

DRAFT Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Holme East Waver Parish Council Held on Thursday 11th May 2023 at 7.00pm in Newton Arlosh Parish Hall.

Present: V. Hodgson (Chairman)

Cllrs: Graham, Stockdale, Hopkinson, Welsh and County Cllr Markley.

Public: Six members of the public attended.

Clerk: M. Abbs

1. Welcome from the Chairman, Mr V Hodgson.

2- Apologies for absence.

None

3- Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 12th May 2022. – **approved and signed.**

4- Chairman's report

Cllr Hodgson gave his report and thanked the clerk for his work and for the support and work of the Vice Chairman and other councillors. Cllrs were thanked for the time, dedication, support and help they have given by attending the PC meetings and any external meetings. Special thanks for many years of dedicated service were recorded to Elinor Roper, who had not sought re-election at the recent election. Cllr Gwen Hopkinson was welcomed to the Council.

A grant towards grass cutting had been awarded to the church. The playground area had been maintained but a number of items were showing their age. He hoped everyone who would continue to use the play area and enjoy it. Seats had been refurbished in two locations in the village.

A Parish Plan had been drawn up listing the Council's priorities for the Parish and the thoughts and comments of parishioners was welcomed. Stickers for 'wheelie bins' reminding drivers of the 30mph zone through the village had been delivered to residents. An improved re-cycling service now operated in the village. A guard for the Oak tree had been purchased and planted in the playground to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Cllr Welsh then assisted the Chairman to give a report on progress concerning items on the Parish Plan. Items covered include the request to Cumberland Council for an improved / extended footway through the village and the request for increased speed monitoring of traffic through the village. Cllr Welsh in response to a question from a parishioner at this point said he was in favour of the Council purchasing a speed monitoring device. Letters had been sent to regulators and the MP concerning the price of heating oil and the poor phone reception. An update on the provision of an information panel in the village was also given.

This years' precept for the Parish is £7500.

Cllr Hodgson closed his report by thanking those present for their attendance.

5-Financial and activity reports

5.1 Parish Council-report from the clerk

The clerk thanked the Chairman and other councillors for their support during the year.

The clerk gave out copies of a 3-year financial summary to the public and provided some explanation. No issues had been raised by the internal or external audits last year. The accounts to 31st March 2023 had been examined by the internal auditor and found to be correct with no matters of concern had been raised by her. He stated that he believed the Council to be in a sound financial position, though potentially challenging times lay ahead in the current inflationary climate, financial cutbacks and the potential demands of the ageing playground equipment.

He supported the Chairman's view that the council made a significant contribution to village life. The Council had discharged its responsibilities in other areas such as planning.

5.2 Newton Arlosh Brownies

The clerk read out a report that had been supplied prior to the meeting.

Post Covid the Brownies are now meeting twice a month, and the schedule seems to be working well. The financial position was outlined and fundraising activities are being discussed and planned. Quizzes and a coffee morning have been held.

A couple of field trips are planned for the near future. A sleepover is planned. A number of members have been acquiring badges or are actively working towards obtaining them.

The Council was thanked for its past support.

5.3 Newton Arlosh Community Committee

Mrs Sarah Whitaker reported on behalf of the Committee.

She thanked the Council for the invitation to the meeting. Newton Arlosh Community Committee has 'two hats':

One 'hat' put events on throughout the year such as coffee mornings.

Since the last AGM a number of events have been held.

In December there was a Free children's Christmas party staged at the pub.

There was a pie and peas supper at a discounted rate. Santa arrived, & there were traditional party games. She pointed out that Newton Arlosh Community Committee isn't run as a Business, it is not out to make money. The focus is on putting events on for everyone and covering costs only.

The second 'hat' is The Cinema Club

Thanks were given to the Council again for the backing of this new venture. There have been four film nights so far and are held once a month, on the first Friday at 7pm. Films are shown in the Parish Hall. Members are allowed to pick a date and chose from a selection of films via Whats App & Facebook. A banner has been purchased to advertise and encourage

other new members which was displayed by the Hall in addition to posters on notice boards. Refreshments are provided.

An annual licence was purchased and there are equipment hire costs.

There are twenty-five members that attend which covers the costs.

Members are not just from the village, but also Abbeytown and Kirkbride.

5.4 Newton Arlosh Parish Hall Committee

Cllr Graham, the new Chairman, and Mr Bell provided accounts and outlined the financial position of the Hall. There were three new members on the Committee and Mr Bell advised that there had been two good fundraising bingo events. A Coronation event had been held and this had been well supported. Previous members of the Committee were thanked for their service.

5.5 Newton Arlosh Parochial Church Council

Mr Bell provided accounts and explained the current situation concerning the Church finances and thanked the Council for its grant award which enabled the Churchyard to be kept in good condition. A surplus of six hundred pounds had been made largely due to donations. He commented that electricity costs remained a problem.

Cllr Hodgson thanked all the contributors for their reports and contribution to Parish life.

6-OPEN FORUM

A chance to bring to the Parish Council matters of concern within the Parish.

Cllr Welsh assured parishioners that the Council was trying to fulfil the items on the action plan. The possibility of a website was raised and the clerk pointed out that one already exists. The clerk was requested to include the website for discussion at the July Parish Council meeting.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.15p.m.

At which point all members of the public left.