

Minutes of the Dersingham Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 17th May 2022 at 7.00pm in The Garden Room, Dersingham Village Centre.

Present: 10 Members of the Public (Including 9 Parish Councillors and 1 Parishioner)

Apologies: None received.

Chairman C Shepherd chaired the meeting.

1. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held 28th April 2021

To approve the minutes

It was resolved for the minutes to be signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record without amendment.

Matters arising

The Chairman asked Cllr Bubb if there was an update regarding the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. Cllr Bubb advised James Wilde had spoken in parliament regarding the current conditions at the QE Hospital.

2. Matters raised by Electors.

a) The speed of traffic along Sandringham Road

A resident that lives in Sandringham Road asked if there was any action the Parish Council could take to deter speeding vehicles along that stretch of road and stated due to overgrown pathways and no paths in certain areas it was extremely dangerous for walkers when vehicles speed. Cllr C Shepherd asked if the recently painted 30MPH and SLOW signs on Shernbourne Road had had any affect. Cllr Noble advised, sadly, vehicles still drive over the speed limit in the area. After a lengthy discussion regarding the issue raised it was agreed that Ingoldisthorpe Parish Clerk be approached to establish what is involved/required to set up a Community Speedwatch scheme.

b) Blocked waterway at the Pastures due to rubbish and vegetation

The Chairman stated she had received confirmation from the landowners that they are responsible for the two watercourses that run from Iveagh Close, Hanover, along the sports field and left behind Holyrood and Edinburgh Way. The ownership of the other two watercourses is yet to be determined

3. Chairmans report

The Chairman read the following report:

**Dersingham Parish Council
Chairman's Annual Report 2022**

Although I had the honour of being elected as the Chairman of Dersingham Parish Council in May 2019, this is my first face to face Annual Parish Meeting in this role. I began with the hopes and aspirations of many a Chairman before me but by early 2020 we were all facing an unprecedented challenge – Covid and all of the restrictions that brought. Throughout the various lockdowns the Parish Council continued to function. And we are now learning how to live with Covid. After a year of meetings held on Zoom the Parish Council returned to face to face meetings in May last year and we have now returned to almost the normality of pre-pandemic times.

The Parish Council continues to provide services to the community- grass cutting, maintaining streetlights and emptying of dog and litter bins. The War Memorial Gardens have been restored and have been returned to a garden of which we can all be proud. Just before Christmas we replaced the Christmas lights at the Recreation Ground to give a more modern feel. Thank you to Councillor Robert Anderson for leading this project. We continue to publish and deliver the Village Voice to all homes in the village. I would like to give my sincere thanks to our Editor, Jo Halpin Jones and all those who give up their time to deliver the magazine.

Our proudest moment of the last year was the opening of the skatepark at the Recreation Ground. This was long awaited by the young and not so young of the village and I am thrilled that it continues to be so well used.

We took advantage of the Woodland Trust free tree scheme to enhance The Warren. Over the new year period we worked with a group of volunteers to plant 420 young trees. A remarkable effort as it was completed in just under 4 hours. We continue to keep The Warren as a natural area for informal use by walkers, whether with dogs or without.

Turning to the buildings owned by the Parish Council – The village Centre, which is run on behalf of the Parish Council by Dersingham Village Centre Association, a registered charity and the Social Club that is run by a management committee of its membership. They have both had a difficult time with lockdowns but are now fully re-open with business returning to normal. Please make use of them both so that they continue to provide facilities for us all.

For the 3 years after the opening of the Village Centre in 2018 we were able to reduce the precept. However, this year with rapidly rising costs we have had to have a slight increase in the precept, but we have not had to reduce our services.

Looking forward we have Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebration weekend in two weeks' time. We have worked with several groups in the Village to put together a varied programme of events, details of which are in a special souvenir pull out in the latest edition of the Village Voice. I hope that you are able to enjoy at least one of the events.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my fellow councillors for their help and support, both practical and moral, during what has been a challenging three years. I would also like to say a particularly big thank you to our staff who have carried on calmly throughout. Without them we would not be able to function.

Thank you
Coral Shepherd, Chairman

4. Speeding in the village

This item was covered under 2a of the minutes.

5. Date, time and place of next Annual Parish Meeting.

9th May 2023 at 7.00pm, the Garden Room, Dersingham Village Centre