

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 7th July 2021

Present: Cllr. R. Corden (in the chair), Parish Clerk Mrs. S. Towne. Parish Councillors Beaumont, McDonald, Shanks.

1. No meeting had been held in 2020 due to the Covid pandemic. The minutes of the 2019 meeting were approved and signed.

2. Chairman's Report

Meetings via Zoom started in July 2020 at which a new Chairman was elected. Cllr. Phelan was thanked for his work during his term as Chairman. Four new members joined the council in 2020: Steph Chapman, Grahame Kay, Liz MacKee, Joanne Stewart. Cllr. Hakeney resigned at the May meeting, leaving a vacancy to be filled by co-option, and Cllr. Johnston has also resigned recently due to increased work commitments.

A new application for development of the Sun Inn site has been refused. Two Public Rights of Way are to be added to Definitive Map. Cllr Hakeney was thanked for the considerable amount of work she undertook in order for this to be achieved.

The opening of the Jubilee Wood has been a major issue in the past year – installing of tables and benches, new gates, consultation on preferred uses. Cllr. MacKee and Stewart were thanked for their work.

Plans for improvements to the Christmas lighting are in progress, initiated by Cllr. Johnston, who also took on responsibility for the Speedwatch scheme and the Climate Emergency declaration.

The clock is currently being overhauled with the installation of new workings. Additional litter bins have been installed and a new salt bin will be provided for Cawood Drive. A parishioner has requested that a bench is installed where the telephone kiosk used to be, to which the parish council has agreed.

A new mental health project has been set up by Cllr. Andy Conlon, who is also looking into applications for grant funding.

The village hall needs a new management committee and volunteers are urgently needed.

The relocation of mobile library van has been discussed with ERYC as the old council offices site will no longer be available.

Rev. Andy Simpson has left the village and a new vicar is to be appointed, but this may not be for some time yet.

The chairman thanked the Clerk for her work and also PCSO Darren Bainton for his support during the year. Thanks are also due to the staff at Costcutter who have been extremely helpful to customers during the pandemic and many volunteers who have given their time to help others in the community.

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 7th July 2021

3. Village Hall Report

Richard Corden became Chairman of the committee but more volunteers are needed to form a management committee. The hall is well used and profitable from activities and rental of the upstairs offices.

4. Playing Field Report

Thanks are due to the parish council for its ongoing support, in particular Cllr. Andy Shanks. Issues relating to parking, dogs on the field and the new housing adjacent to the field are ongoing.

The installation of football stop nets in front of the new housing has proved a challenge in sourcing funding, and the proposed replacement of the pavilion has not yet happened. However the installation of new playground equipment has been a highlight and is due to be opened this week.

The field is well used and the committee will continue to improve the facilities it offers to ensure it is an asset of which the village can be proud.

5. Financial Report

Skirlaugh Parish Council

Opening balance 1.4.2020	12734.74
Precept	24500.00
Other income	2962.96
Expenses	24381.45
Closing balance 31.3.2021	15821.05

Joint Burial Committee

Opening balance 1.4.2020	6852.11
Receipts	1200.06
Expenses	684.63
Closing balance 31.3.2021	7343.08

6. Any Other Business

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked those attending and closed the meeting at 7.10 pm.