

WALPOLE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Walpole Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 11th of May 2022 from 6.30pm.

Present :

Councillors (members of the public) – Charles Boston, William Brooks, Adrian Eveleigh, Richard Blunt, Andy Bliss, Charlene Campion, David Lawty, Julian Kirk
Chairman – Richard Green
Clerk – Caroline Boyden
6 members of the Public

1. Welcome from Chairman
2. Apologies – Cllrs Smith & Blandford (both attended from 7pm)
3. To approve the minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on the 6th of May 2021
Proposed David Lawty, seconded Adrian Eveleigh and agreed as a true record of the meeting.
4. Chairman's Report:

First of all, I would like to thank all the Parish Councillors both old and new for the work that they have done over the past year. It is good that we have been able to resume face to face meetings as I think it is much easier to have a proper discussion with people face to face rather than over the internet.

Having said that, it has still been a difficult year with the Covid restrictions and now the war in the Ukraine which I think will make things difficult for us all in the foreseeable future. The Parish Council has had its own problems during the year which, I hope, have now been resolved and we can continue to serve the community as we have tried to do in the previous year.

We have had a lot of new homes built in the parish in the past couple of years so I do hope that the new parishioners will join in with our parish events and help out in the community.

As for myself as you are aware, I am not going to continue as Chairman. It has been difficult at times but I do much appreciate the councillors support over the years and hope that we can find a new Chairman who will be proactive and carry on the good work of the Parish council.

Richard Green.

5. Borough Councillor's Annual Report:

Planned activities were overtaken by Covid and supporting the vaccination programmes, along with the various funding, all of which were administered by the Borough Council Meetings & briefings have been difficult when held online. Most meetings are now recorded and available for viewing on YouTube. A lot of time and work has been spend on the Borough Council's response to the proposed Wisbech incinerator including the impact on local parishes and the lack of consultation. The decision on this project will be made by the Secretary of State and the Borough Council are only consultees in the process. The next step will be a two week notice for the planning application and we all need to

Signed :

Date :

respond as soon as possible. The application then goes to the Inspector to decide if enough information was given in the time etc., to make everyone aware. Then it goes to full planning permission. The Walpoles are in "plume" area as close to the location and a presentation should be made to parishioners.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) next application for projects will be in July. The Councillor Community Grant of £1000 is in place for this financial year to assist parish community events. There is also a Small Grants Scheme which requires match funding.

Two key points are the set-up of assistance for Ukrainian refugees and the change in fly tipping.

Richard Blunt

6. County Councillor's Annual Report:

Issues on Covid, online meetings etc., similar to the Borough Council. Staff working from home and moving meetings from County Hall to the Showground. Things slowly getting back to normal. £10m has been made available for major road works and we will be kept up to date. The 40mph speed limit on Market Lane has now been signed off and funding made available, with signage in place early in the summer 22.

Julian Kirk

7. Open Forum:

The footpath by the new houses on Church Road are considered to be dangerous at the moment and drainage work required checking and this is a County Council issue. Cllr Kirk will discuss this with Richard Smith. The access onto Church Road is in breach of the planning application and enforcement need to be chased. Clerk to include Cllr Blunt.

The state of the St. Andrews churchyard wall and the playground surface were raised and will be taken forward to the Parish Council meeting.

The green canopy project of planting trees for the Jubilee was also raised and Richard Green advised that he had planted several trees this year. William Brooks would like a replacement copper beech tree and Charlene Campion offered to find if available.

The meeting closed at 19.05

A report from the Norfolk Police was received – see separate page

Signed :

Date :