

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The minutes of the **Annual Parish Meeting** held at 7.00 pm on Monday 24th May 2021 in Westleton Village Hall.

Ian Haines
Clerk of the Council

There were 14 people in attendance

AGENDA

Chair for the Meeting

Paul Holmes in the Chair.

Apologies

Apologies were received from District Councillor Norman Brooks.

Minutes of the previous meeting

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 29th April 2019 were a true record.

Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising.

Annual report from District Councillor

No report in person.

Annual report from SCC County Councillor

Cllr R Smith had been re-elected for a further term at the recent County Council elections. It was noted that the Local Government Boundary Commission are intending to reduce the number of County Councillors from 75 to 70 and that under the proposals the existing Blything Division Electoral Ward will no longer exist.

A latest update was given about the Covid situation within Suffolk and praise extended to the work of the Saxmundham local health practice for their efforts with the vaccination rollout programme.

Cllr R Smith reinforced that the County Council intended to place greater priority and spend more on dealing with local highway flooding problems.

He also explained that he had taken part the previous week in Sizewell C Planning inspectorate online Open Floor hearing. The whole event had been recorded and anyone interested could view the proceedings.

A question was raised about a tree which had recently been felled on the B1125 and the Clerk undertook to furnish Cllr Smith with further information so that he could take this up. Cllr Smith also stated that he would make enquiries to establish if the Leiston Recycling Centre was likely to continue with the booking system currently in place.

The Parish Council took the opportunity to place on record their appreciation to Cllr Smith for his continued support.

Annual report from the Parish Council

Paul Holmes read from a written report summarising the main activities and work carried out by the Parish Council over the preceding 12 months. This has also been published on the Parish Council website.

Appreciation was paid to everyone in the village who had pulled together over the Covid outbreak and lent support.

Report of Village Hall Committee

Ken MacGladrie (Chairman of the Village Hall Trustees) gave an update on the Village Hall. The extension and various improvement works had made a big difference and the new facilities had been very well received by residents. Tributes were paid to the efforts of everyone involved with the fund raising campaign. Whilst the building had subsequently been closed because of the Covid lockdown, the Centre Manager (Annie Groves) had played a key role in co-ordinating the work of the local Community network and sharing valuable information.

With the lifting of the lockdown now underway, activities and bookings are starting to return to normal and Mr MacGladrie outlined some of the social & educational activities which were being re-launched. There were other new initiatives in the pipeline offering specialist facilities such as drop in physiotherapy sessions on site as well as ear wax removal treatment.

The Trustees were still hopeful at some stage of being able to move forward with phase 2 works which encompasses a rear extension to provide new toilet facilities and additional storage. However, the main drive for now is to re-establish full use of the hall.

In response to a question, Mr MacGladrie stated that arrangements would be made to re-hang the clock in the main hall and for the Roll of Honour board to be put back on display.

Any Other Business

There were no items raised.

Date of next Annual Parish Meeting

To be confirmed.

Chairman..... Date
(signed)