



ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – FINAL MINUTES

A meeting held in the Hub and via Zoom on Friday 7th May 2021, 6.30pm

Parish Councillors Present:

Cllr Elaine Allsop, Cllr. Malcolm Allsop, Cllr Philip Everett, Cllr Barry Fiske (Chair), Cllr Sylvia Holyoake, Cllr Angela Ireland, Cllr Ian Joynson, Cllr Peter Mantle.

One member of the public.

Clerk: Julie King

It was noted that the meeting had been called and held in a Covid-19 secure manor, sanitiser had been provided, tables and chairs had been sanitised and the kitchen was not in use.

A minute's silence was held to mark the passing of HRH the Duke of Edinburgh.

1. **ATTENDANCE** – apologies from Cllr Fran Whymark (Norfolk County Council (NCC) & Broadland District Council (BDC)), PC Steve Clark.
2. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** – 9 May 2019 (there had not been a meeting in 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions). It has not been possible to locate the minutes, these would be signed off at a future date.
3. **ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL REPORT**
Cllr Fiske read his report:
"Covid-19 restrictions prevented a review last year. I therefore present an overall review of the key actions and activities of the council over the past two years.

The newly adopted Neighbourhood Plan has become an effective document alongside the already existing Conservation Order, in reviewing planning applications, engaging with NCC in challenging the Small Market Town Infrastructure Strategy, determining the type style and direction of projects embarked upon by the council and challenging proposals by the GNLP to consider sizeable housing developments on the Football Ground and in fields behind Keys Drive alongside Salhouse Road. On both counts, WPC were successful in having these proposals removed from the final Greater Norwich Local Plan.

KEYS HILL WOOD – One of our larger on-going projects has been the rejuvenation of Keys Hill Wood. Little work, other than essential maintenance had been carried out for a decade. In 2017 it suffered storm damage and the wood required extensive work. Preparatory work was carried out in 2018 and 2019 and 2020 has seen a remarkable change. The project under the leadership of Councillor Ian Joynson, our tree warden, The Broadland Tree Network, a host of volunteers in addition to some 20 students from Broadland High School, now Broadland Ormiston Academy, planted over 150 saplings of various indigenous species

and 750 Bluebell bulbs. Pathways, seating and Owl and Bat boxes have recently been added. The project will carry on in future years as the wood is maintained and remodelled such that it can be used and seen to its best advantage at all times.

AGNES GARDNER KING PLAYGROUND – Cllr Joynson is also heading up this project to rejuvenate the children's play park. Fund raising to provide a nest swing for children with limited abilities to have fun and join in, allowed this purchase to be made earlier rather than later due primarily to the generosity of our community at large and two generous donations from some special people. More will be revealed at the Grand Opening of the swing on May 22nd. The restoration and replacement program will go on for the next two or three years.

CAEN MEADOW – Considerable time and effort has been put into improving and caring for CM. Working tirelessly in pursuit of this endeavour has been Cllr Angela Ireland assisted by an array of councillors providing support in different ways at different times. With the help of some dedicated volunteers, we were able to absorb the rush of visitors to CM in 2020 and we are preparing to do so again this year. We are grateful to the local residents around Caen Meadow for their forbearance in supporting CM in helping to keep it clean, tidy and safe. There is no precedence for the pandemic and we are trying our best to manage the extra visitors and the rubbish they generate in as efficient a way as possible.

CEMETERY – Re-modelling of the cemetery has also taken a great deal of time and energy. The project headed by Cllr Peter Mantle assisted by the cemetery team and volunteers from the WI. A new front entrance tarmac apron has been laid with improved drainage. Under the guidance of Cllr Malcolm Allsop a Memorial Garden has been installed, at its centre a granite plinth depicting a Heron by local stone mason, Nick Hindle. Now in its second full year it provides for calm reflection. Whilst this was going on, WPC Clerk, Clare Male and Cllr Mantle carried on the day-to-day administration of the cemetery arranging burials and internments. In addition, they were arranging an extension to the existing cemetery. A perimeter hedge which was donated by Broadland Tree Network. Some 30 volunteers turned up on an especially cold autumn morning, with a large contingent from the WI, organised by Cllr Elaine Allsop, to plant more than 400 hedge saplings.

The existing cemetery central roadway has been extended into the new extension and a 15-year-old Oak planted in its line of sight from the entrance gate, making for an impressive centre piece for years to come. Eight mature flowering Cherry Trees have also been planted four on either side of the central roadway in the existing cemetery. Four have already been sold as memorials, with enquiries for two more in the pipeline. All of the memorial areas have been kerbed and gravelled with memorial mounting pavers in place. Similar space has been made for two memorial benches, one of which has been sold.

The new extension will have memorial trees placed within it shortly, there is also provision for some memorial rose bushes in both areas.

As well as improving the overall image of the cemetery the sale of tree, bench and rose bush memorials will provide a contribution towards future upkeep of the cemetery reducing reliance on an annual precept.

NEW VILLAGE SIGN – Under the stewardship of Cllr Elaine Allsop a new village sign design has been developed and soon to be installed, more about the sign in future WPC meetings

ALONG THE WAY – Some Footway lighting is now the responsibility of WPC, Cllr Mantle lead councillor. Cllr Sylvia Holyoak was involved with various charitable functions here in the Hub, let us hope that all starts again soon. Volunteer groups are litter picking, once again the WI are involved.

The 30-mph zone on the Salhouse Road is to be extended further towards Salhouse as a consequence of a WPC campaign.

The flower bed opposite Roy's garage and within the War Memorial enclosure are being tended and watered by Cllr Angela Ireland and some dedicated volunteers, contact Angela if you would like to help.

Behind all of the good stuff our purposeful administration, good governance and financial integrity remain the foundation for everything we do, every project we envisage and execute. Cllr Philip Everett, our backroom pilot ensures we are always on the right track.

Our peerless pair, Peter Mantle and Ian Joynson, ever ready to repair benches, waste bin posts, playground equipment, changing batteries in SAM2's as well as being responsible for Amenities and Finance respectively can often be seen about the village.,

The council's diligence and vigour were recognised by the Lord Lieutenant's office such that I and my wife, Maddy, were invited to attend Buckingham Palace for one Her Majesty's Garden Parties to represent over 500 Norfolk Parishes. Due to Covid the event was postponed and this year has been cancelled altogether...never mind maybe some other time!

THANK YOU's – None of what I have spoken about could happen without the full support of a wonderful team of councillors and a wide range of support volunteers willing to turn up and get involved. During the period Cllrs Angela Ireland and Cllr Elaine Allsop joined the team and very sadly last year we lost Chris Hall who had had to retire due to ill health. A thank you also, to our clerk, Clare Male. We all hope she is able to come back to us soon. My last but not least thank you is for Cllr Malcolm Allsop, our Vice Chair, Head of Media and Communication, Planning, member of the finance committee, cemetery team, liaison with HPC and anything else that needs sweeping up. I could not have performed this role without him, he has been my support and stay throughout, to borrow Her Majesty's phrase: Most of Norfolk knows of this council, of its endeavours, of its campaigns because of him and his wonderful "nose for a story".

I have two final tasks to perform as Chairman, one to take any questions now related to our projects and endeavours and two to open the next meeting and oversee the election of our new Chairman."

4. QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION

None.

A presentation was made to Cllr Fiske for his work as chair, he was thanked for his courageous leadership, good humour and friendship towards the council and the people of the village.

Meeting closed at 6.25pm
Julie King, Locum Clerk

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Signed by.....

Dated.....