

WINTHORPE WITH LANGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held remotely, due to the Covid 19 restrictions, on Thursday 21st May 2020 commencing at 7.00 pm

Present : Mr L Cammack (Chairman), Mr S Lord, Mr P Farmer, Mr M Kneen, Mr P Smith, Mr B Allen, Mr A Leary

District/County Councillor: Mrs M Dobson

Clerk: Mrs S Sillery

1/20 Apologies: Mr B Wright, Mr B McClymont, Mr D Richardson and Councillor L Dales

The Clerk welcomed everyone to the Annual Parish Meeting and informed the meeting that they would elect a new Chairman and Vice Chairman.

She confirmed that Mr Cammack was prepared to stand for another year as Chairman and that Mr Allen was prepared to stand as Vice Chairman.

This was voted unanimously.

2/20 Declarations of Interest – None

3/20 To receive and accept the Minutes of the last Parish Council AGM held on the 16th May 2019

The minutes were confirmed as a true record. This was proposed by Mr A Leary and seconded by Mr M Kneen.

4/20 Matters Arising from the Minutes None

5/20 Chairman's Report

The Chairman's report is as follows:

It has been a strange end to the Parish Council year.

All was going well until mid-March and then the Coronavirus hit us and things ground to a standstill.

However, with the use of "Zoom", the Parish Council has clearly moved into the 21st Century and is still able to hold meetings. Having said that, I do miss the Village hall meetings and the "Proper" meeting that is held in the Lord Nelson afterwards.

Looking at the positives from the year, there was another successful summer festival on one of the hottest days for the festival that I can remember. The Allotment Association goes from strength to strength with there now being a waiting list for plots. Mr and Mrs Lord erected the new village notice and Focal Point has a new lease of life with Lizzie Wakefield taking over control as Editor.

The Parish Council has taken over control of both the Tennis Club and Focal Point which will hopefully ensure their continued survival and benefit the village as a whole.

On a less positive front was the annual bonfire which had another poor attendance and only made a very small profit. This was the second year in a row that it has failed to live up to expectations and what is more disappointing is that the village as a whole does not support it. To see people standing on Pocklington Crescent watching the event rather than pay £5 to support a village function disappoints me to say the least.

I see no point in running it in 2020 if the present trend is to continue.

On a brighter note, I would now like to thank the following for without their support the task of Chairman would be much harder:

- *Sally, for carrying out a superb role as our Parish Clerk and giving me comfort that all our finances are in order.*
- *Councillor Dobson. Maureen is a great source of knowledge and gives our Council much valued support and assistance.*
- *Councillor Dales. Linda has been a breath of fresh air to the Parish Council and I know will give us much needed support if we progress down the Neighbourhood Plan route.*
- *Duncan Richardson for his continued work in auditing the accounts*
- *And all you Parish Councillors who make our meetings enjoyable and have given me excellent support throughout the year.*

6/20 Langford Matters

Mr Allen reported that the amount of hare coursing had drastically reduced. However there has been a big increase in fly tipping. The type of tipping has been commercial including asbestos. Councillor Dobson confirmed that the increase had been all over the county. She asked that if anyone saw any tipping that they should contact the Clerk and she can report it to Newark and Sherwood DC.

7/20 Presentation of the Winthorpe Parish Property Trust Accounts 2019/20 and the Parish Council Accounts for 2019-20

Mr Leary confirmed that Mr Duncan Richardson had completed his internal audit and that the only recommendation he had made was that an Income and Expenditure document be prepared, and the Clerk has subsequently done this.

The external auditors PKF Littlejohn have put back the dates for the submission of the AGAR paperwork to September due to the COVID 19 situation. Mr Leary felt that he, the Clerk and the Chairman should discuss the dates in which the accounts would be available for viewing, and hopefully this can be a face to face meeting in July.

The accounts have been circulated for 2019/2020 and have been discussed and there were no issues raised.

The Income and Expenditure was interesting and showed that the Parish Council spent £5,986.87 during 2019/2020 on grass cutting. It was felt that this was a considerable sum and a large chunk of the precept funding. Councillor Dobson asked if it was worth tendering to get alternative quotes. She is aware of companies that other parishes use, and she will give that information to the Chairman. Mr Allen said that it was too late to change for this year, but it was certainly worth looking in to for 2021/2022.

Meeting closed 7.21 pm