



MINUTES OF ASHMANHAUGH ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

held in the Preston Rooms, Ashmanhaugh on

Tuesday 3rd May 2022 at 8.00pm

Chair: Cllr H Buxton

Clerk: Sarah Martin

6 members of the public were present.

The Chair welcomed all attending and stated that this was not a Parish Council meeting but the Annual Parish Meeting. After the usual reports, parishioners could raise any matters of concern to them or the village.

1. **Agree minutes of the previous meeting – 28th April 2021**

It was confirmed/agreed the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 28th April 2021.

2. **Norfolk Police Beat Manager Report for the Village**

There was no report received from PC Tom Gibbs.

3. **Annual Chair's report – Harry Buxton**

Thank you all very much for coming, the Parish council has met six times and we would like to express our thanks to Cllr Dixon who advises us on the wider picture at both county and district level. In addition, we have held one extraordinary meeting to deal with planning applications.

This year still had a certain amount of covid fall out and we were very conscious of meeting due to the elderly nature of our community. We said goodbye to councillor Andrew Buxton who retired this year to be replaced by Lorraine Laingchild who has since resigned as her and her husband have moved away. Our thanks to both Councillors for their time and efforts.

Thanks should go to Sarah are clerk for all her efforts during this difficult time. Please contact her if you have any questions and the minutes of meetings are published on the noticeboards and the website.

The parish council meet on the first Tuesday in June and then bimonthly I hope to see as many of you as possible and our thanks go to those parishioners that regular attend\

4. **District and County Councillor's report**

Cllr. Dixon reported that it will be interesting to see how the village gateways, once installed, are successful with the calming of traffic in the Parish and what other measures can be taken. The Market Town Network Improvement Strategy, to which Ashmanhaugh submitted comments, has gone quiet but is still ongoing. At present most comments, mainly from Hoveton and Wroxham, called in that the strategy in not suitable. At present this is not at the top of NNDC's agenda but has not been forgotten and will be readdressed when the time is right. An active topic is the regeneration of Station Road in Hoveton, including the Kings Head cottages and Waterside rooms. Some proposals have come forward for redevelopment in this area. Both NNDC and the Broads Authority are involved in this project.

5. Church Warden's report – Anne Mulhall sent apologies but sent a report:

After all the closures because of the Covid lockdown it was a joy to resume our services at St Swithin and the other churches in the benefice. However, we are still not offering the communion wine because the rates of Covid are still relatively high. This policy will be reviewed by the incumbent and church wardens on a regular basis. We were very happy to learn that Taylor Wilton Morgan, the new curate will be with us for three years which will be a tremendous help as our priests have been covering for other Benefices where there is an inter regnum. Regarding finance, we have been very fortunate to receive a substantial legacy this year. However, the cost of running the church is approx £10.5K per year and we receive £4K in regular giving. After interest from our investments this leaves an annual shortfall of approx. £3K. So each year we are now running at a deficit. We have had to make a major purchase this year of a new lawn mower and there have been costly electrical repairs within the church. Geoff Culley has now stood down as our grass cutter and I would like to record here our grateful thanks for his untiring work in keeping the graveyard in excellent condition all these years. Fortunately, Simon Hannant has stepped up and taken over from Geoff so thanks to him also. As ever Pam Culley has tended the plants outside and also the displays of flower inside the church. These displays are time consuming, and I have to say they always attract some very appreciative comments from visitors. Also, thanks to Stuart and Sarah who have continued their work with the Norfolk Churches Wildlife Trust. Thanks also to the Parish Council for a grant this year to help with graveyard maintenance. I would also like to thank Brenda and Alan Wiseman for cleaning the church on a regular basis for many years. However, they are no longer able to assist and so we are relying solely on Helen Coleman and so would like to record our thanks to her

6. Cricket Club report – Harry Buxton

Good evening. Can I start by saying 2021 was a very successful season for the club both on and off the field. On the field our first team went unbeaten and had one division 2 of the alliance by the end of July which is a huge achievement. The second team also won and were promoted from Division 5 and the newly constituted third team came a respectable mid table in a very skilful division. The juniors also had some great success especially in the u9 and u13 age groups. Off the field we had successful fund raising notwithstanding covid restrictions and help from government and grants has made the club more financially viable.

The Ashmanhaugh ground is still a big part of the club's future. There are regular junior fixtures played in the evening and a Sunday morning please come along and watch the standard is quite high. In addition, the 3rd team play home games on a Saturday so please come and show support. Please see the notice board at the ground entrance for fixtures. Can I also say a thank you to Steve Bland and the dog walkers for picking up mess and so far, allowing us to continue with dogs off the lead at the ground.

As always if anyone wants to play or have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.

7. Preston Rooms report – Steven Newstead

The Preston Rooms was very grateful to the grant received during Covid. The hall is on regular use with various clubs. A small committee has been formed for the Queens Platinum Jubilee event and an invitation was placed in the Horning Reach for all residents of Ashmanhaugh to attend. On Thursday 2nd June there will be a tea party in the hall car park from 2-4pm, including an outside caterer. There will be a display in the hall of old memorabilia. There is a ticket fee for the event of £1, but this will also be a raffle ticket.

8. Poor's Land report - Rachel Buxton (Chair)

The Trustees are Mrs Rachel Buxton (Chair), Mr Neal Sharpe, Mr Terry Childerhouse and Mr Chris Phillipo. There is still a vacancy for the fifth Trustee so, if anyone thinks that they would like to join the Board, please speak to one of the Trustees.

The Board has three regular meetings a year but will call extraordinary meetings if necessary.

The objective of the Trust is:

- The relief of poverty
- To improve the quality of life for those residents who have need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship, or other disadvantages.
- The advancement of education.
- The advancement of community development.
- Greater use of community buildings.

The annual return to the Charity Commission has been completed and is available to view, on the Charity Commission website.

Currently, the Trust has some £3,000 of uncommitted funds available for grants.

In 2021, the Trust has not been approached for grants.

The Trust will be carrying out any necessary tree maintenance to the Rectory Road boundary and is investigating improving the hedging.

If there is any person or group, who is in need of a grant and meets the objective, please contact one of the Trustees.

9. Parishioners' matters

None.

Thanks were given to all those who attended.

Meeting closed: 20.19