## **RENHOLD ANNUAL PARISH MEETING, 14th May 2013**

Not to be confused with the Renhold Parish Council AGM, the Annual Parish Meeting is the opportunity for the electors in Renhold to receive reports from the organisations in the parish. In previous years it was held immediately before the Parish Council AGM, but this year it was decided to make it an event in itself to see if this would generate more support. In the event 14 electors and 3 'guests' attended, and 4 people sent apologies.

In the Open Forum session questions were asked about the incidence of flooding at the rear of Brook Lane [the Parish Council will investigate], and about the new crash barrier on Wilden Road [there to protect the section of culvert that was not replaced recently].

Reports were then presented from the Parish Council [Ian Slater], Renhold Ladies Group [Yvonne Potter], Renhold W.I. [Diane Hill], the Lunch Club [Pam Aggett], the Police [PCSO Paul Jones], Community Speedwatch [Ian Slater], Neighbourhood Watch [Lynne Arch], the Sports Club [Ian McDougall], the Borough Council [Cllr Stephen Moon], the Village Magazine [Rod Jones], Good Neighbours [Rod Jones], Pride in Bedford [Albert Gurney], Renhold Charity [James Stapleton], and Renhold Chapel [Albert Browning]. Written reports were received from All Saints Church [Revd. Sarah Burrow] and the Village Hall Management Committee [Ernie Stewardson]. It would require too much space in the magazine to attempt to summarise the 16 reports, but all were interesting and generated questions and discussion and we learned much about our parish.

The meeting demonstrated the wide range of organisations in Renhold that are there for all residents to join and enjoy, whether from the village or the new Norse Road estates. Did you know that W.I. membership is open to men? Details of these and more organisations are published in each issue of the Village Magazine.

Closing the meeting, the Chairman thanked residents for attending, but commented that next it would be good to have more than 1 resident attend from the Norse Road estates, which increasingly house the largest part of the population of the parish.

The evening concluded with wine and nibbles courtesy of lan McDougall and Albert Gurney.

Ian Slater