

Burton upon Stather Parish Council
Annual Parish Meeting
Held on Tuesday 7th May 2019

Present: Cllr Allison (Chair) Cllr Croft Cllr Johnston
Cllr Bell Cllr Faulkes Cllr May
Cllr Craddock Cllr Harber Cllr Pringle

Cllrs Marper, Ogg (NLC), one resident and the Clerk were also present.

1. Welcome by the Chairman

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Rowson (NLC), and Jack Ellerton (NATS)

3. Declaration of Interest –Code of Conduct adopted by this council:

- a. **To record declarations of interest by any member of the council in respect of the agenda items listed below. Members declaring interests should identify the agenda item and type of interest being declared.**

None declared

- b. **To note dispensations given to any member of the council in respect of the agenda items listed below**

Dispensations given to Cllrs Craddock, Croft and Harber for the Village Hall

4. To approve minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 14th May 2018

Members had received the draft minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 14th May 2018 prior to the meeting. Cllr Craddock asked for an amendment on agenda item 181.18 to state that he had given the treasurer's report as well as the Committee's report. It was proposed by Cllr Croft seconded by Cllr Pringle and **RESOLVED** unanimously that with the one amendment made, they were a true and accurate record. The minutes were duly signed by Cllr Allison.

5. Parish Council Chairman's Report

Cllr Allison gave a report on his year as Chairman. See attached report.

6. Responsible Financial Officer's Report

The Clerk gave a report on the Council's finances. See attached report

7. Report from Village Hall Management Committee

Cllr Croft gave a report on the Village Hall and Cllr Craddock gave a report on the Village Hall finances. See attached reports

8. Report from Burton Playing Fields Association

Cllr Allison gave a verbal report on behalf of the Burton Playing Fields Association. Currently there was no association but this was being resolved. The football committee had agreed to take on the daily running of the playing fields and the financial side would be run by the Parish Council

9. Report from Thealby Play Area

Cllr Croft gave a report on the play area and Cllr Craddock reported on the finances. For the first time, he had had the accounts externally audited. The grass cutting was being done by a new contractor and it was working well. See attached reports.

10. Report from NATS

Due to the absence of representatives from NATS, Cllr Ogg gave a verbal report. He informed the members that Inspector Mark Fletcher had been appointed to the area. Sgt Tim Rion is the local member of the Neighbourhood Policing Team. At the last NATS meeting little crime had been reported in the Burton area but since then, there have been some issues. Needles/gas canisters had been found down Wood Hill and the police had been asked to survey this area. Due to litter being dumped down Wood Hill, the landlord was looking into installing a barrier at the rail line. A discussion took place regarding the recent litter picks in the area.

11. Questions from members of the public

The resident in attendance had a number of questions for the Council:

- a. Selfish parking in the village
- b. Cars parking on a Saturday evening
Cllr Ogg mentioned that he was aware of this, since much litter was left. He had been raising this with Andy Tate at NLC
- c. Pigeon mess on footpath near the school.
Cllr Ogg mentioned that he had not come across this as a problem in rural areas.
- d. Dogs on the playing field. There is not enough signage.
Cllr Pringle mentioned that signs had been ordered via NATS but they had not been delivered.
- e. Pedestrian safety. The need for zebra crossings in Burton
The resident mentioned that he had previously discussed this with Cllr Rob Waltham but was told that rural areas do not have zebra crossings. Cllr Allison mentioned that one had previously been discussed for Darby Road
- f. The width of the footpaths near to the primary school. If passing someone, one person would have to walk on the grass verge.
- g. Retrospective planning applications. There appear to be a number in the village. Is the Council dealing with them?
Cllr Allison informed the resident that as far as the Council were aware NLC were dealing with them. Cllr Marper suggested that if he was concerned that planning permission hadn't been requested then, it was best to let NLC know. Cllr Ogg informed the resident that there was permissive development allowed up to a certain size.
- h. Removal of compound in cemetery. This must have been expensive to install and to remove?
Cllr Craddock informed the resident that since the compost heap had been misused the Council decided it was best to remove it. The cost of the removal had been funded via the revenue from the burial ground. New regulations had now been imposed so that surplus soil was removed from site by the grave diggers.
- i. Height of allotment hedge
The resident mentioned that this should be six foot. He had spoken to the contractor when it was being cut.
Cllr Craddock informed the resident that the Council had been in discussion with the allotment association who had asked for the hedge to be reduced so that sunlight could reach the plots. If he had concerns, the resident was asked to report this to the allotment association who liaise with the Parish Council.

Cllr Marper informed the members of some concerns she had received from residents.

- a. An elderly couple had mentioned that they could not sit on the benches at the paddock due to the smell from the bins next to them.
- b. Concerns about deliveries to Westlands Club and the village shop. The lorries were blocking the road.
A discussion took place but due to the width of the street it was felt that it would be difficult to resolve this issue.

Cllr Marper thanked the Council for all the work that they do for the parish.

There being no further business, Cllr Allison closed the meeting at 7.51pm

Chairman's signature.....

Date.....

Chairman's Report

The past year has been a year of change for the Parish Council as we have made the transition from a council struggling to work with and, dare I say it, cover for, a Clerk that simply could not cope, to an efficient team we can be very proud of. During this journey we as a council have worked hard, learned lessons and I believe become better councillors for it. As my role as chair comes to a close I can say that it has not been an easy time, but I am happy that I am handing over a Parish Council in good shape to a new Chair, and I thank all of our councillors for that.

At the end of the last year it became evident that our book keeping was not in order and that this needed to be addressed quickly. I would therefore like to thank Cllrs Craddock and Johnston for taking on this task, which enabled us to present a good set of books 'almost' on time. But most importantly, without penalty.

Throughout the year much has been achieved on improving our Parish assets. I will not go into details as I am sure they will be mentioned in other reports but again I thank our parish councillors for being instrumental in this work.

We have a new Clerk! Candace Brent joined us in January of this year and her knowledge and experience was instantly obvious to us all. I have no doubt that that we as a Parish are in very safe hands with Candace and this will be reflected in the work of the Parish Council in the new year. And, we hope for years to come.

Finally I would like to congratulate our Ward Councillors, Ralph, Elaine and Helen for a landslide win in the local elections. The win is of course evidence of the high level of support we receive from them and on behalf of the Parish Council would like to thank them for their hard work on our behalf.

Responsible Financial Officer's Report

This year the accounts have been maintained by Cllr Johnstone and Cllr Craddock and are currently with the accountant. They have been kept in good order with much transparency showing the Council's income and expenditure and there are also strong reserves in place.

I would like to thank Cllrs Johnston and Craddock for agreeing to continue with the accounts until the end of March 2019, so that after my appointment in January, I did not have to take them on in the middle of the financial year

Village Hall Report

It has been another year of great activity and achievement.

As Chairwoman of the Management Committee I am so grateful for the active support from the members.

All are volunteers giving their time so unselfishly. It is a pleasure to work with such a group of dedicated and fun loving people.

I am sure that all our regular users appreciate the new kitchen and many comments have been made. I am also certain that this update will encourage new comers to book their events in the Hall.

The changes to the back stage area have vastly improved the changing rooms. The players from the pantomime certainly found the area pleasant and safe.
Looking to the future it would be good if a drama group could be established.

The lighting has been change and we now have led lights throughout the hall. The committee is hopeful that this should cut the electricity bill.

Extra changing facilities for babies have been installed in the gent's toilets. So that men do not have to use the ladies area to change their offspring.

Also the accessibility toilets have been upgraded in the gents and ladies.

One great event we had the privilege to take part in was the hanging of the art work by the children from Burton Primary School. It is hung at the back of the Hall.

We are very grateful for the support for the Village Hall:

From the groups that use the Hall;

From those who are supporting by taking part in the Lincs lotto, we would love more support from people taking part as half the ticket money comes to the Village Hall;

From donations and activity which support fund raising.

We give a big thank you to the W.I. for the donation of a new vacuum cleaner.

The Christmas Fayre raised £658 and again the Committee thanks everyone who made it possible. It was a very pleasant atmosphere and we look forward to the next one on November the 30th.

Thank you all.

I feel that the Committee should be applauded for their sterling work in keeping this valuable asset of the Village Hall open for the use of the whole Parish.

Thealby Play Area Report

2019 has been another year of achievement and I thank the dedication, persistence, and effort of the committee in making this possible.

We have had a few problems to surmount such as poor grass cutting and invading moles.

Hopefully the grass cutting has been dealt with.

A new accessible roundabout has been installed for which a grant was given by the North Lincs Community Fund, It certainly is an asset to the play area and we hope will encourage children in wheelchairs to enjoy the ride.

The picnic benches are now installed and were supplied by the generosity of the Heritage Group and Burton in Bloom.

One of our dedicated committee members has unfortunately had an accident from which he is courageously battling has way back to health and we send our good wishes and look forward to his active return soon.

Plans for improvement go on and with the wonderful weather we hope that the area can be utilised and enjoyed by everyone.