

MINUTES FROM THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

27th MAY 2025

The Chairman opened the meeting at 6.30pm. Two members of the public were in attendance.

Councillors present L Taylor - Chairperson
P Dainty – Vice-Chairman
A Miles
C Merrington
M Hanson
S Pallett
S Spencer

Clerk and RFO – Ms P Kitchin

01 Apologies received for absence.

Resolved: Apologies received from Cllr E Farmer and B Mears

02 Report from Chairman

Cllr L Taylor started by thanking the two Chairmen from last year, Cllr P Costello who resigned from the Council and Cllr S Hodson who was Chairman up until May this year. She had enjoyed working with both of them when she was Vice-chair to the Council. We have welcomed two new Cllrs this year, Cllr S Spencer and Cllr M Hanson. So what has the Council been up to this year. We have revamped Rose Estate playground by adding new equipment and held an open day in July. The public asked the Council to fence this off which we did and later added some outdoor exercise equipment. More recently we have added a set of goal posts as we overheard a little boy asking his mum for them. Moving on to the Miners Memorial Garden we have started a make over and so far, we have purchased and added two pit tubs which will be filled with bedding plants shortly and added a new bench to the front of the garden along with trimming the hedges to encourage new growth. We still need to look at improving pathways. Moving further along the village with permission from the Crowns Nest we have installed a new defib to the outside of the building and we also contributed to one at the Rugby Ground. After the success of the gym equipment at Rose Estate we have recently added one to School Street green and is proving just as popular there. We are looking at possibly adding football posts on there. Moving on to School Street Community Garden I would like to thank Cllr C Merrington for maintaining the garden as well as teaching the children from Upton school when they attend twice a week in the summer months. Also, there is as Sunflower competition for the children which they all love. The Chairperson asked Cllr C Merrington if he would like to say anything on the Community Garden.

Cllr C Merrington thanked the Parish Council for helping him out with buying bulbs for the garden. The children are really enjoying it and he is looking at doing a lot more things next year. This year the children have been doing hanging baskets and taking them home when they have finished. The children have been planting peanuts which has been a great success. He has grown 472 sunflowers this year for the Sunflower competition, every child

in Upton School managed to get a plant. For next year he is wanting to grow things which the children can take home something every week.

Cllr L Taylor thanked Cllr C Merrington for his report and carried on with her report. Behind the Community Garden is School Steet allotments where the revamp is on its way, apologies to the surrounding residents while this takes place and thank you for your patience. Staying with the gardening theme we are holding an allotment competition which is its second year, this year will include home grown chutneys and jam as well as children's garden plate competition which take place 14th August. Over the past year the Parish Council has continued to support many things within the village, one of them being the Panto every Christmas, the food bank run by Friends of the Community and thanks to all involved, the Rugby Club with their fireworks event, Elite Coaching which start on the 28th July and they will email her to let her know when the booking is going live for parishioners. We are also supporting the Fun Run on the 7th June and roughly 500 attended last year and a brilliant day was had by all. Also, thanks to the Library and Community Centre for providing services including the youth club and asked Cllr S Pallett to give figures for the youth club.

Cllr S Pallett reported the youth club has been going on for almost a year and started with approximately 20 children attending and this is now 70 plus. It's taken off really well and we have had to employ a further youth worker for the ratio of children attending and when on to report the benefits this is having on the children.

Cllr L Taylor carried on saying 'this year we will be providing Christmas trees and lights throughout the village along with 22 flower displays and planting up on the Centatph and pit tubs and thanks to Cllr C Merrington and Cllr S Spencer for doing the planting this year. the Village Hall has a full calendar of activities, its got Over 60s keep Fit, Goddess Group, Camera Club, Upton and North Elmsall History Group which the Council has supported this year and thanks to Cllr S Spencer for producing his history book all about people and places in Upton as well as the website which he is still working on, and invited Cllr S Spencer to report on the website.

Cllr S Spencer reported on the website by giving an update on this. He said the background work is done it's just a matter of populating the site and is currently working with John on this. Once everything is in place anyone will be able to access this and hopefully it should be up and running by the end of this year.

Cllr L Taylor carried on with her report and thanked Bless Community Support for the various groups it provides and for inviting the Parish Council to its recent VE Day Celebrations which was a great afternoon, I am sorry if I have missed anyone out as these are just a few things at the Village Hall. Lastly to thank the staff for all their hard work as without them we couldn't do what we do.

03 Minutes – Minutes - To approve and sign minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 22nd April 2024

A proposer and seconder were received a vote was taken to approve the minutes.

Resolved: The minutes from the Annual Parish Meeting 22th April 2024 were approved and signed as a true record.

04 Financial report for the financial year 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025

The Clerk had provided a breakdown of income and expenditure and a balance sheet for all bank accounts up to the 31st March 2024

There were no issues raised.

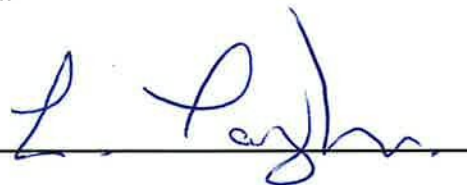
Resolved: The financial report for the financial year 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025 was noted.

05 Matters to be raised by Parishioners – the Chairman will invite parishioners to raise any questions or issues of community interest.

A parishioner asked to raise for consideration by the Parish Council to revamp the Parish Councils website. She has spoken previously with the Vice chair (Cllr L Taylor) and Chairman (Cllr S Hodson) at the time in that website is it quite outdated and doesn't reflect what the Parish Council do. Following this it was agreed to place this on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting and to also consider the costs to pay for it to be administered instead of the Clerk.

As there were no further questions raised the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 6.47pm.

Signed by the Chairman



Date

19/5/26