Chair’s report 210125

We start the year with great sadness having lost our long standing councillor Garry Deeks.

Garry worked tirelessly and diligently for the parish council for many many years. He has been both chair and more recently continued as a councillor. His contribution to the parish has been extensive. He has helped many individuals and groups in resolving problems and in creating new and exciting opportunities. For many years he was a governor at the school where his understanding of education helped the young people get a great education. Previously, as a headteacher over and beyond a standard education he took many children on wonderful exotic expeditions, engaged them in arts projects and encouraged them to be their best selves. His passion for gardening is left as a legacy in allotments and the garden at The Shed. At Christmas time he produced Christmas trees and in the autumn had wonderful supplies of gladioli.

Many of you will have fond memories of Garry and his contributions to Fressingfield.

A somewhat private man he has been battling a number of illnesses in the last few years. He finally succumbed in December, in hospital with his family around him.

His funeral is on 17th February at 2pm at the Parish Church, followed by a wake at the Baptist Chapel.

He is sorely missed.

For Information

We start the year anticipating much change in local government. Devolution is on the horizon. This means we will lose our District Council and instead will being working with a Unitary Authority. This will cover a larger area of Suffolk. We await with interest to understand the implications of the new strategic organisation. It is also likely that we will have a Mayor of Suffolk or even East Anglia.

There is much to be worked through and no doubt there will be transitional arrangements. However, let’s hope the bins still get collected, the roads mended and reasonable planning decisions are taken.

The NDP review Group are currently firming up the household survey which will be distributed soon to all households in the parish. Your responses will help shape any amendments we might make to the policies in the plan. These will then be consulted on with the parish.

The former chicken processing site , owned by Cranswick , in Weybread, is being redeveloped. There is an open drop –in meeting on 21st January in Weybread Village Hall 5-8pm. If you want to know more please go along. It is not going for housing but is going to some kind of chicken processing facility.

Di Warne, Chair Fressingfield Parish Council