

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Held on the 7th May 2024

Present: Cllrs. D Spittlehouse. M McDaniel. P Rushton. J Elvidge. P Fotheringham. G Waring.
K Smith. Clerk L Holman.

Also Present: 5 Members of the public
Ward Councillor Emma Bailey.

Apologies of absence:

None received.

Minutes for approval from meeting held on 11th April 2023:

It was proposed by Cllr Elvidge and seconded by Cllr Rushton to accept the minutes as a true record. Signed and dated by the Chairman Cllr D Spittlehouse.

Chairman's Report:

I would like to introduce Gary our new Councillor who replaced Stuart Barrow. Unfortunately Stuart moved away from the village last summer, he was a great attribute and supported the village organisations as well as helping me with the placing of the Speed camera. We wish him well in his new home.

Kevin has stepped into his shoes and I would like to thank him for giving up his time with the speed camera and with the xmas tree on the village green.

A big thank you to Stuart Dunderdale and Jack Bower for all their hard work on keeping the village as nice as it is. The grass on the village green just gets better and better despite the large ruts that occur from time to time with vehicles parking on there.

I have made several signs but to no avail, they're just ignored. Such a shame for Stuart and Jacks hard work trying to make it look so nice.

Thank you to Bloomers for all their hard work and for several litter picks in and around the village.

Jack still continues to support litter picking even though he has completed all the tasks required to get his gold DofE award. So many thanks Jack, your help along with your mum for picking up all the rubbish along the way is very much appreciated.

The last litter pick was joined by Cllr Bailey as well as a Councillor from Lea and 2 residents from Gainsborough as well as myself and Liz. Thank you to everyone that helped that morning. It does make a difference.

Fly tipping has started again down Cow Lane. Even the hidden cameras aren't deterring them.

Let's hope that a few more get fined and named and shamed.

Keep up the good work!

Congratulations to the Village Hall being successful in obtaining a grant for improvements for the village hall. The improvements include a new kitchen and toilets.

Thank you to all the committee and Jane Scott who has put in much of her time.

Hopefully Jane has brought the plans and pics for anyone wishing to view them

Following the closure of the Post office at the village hall, although the PC tried to get another Post master to take over (who was willing) unfortunately Outreach would not give this the go ahead.

The nearest PO now is Stow or Gainsborough.

80th D Day celebrations.

We had discussed commemorating this event with the lighting of the beacon and possibly holding a bit of a do in the village hall. After checking with our insurers we discussed the legal compliances and it was a unanimous decision not to go ahead with it.

We will be putting bunting up on the village green and decorating the phone box.

Since the last Annual meeting we have a new ward Councillor, Emma Bailey.

She has helped the parish Council in many ways since her new role and for that I would like to thank her on behalf of us all.

With Emma's help and the loan of equipment from Lea we now have a small group of volunteers who have set up a Community Speed watch, we regularly monitor the traffic coming through Upton. Whilst we can't issue a ticket, registration numbers are taken for those offending and kept on record. Subsequently those that offend repeatedly will receive a letter of warning from the police.

If anyone should wish to volunteer, more are needed as we need 3 volunteers to comply with regulations.

So if you think you can help, please feel free to let me know. It definitely slows vehicles down when they approach us.

Bus route through Upton

Cllr Bailey after her being elected as ward Councillor, did a survey to all residents asking for opinions and views and what they thought could be done for any improvements etc in the area.

Cllr Smith as a resident mentioned the lack of a bus service through Upton. He also brought this to the attention of the council where it was discussed.

It was decided that a house to house survey should be done and with this result it was obvious that a bus service was much needed in the village.

Through this Cllr Bailey acted on this information and contacted LCC.

Cllr Butroid from LCC has had talks with Stagecoach and we are hoping that some progress can be made.

So thank you Kevin for all you hard work doing research and the survey and to Emma for furthering this with LCC.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

The bus route was discussed and how much a service would be welcomed.

The Call Connect bus service only offers a bus route to Gainsborough and many residents have found the site difficult to use.

County Cllr Richard Butroid is in the process of talks with stagecoach and the Parish Council will inform everyone if and when there is any progress made.

REPORTS FROM ORGANISATIONS

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY by Jane Spencer.

This year is the Diamond Anniversary and will be held on Sunday 8th September 2024.

The society will be celebrating with its 60th show this year and we hope that everyone in the village will try to enter in at least one class to help make it a bumper show.

Last year's show was very disappointing and numbers were down both on entries and for visitors.

We hope to have schedules, including entry forms available in the Upton Village shop from August.

However, we now have a Facebook page with all the show classes listed. Please take a look.

Hopefully you are getting your vegetable gardens organised now and there is plenty of time to take photos, get that knitting finished and test that recipe for the bakery classes.

There;s classes for children too (being finalised), perhaps you could give them a nudge in the summer holidays when they want something to do.

The late Harold Jubbs, the father of our committee member Anne Fotheringham, was the secretary on the committee in the 1960's. We are delighted that Mrs Doris Jubbs has agreed to present the prizes this year.

Mrs Jubbs tells us that the show is a revival of an earlier one. She found a show newspaper article from the 1920's!

The show has always been held in the Village Hall, except when the "New" (our current) Village Hall was being built, then the Church and the Church Hall were used instead.

The show cannot run without your continued support by entering and visiting.

We look forward to seeing you there.

VILLAGE HALL by Carol Wells and Jane Scott.

The Village Hall has obtained a grant for a new kitchen and toilets.

Jane Scott brought pictures to show what the new kitchen will look like.

Work will start in September when the hall will be closed for 5 weeks.

The grant will cover the work but money has been put aside for extras which will be needed for the fire shutter etc.

The units taken out of the kitchen will be utilised and used upstairs in the committee room.

This room is not currently used much and it is hoped that these units can be used for storage.

New equipment for the kitchen will be needed and it is hoped that with these improvements that it will generate more footfall for celebrations, parties and weddings etc.

We are still waiting to have broadband connected to the hall. Quickline promised us way back that they would provide a service. We will keep trying.

We have raised £1400 through various events and the last jumble sale made £434.

Here is a list of activities that are currently being held.

Monday. Line Dancing 8pm – 10 pm

Tuesday. Kurling 10am – 12pm

Clubercise 6.15pm – 7pm

Pilates & Yoga 7pm – 7.45pm

Wednesday. (2nd Wednesday of each month)

Womens Institute 7pm

Wednesday. (1st Wednesday of each month)

Bingo 7pm

Thursday. Bowls 7pm

Friday. Home Education Group 1pm – 3pm

If anyone is interested in joining any of these groups just turn up at one of the sessions and there will always be someone to help.

Hire charges £12.50 per hour

£200.00 full day

Booking Secretary – Ms. Liza Freestone – 07818 497580 Or Mrs. Loretta Adlem – 07464 617464

INDOOR BOWLS by Patrick Fotheringham.

We have 11 members and average around 8 players every week. Finances are healthy and 8 players means the Village Hall rent is covered.

UPTON METHODIST CHAPEL by Patrick Fotheringham.

There is a steady growth and we have 2 new members this year.

We average 18 on a Sunday morning and have a good fellowship.

We hold a “Chatterbox Café” which is a joint venture with the Church. This is held in the Church every 3rd Wednesday of the month.

BURIAL GROUND by Patrick Fotheringham.

There are only a few burial places left which are on the right hand side of the Burial ground, so we have had a new plinth on the left side for burials.

Allotments are all taken except two which are under trees.

All the burial ground is left tidy with thanks to Stuart Dunderdale and Jack Bower. They are a credit to the village.

Bloomers have taken over the garden and are keeping them very tidy. Much appreciated.

UPTON POPPY KNITTERS by Mandy Smith.

We have been amazed at the wonderful response we've had to our appeal for knitted poppies, to create a display outside the church to commemorate all military and civilian men and women in the two world wars and later conflicts. We are hoping to create a waterfall effect. So far we have around 2,000 poppies of various sizes completed, which is an incredible effort from all the people who have been busy knitting and crocheting over the winter. However, we still need more if possible.

If anyone has any poppies they have not yet handed in you can either bring them to the next coffee morning at Upton Church on Wednesday 15th May at 10.30 am or if that is not convenient you can drop them off with Mandy Smith at 6 Lodge Lane, Upton or Jane Spencer at 4 Church Road Upton.

Thank you for your amazing efforts, we are so fortunate to have such talented people in our community willing to be involved in our project.

REPORT FROM CLLR EMMA BAILEY.

I am now 12 months in post and continue to learn, propose and challenge! Meetings and training continue at a rapid pace and I am just starting to get to grips with due process. This path can be frustratingly slow but persistence is key!

Devolution is on the horizon, only a 0.5% consultation rate for the County was achieved, (approx. 4k out of 1million), and those areas that voted against or abstained did so on the grounds that the Mayoral Role and Governance arrangements are not appropriate. Watch this space!

It is important that everyone has the ability to vote either in person or via postal vote. Please register or contact me for a form and I will get one sent to you.

<https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>

cllr.e.bailey@west-lindsey.gov.uk

Anyone wishing to follow me on Facebook is able to, just search for Cllr Emma Bailey. I share useful information on there that is relevant to our area.

I have put on 3 councillor surgeries now around my district and have spoken to many people about a variety of things. If you missed my surgery in Upton and wish to speak to me, I have one in Kexby on 18 th May at 2pm in the Village Hall.

Dog fouling signs explaining at the Public Space Protection Order and the risk of a £100 sign if you do not clean up after your dog have been placed in key areas. Please continue to report this so that areas can be identified for directed patrols by the newly appointed enforcement officers.

Downloading the app makes it quick and easy for you to report a variety of things and directs it to the right council for the job.

<https://www.fixmystreet.com/>

Your local community speed watch team continue to warn drivers of the speed limit through the village and I happy to say collaborate with other villages in the area. They are always on the look out for more volunteers and if you are interested in helping please contact the Parish Council.

The meeting closed at 7.58pm

Signed.....Date.....

