

DUNHAM MASSEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PARISH COUNCIL held on Tuesday, 13th March 2012, at 8.00 pm in Dunham Massey Village Hall.

PRESENT:

Councillor David Priestner in the Chair

Syd Antrobus, James Bushell, , Mike Duckworth, Ron Hutchinson, Paul Lord, Sue Royle.

In attendance:

Trafford Councillors: Dr K Barclay,
Speaker: **David Eastwood**, Local historian
The Clerk: Kathleen Cozens

There were **25** electors present

Apologies for absence: **Parish Council:** Margaret Madden
Trafford Council: Sean Anstee, Michael Hyman
National Trust: Stephen Adams

- 1 To receive observations from Trafford Borough Councillors:** Councillor Karen Barclay reported that Trafford Council had to make £16M savings to balance the budget at the same time safeguarding services as much as possible. They intended to cut down on bureaucracy and will cap Council Tax at the same level as 2011. She had the interests of residents at heart and is in contact with the Council's officers to ensure a programme of work required in the Parish would be looked at over the year; Back Lane bridge safety, improving road surfaces, etc. would be given her full attention.
- 2 To consider resolutions of which written notice has been given.** There were none.
- 3 To receive David Eastwood**, Local historian. 'The Earl of Stamford'
The Chairman welcomed the speaker, who from 1981 had been a volunteer at Dunham Massey Hall. He had great respect and admiration for the Earl who had kept a daily diary from an early age, available from personal archives in the Rylands Library. The Earl was a fragile child and later suffered a nervous breakdown. He was 17 at the outbreak of the war. In 1916 became ADC to General Sir Francis Lloyd. At age 31 he took his seat in the House of Lords. At the end of the war he went to Switzerland and became fascinated by the League of Nations with which he was closely involved for 20 years. He was able to influence decision-making as his guests at frequent dinner parties included Ramsay Macdonald, Haile Salassi, Krups, the Russian ambassador and many other influential people. He entertained royalty when they visited Broadheath, whose engineering companies produced thousands of pieces of equipment for the war effort. In the 60s he saved Sinderland from becoming a massive Manchester overspill area. He never married. It was a unanimous decision, on his death, that as they had no experience of running a large estate and death duties amounted to £7million, the estate would go the nation. His presentation prompted several questions as many of those present had known the Earl in a personal capacity.
The Vice-Chairman, Mike Duckworth, proposed the vote of thanks.
- 4 To deal with any other business raised by a local government elector for this Parish.**
There was no other business raised.
The formal meeting closed at 9.15 pm and an excellent buffet was enjoyed provided by the Chairman