

DEOPHAM & HACKFORD PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 5th May 2021 7.30pm via Zoom Video Conferencing

Cllrs present:

Jacky Phoenix – Chair (JP), Chris Coath (CC), Martin Skidmore (MS), Catherine Grand (CG),

Cllrs absent:

Nick Hindley (NH), Chris Biggs (CB),

Other:

Jordana Wheeler (Clerk), Cllr Yvonne Bendle (YB), Cllr Margaret Dewsbury (MD). There was 1 member of the public present.

This meeting took place via video conference due to the current Coronavirus pandemic and government guidelines to social distance.

1. Apologies for Absence
 - 1.1. NH and CB were absent.
2. To approve and sign the minutes of the Annual Parish meeting on 8th May 2019
 - 2.1. The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes from 8th May 2019.

To receive the following reports:

3. Parish Council Chairman's Annual Report for 2020-21
 - 3.1. 2020 has been a strange year with the pandemic affecting all parishioners' lives. Local farmers and key workers continued their work as usual, roads were very quiet and it was noticeable how nature blossomed. Many parishioners met new people whilst out on their daily exercise. Parishioners formed their own support group, offering to deliver food and prescriptions. The empty phone box was also used with people leaving items in there for free to other residents.
 - 3.2. Parish Council meetings have been held virtually as council business carried on as usual. JP thanked the Clerk for helping keep the Council on track and up to date on ever changing rules during this time.
 - 3.3. JP also thanked the Councillors for their time and commitment to the parish over the last year.
 - 3.4. The Council continue to work with the Rix Trust to improve the playing field and Pavilion. The roof was repaired and there are plans for further repairs.
 - 3.5. AG Athletic have returned to holding football matches at the playing field following the end of lockdown.

Draft minutes until approved at the Annual Parish meeting in May 2022
Chairman Signature:

Date:

4. Cllr Yvonne Bendle – South Norfolk Council
 - 4.1. There is no formal report this year due to the pandemic. During the 1st lockdown in 2020 many volunteers came forward to help the community, along with council officers. The focus in the 2nd lockdown was assisting with the vaccination program and track and trace. The Council has provided many grants to businesses to support them during the pandemic. There will be many challenges returning the council to normal working practices after the pandemic. Cllr Bendle will be reducing her responsibilities over the coming year.
 - 4.2. It was noted there was no annual report from County Councillor Margaret Dewsbury due to being in purdah prior to local elections.
5. The Rix Trust
 - 5.1. The charity benefited from a grant from South Norfolk Council via Cllr Yvonne Bendle for new fencing around the perimeter of the playing field which was erected in June 2020. The trustees are keen to see the playing field being well used and have set aside £500 towards repairs to the external walls of the Pavilion. The trustees are keen to work with the Parish Council to continue to enhance the Pavilion and future developments at the playing field.
6. Deopham Poor's Allotment Charity
 - 6.1. Income is received from the rent of Deopham Marshes. Money is distributed to those in need in the parish to assist with heating costs. If Councillors know of anyone in need please put them in touch with the Charity. This can be done via the Parish Council.
7. Hackford Fuel Allotment Charity
 - 7.1. Money is generated for the charity by renting the land for grazing and rural payments. The charity is in a good financial position. There are currently only 2 beneficiaries.
8. Deopham STAR
 - 8.1. The Deopham STAR group are in the process of putting together an expression of interest to apply to the Heritage Lottery Fund for a grant. Actions include finding an architect and carrying out a survey of local residents. Other more urgent repairs are being addressed.
9. Update from the Gralix Hall committee
 - 9.1. Nothing to report.
10. Opportunity for members of the public to discuss general parish issues
 - 10.1. No matters were raised.

The public meeting closed at 7.30pm.