

## **Boxford Community Council Report for The Parish Meeting 28.05.2024**

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Report for the 12 months from January to December 2023.  
It was a very busy year for the Community Council.

We put on a Barn Dance and Race Night in February and March which went down very well and raised much needed funds for the Coronation Street Party in May.

We assisted again in the Bike Club's Tornado in April.

The Coronation Street Party on May 7<sup>th</sup> was a wonderful occasion. I must thank all the volunteers who helped on the day, as well as planning beforehand and clearing up after. It was truly a whole-village event. Thanks also to the Parish Council for their financial support – because of that, it made the whole event economically viable.

In June we provided tickets for the Boxford Friendship Group to go to the Music Hall.

The Fireworks were on October 28<sup>th</sup>. Once again the village and many others turned out in force, enabling us to make a worthwhile profit, and helping us to fund more organisations this year. Again, without the enormous force of volunteers, this would not be possible, so thank you to all of them.

Carols Around the Tree in December happened without a pub once again, but a good turn out nonetheless.

Financially we are in a good position and already this year we have given substantial grants to village organisations and hope for many more to come. Also as you have heard, the Boxford Bounty has rebranded and is being very successful. This is a vital source for our income and our thanks go to Mark Miller for organising it all and to all the volunteers who make it possible.

Looking forward, as well as the continuing work of the Boxford Bounty, our major event this year is the Fireworks. This will be on Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> and will be our first time up against the other displays in the area as it will be the Fireworks weekend. We judge our date depending on when the school half term falls as we want the children to be able to make their lanterns in the week leading up to the display. This year is the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Boxford Lanterns, which I am sure will be the biggest and best so far. With the Great Night Out being cancelled, we're hopeful of picking some visitors who otherwise not have come over to us. After a 4 year gap, we are also looking into reviving the Senior Citizens' outing. We will also be commemorating the 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day on Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> June. In line with villages around the country, we will be lighting the beacon at 9.15 p.m. We will be talking to the new owner of the White Hart to confirm any other events.

We have decided to streamline our Committee so that there are fewer Trustees. Much of our discussion in Executive meetings are on business matters which did not involve all, so we have streamlined it to Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, rep. from the Playing Fields, Parish Council, Bounty and BRN. We have said goodbye, therefore, to Alan Leeder, David Burden, Roger Molyneux,

Glyn Cooley and Colin Parr. I thank them all for all (in some cases – many years) of service, support and effort. We will be forming 'events' committees on an ad hoc basis for each event, chaired by Michael Waspe and I have no doubt they will be involved again.

Finally, I would like to thank all members of our committee for their support and hard work over the past year, along with countless volunteers, Boxford Parish Council, Bryn Hurren, and Babergh District Council.

We are still a vibrant community and I look forward to more people becoming involved in the future.

We are here to help other clubs and organisations, both practically and financially. We want to help. Thank you.