

	went on to wish Pip and his wife Shirley a happy rest from this work. Cllr Bolton concluded his report by saying how much he had enjoyed his time as chairman and looked forward to giving his support to the new Chairman and the PC from the back benches.
6	<u>District Councillors Report – Mr Stephen Wright</u> Cllr Wright gave his report which covered the closure of the house hold waste site at Little Blakenham, which he felt was unlikely to reopen, the partial integration of staff between MSDC/Babergh which is going well, the SITA Incinerator at Great Blakenham where Cllr Wright is on the committee and keeping an eye on things. Cllr Wright also reported, hot off the press, that plans were being discussed for textiles to be collected from homes with the recycled rubbish bin collections, which would save money from landfill.
7	<u>Suffolk Constabulary – PC Tina Fairness</u> PC Tina Fairness gave her annual report advising that police officer levels were down to the same as 1981, a recruitment drive was now being advertised. In her report PC Fairness advised that it has been a year of change within the Mid Suffolk Neighbourhood team with Sgt Curtis retiring after 30 years, Sgt Paterson has taken up the reigns and PC Pursehouse has joined the team to replace PC Yeldham who has also left. Total crime figures for Offton were the same as last year however the split was different with 3 burglaries in 2012 only 1 in 2011. Total figures for Willisham had increased by one. PC Fairness had received complaints about motor bikes riding on foot paths and has spoken to one responsible youth and placed information in the Link magazine that these offences would be dealt with robustly. PC Fairness answered questions about the crime rate in our two villages and advised she felt it was slightly higher than other areas. She also advised she would be keeping an eye on traffic around the incinerator area in Great Blakenham.
8	<u>Anglican Churches – Rev Canon Bernard Rose</u> Rev Rose could not attend the meeting but had sent in a written report which Cllr Bolton read out. The report advised that both Churches continue to have a stable congregation throughout the year. Although it would be good to see larger congregations the feedback received is that the village church still holds an important position in many peoples lives. The animal service in July 2011 was well attended and an enjoyable time was had by both pets and their owners. Andrew and Paul Chaplin were thanked for their kind permission to use Rook Hill Farm for the service. Rev Canon Rose concluded by thanking everyone who contributes financially and physically to the care of the two churches and the organisers of special events for the church which include the fetes and open garden.
9	<u>Parish Plan – Cllr Nigel Coleman</u> Cllr Nigel Coleman presented his report on behalf of the Parish Plan Steering Group. The steering group were very pleased with the response rate which was around 70%, an excellent result. The analysis of the questionnaires has been completed by Suffolk Acre and an exhibition is planned for Saturday 14 th July in the village hall to enable resident s to view all the ideas put forward and help prioritise the issues raised. An action plan will be used by the PC too help take things forward.
10	<u>Village Recorders Report for Offton – Mrs S Pinson Roxburgh</u> Mrs Silke Pinson Roxburgh gave her report and recalled events over the past year which there were many including Consultation events with National Grid over proposed high voltage cables, Church fete, quiz evening, church supper, ‘voices together’ concert, special services of worship including songs of praise, harvest festival, remembrance service and Christmas services took place in the church. A senior citizens Christmas party took place in the new village hall which was officially opened on 15th October with Percy Thorpe having the honour of cutting the ribbon. The carpet bowlers who use the hall regularly are very pleased with the new venue and have had a recruitment drive for new members. Mrs Pinson Roxburgh also noted buzzards can now be frequently seen in the area and thought to be nesting in Middle Wood. The continued dry weather is a concern for both gardeners and farmers and despite

	<p>the wettest April on record a hose pipe ban has been enforced.</p> <p><u>Village recorders report for Willisham – Mrs Diane Hill</u></p> <p>Mrs Hill could not attend the meeting but had sent in a written report which was read by the Clerk. Mrs Hill has only recently taken up the title of recorder and put forward her ideas. Mrs Hill has inherited an audio tape made by SGR radio in 1994 and her husband Paul has managed to transfer the recording to his computer enabling this to be uploaded to the parish web site making it available for all to hear the recorded memories of some Willisham residents and growing up in the village. Mrs Hill asked if anyone currently living in the village would like to make a recording on growing up in Willisham or the war years, work, Jubilee's and celebrations to please let her know. There is also a video tape which needs to be looked at and if possible transferred to DVD. Mrs Hill has visited the record office in Ipswich and found some pictures of Willisham Hall in the 19th Century, others have been donated by Silke and are to be placed on the website for all to enjoy.</p>
11	<p><u>Village Hall Annual Report – Robin Derriman</u></p> <p>Mr Derriman was pleased to present his report following an extremely successful opening ceremony in October 2011 and thanked many of the Councillors for attending. Several events have been held in the hall including a barn dance, senior citizens Christmas lunch and some family events. A charity folk dance is planned as well as a community event for the Jubilee weekend. A canasta group has recently started and a possible dance class for youngsters as well as a coffee morning are to be trialled. A projector and screen have now been installed and a 'flicks in the sticks' evening is planned for the next two months. The bowls club who regularly use the hall are delighted with the venue and Mr Derriman thanked the Parish Council for their on- going support.</p>
11a	<p>Cllr Bolton read a report sent in by Dan Poulter, much of the report had recently been circulated via the Link magazine and Cllr Bolton advised that Dr Poulter has our interests at heart.</p>
12	<p><u>Parishioners questions</u></p> <p>Mrs Pinson Roxburgh asked the parish council to ensure that pressure be applied to keep on top of hedge and ditch maintenance. A previous letter sent to the health and safety executive had been referred back to Suffolk County Council. Cllr Pinson Roxburgh advised he would email Dr Dan Poulter re this issue and also asked PC Fairness if she could assist with the problem by reporting overgrown hedges that were dangerous.</p> <p>Mr Crickmore asked the PC if it was possible to create a parish email network where email addresses could be collected and residents kept up to date with village events. Cllr Cattermole advised that a data protection application would need to be registered. Cllr Bolton advised the PC would give some thought to this.</p> <p>Pip Sands thanked the chairman for his kind words.</p>