

Held on 25th April 1997 at 8.00 p.m. in THE MEMORIAL HALL

Present: Chairman Mr. B. A. Grimshaw, Mr. J. McIvor Animal Warden for Uttlesford District Council, the Clerk and 20 members of the public

Apologies were received from Mrs. P. Gant and Mr. R. G. Smith.

➔ **Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly**

held on the 26th April 1996 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

➔ **Dogs in the Environment -**

A very interesting and enlightening talk was given by Mr. J McIvor who was accompanied and ably supported by his own well trained dog, His main pre-occupation as animal warden for the District was with dogs, he said, but he also related some of his harrowing experiences with Red Deer, Swans, Ducks, Snakes, Badgers and others over the years. Bye-laws exist which prevent dog fouling of footpaths and verges by the roadside but they are difficult to impose on dog owners due to Court costs being considerably higher than any fines levied against the offenders, although this will change in the near future. Dog owners are wholly responsible for their animals (and their actions) whether barking, biting or fouling and should keep control at all times. Many Parishes install dog litterbins into which the dog handler places the excrement after collection. These bins are available from Uttlesford for around £50 but if none are available in the vicinity the package should be disposed of at home. Parks, playing fields and children's play areas are particularly vulnerable to the spread of disease by dog fouling and it is a public duty to ensure that dogs are kept on a lead when entering these areas.

➔ **Chairman's Report**

As circulated notes.

➔ **Clerks Financial Report**

As circulated Financial Statement and Summary.

➔ **Representatives Reports on other Bodies**

As circulated reports.

Felsted Parish in April 1997

➔ **Village Centre Traffic**

An open discussion on the merits of a Mini Roundabout at the Chelmsford Road junction ensued, with many speakers suggesting varying benefits of such a scheme for the Village centre. With the majority of the meeting in favour of investigating the legal requirements, such as lighting and parking restrictions, the Chairman stated the Councils intention to discuss the matter at a future monthly meeting.

➔ **Allotment Land**

Use of the grassed amenity area alongside the allotments was discussed. The benefits of this area could be lost to visitors unless there were signposts in the main street indicating its presence. Consideration would be given to planting more trees and shrubs to include a natural habitat in one corner section. The Chairman answered points of general interest.

Chairman..... 24th April 1998

Felsted Parish in May 1997

FELSTED PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
OF THE 813th MEETING HELD ON 7th MAY 1997
at 7.30 p.m. in THE MEMORIAL HALL

Present: Councillors B A Grimshaw (Outgoing Chairman), Mrs. P Gant, Mrs. L M Clark, G Bellingham-Smith, J Berry-Richards, M Collard, J Drury, D Gregory, J Holliday, R G Smith, A Warren and 5 members of the public.

- ➔ Mr B Grimshaw took the chair and asked for nominations from members for the post of Chairman for the ensuing year. Mr. M Collard was proposed by D Gregory and seconded by A Warren. The meeting was unanimous in electing Mr. M Collard as Chairman who took his seat to conduct the rest of the meeting.
- ➔ Mr. R G Smith was proposed as Vice Chairman by D Gregory and seconded by Mrs. L M Clark. The meeting was again unanimous and Mr. R G Smith accepted the proposal.
- ➔ Apologies for absence were received from the recently elected County Council member Mr. J Whitehead who had a pre-planned District Meeting.
The minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 9th April 1997 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.
- ➔ In matters arising from the above minutes, Mr. A Warren asked if a reply had been received from Gt. Waltham Parish Council. The Clerk answered in the affirmative and read out a letter from the Chairman of Gt. Waltham PC who indicated his co-operation in monitoring Chelmsford Districts views on the Sugar Factory development.
- ➔ The minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on April 25th 1997 were discussed and approved as a true record for presentation at the Annual Parish Assembly in May 1998.

Felsted Parish in May 1997

- ➔ Matters arising from the above minutes covered the public discussion period. The mini-roundabout was considered an important item for the June agenda, the Clerk was asked to contact the ECC Highways department to ascertain the legal requirements for lighting, and parking restrictions as the Council was minded to pursue this matter further. The Clerk was also asked to invite the Tree Warden for Felsted, Mr. J Norton, to the next meeting in order to discuss planting arrangements for areas of the community land alongside the allotments and to seek advice from the Animal Warden on the siting of Dog Litter Bins and signs to put before the next meeting.
- ➔ Minutes of the Planning meeting held on April 30th 1997 were discussed and approved as a true record.
- ➔ District Councillor, D Gregory, had little to report on the council's activities due to the General and County Council elections taking priority over major decision-making meetings.
- ➔ The Council was unanimous in its decision to appoint Mr. W R Clark (Parish Clerk) to the new position of Responsible Financial Officer being a statutory requirement of the Account and Audit Regulations 1996.
- ➔ Appointments and Confirmation of Representatives to the following:

Memorial Hall Committee	Mrs. L M Clark	Reappointed
Felsted United Charities	Mrs. P Gant	Confirmed to 2001
	B A Grimshaw	Confirmed to 1999
	J Berry-Richards	Confirmed to 1999
Botelers Education Trust	Mrs. P Gant	Reappointed to 2001
	M Collard	Reappointed to 2001
Governor-Felsted County Primary School	B A Grimshaw	Confirmed to 1999
Felsted & Ford End District Nursing Assoc.	Mrs. P Gant	Reappointed to 2001
Crix Green Trust	Chairman (M Collard)	Ex Officio
	J Berry-Richards	Confirmed to 1999
	D Gregory	Confirmed to 1999
Emergency Planning	J Drury	Reappointed
Dunmow Road Safety Advisory Committee	G Bellingham-Smith	Reappointed
Footpath Officer	B A Grimshaw	Reappointed
Tree Warden	J Norton (non-council)	Confirmed

Felsted Parish in May 1997

- It was agreed in principle to form a Planning committee and a Finance working party with the possibility of a General Purpose group to look at projects. These will be discussed at the June meeting when the appointment of members to each group will be determined.
- The Traffic Survey planned for week commencing 12th May had been well documented and names were being added to the list of volunteers daily. With 3 people required to man each of the 3 inter-sections at both 3-hour sessions each day, a total of 54 man hours would be applied each day. It was therefore decided to operate the survey on Monday and Friday with another day added if volunteers allowed. The Clerk would co-ordinate names and places for counting traffic.
- One planning application had been received. With others likely to arrive soon, it was decided to hold a planning meeting on the 21st May to view them at length.
- It was noted that planning permission had been granted to rebuild "Jacks Hatch" at Cobblers Green as a 2-storey house. UTT/0201/97/FUL refers.
- The Clerk had received one estimate for restoration work to the Green outside the Doctors Surgery at £2,350 but as District Council grants would not be available until later in the year, it was decided to postpone this project until September.
- Cornhill Insurance had sent a renewal notice for the Councils insurance policy due on 1st June 1997 showing a slight increase over 1996 premiums. There are additional items to be added to the policy and the Clerk was asked to proceed when an updated policy had been from Cornhill Insurance.
- Clerk's Matters

The following accounts were passed for payment:

£10.00	Bryan Rogers - Varnish and Emulsion for Notice Board
£109.69	Eastern Electricity Contracts - Public Lighting Maintenance for April
£17.10	Eastern Electricity - Sports Pavilion Electricity to April 17
£207.44	E.A.L.C. - Annual Subscription 1997/98
£138.65	Uttlesford D.C. - Supplying and erecting bollards at Chequers Green

Felsted Parish in May 1997

£75.00	Uttlesford D.C. - Rental for Ravens Crescent playing field
£158.15	Essex Landscape Services - Grass cutting village areas in April
£25.00	Petty Cash

- A letter from Felsted Memorial Hall requesting a grant towards proposed disabled toilets was referred to the Finance working party upon its formation in June. The Essex County Youth Service are asking for a suitable site in Felsted for their Mobile Youth Centre to run one evening each week throughout June, July, August and September. Referred to Memorial Hall committee for consideration. F.K.S. (Schools) Ltd was given permission to use the playing field for school photography on May 12th and May 21st for a helicopter landing, at their liability for both events.
- Parking at the end of Chequers Green slip road is causing problems to lorries serving the works at the Alms Houses; the Clerk will speak to the builders on this matter.
- Date of the next monthly meeting:
4th June 1997 in the Memorial Hall.
- Date of the next Planning meeting:
21st May 1997 in the Memorial Hall.

The meeting closed at 10.30 p.m.

Chairman.....4th June 1997