

THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SHELFANGER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 22nd MAY 2017 AT SHELFANGER VILLAGE HALL.

PRESENT: Mrs M Paines (Chair) Mr M Paines Mrs P Ross Mr P Chambers Mrs P Webster
Four members of the Public (Mr J Easter Mr and Mrs Day and Mr R Granville) and County
Councillor Spratt The Clerk (Mrs H Green)

APOLOGIES: Mrs Hurst and District Councillor Stone

The Chair opened the meeting by extending a welcome to everyone and thanked them for coming. She thanked the councillors for their support during the past year, especially with the local knowledge which has been very helpful with several recent issues. She was very sorry to report that Mr Ron Hurst had recently passed away. She paid tribute to a past parish Council chairman. He will be missed as he had plenty of local knowledge. Mrs Hurst will be given any assistance she needs in sorting out any matters following this loss.

The Chair also thanked all the members for the work that they do especially the clerk. She said although meetings are only held every two months there is much activity which goes on between meetings so that matters are attended to immediately if possible.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chair: Mrs Webster proposed that Mrs M Paines remain in post for another year. Mr Chambers seconded this suggestion and once Mrs M Paines had agreed to stay, the rest of the meeting voted in favour of this suggestion.

Vice Chair: (Mr M Paines) and Responsible Financial Officer (Mrs Green) were both willing to stay in their positions for another year.

Mrs Paines read a letter from Mrs Hurst saying that she backed Mrs Paines to stay as Chair and thanked the members for all their support in her recent loss of Ron.

READING OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the last AGM had been circulated and were signed as a true record on a proposal by Mrs Ross and seconded by Mr Chambers.

Minutes are now put on the village website a month after the latest meeting.

FINANCE

The RFO handed out copies of a Summary of the Accounts for the year 2016-17. The balance brought forward from last year was £3,385.96 and with other income received during the year the total was £9,715.73. This included £773.44 CIL payment from the pig units on High London Lane.

The Expenses had been £5,256.92 compared to £4,742.66. This increase was due to the refurbishment of the village sign. There had not been any other particular expenses other than the usual maintenance costs, insurance and clerk salary. At the close of the year there had been £1,576.94 in the deposit account and £2881.87 in the current account. £514.45 is Funds for The Friends of Boyland Common and £595.31 is the residue from the Youth initiative funds. Leaving £3,349.05 Parish Council funds.

On a proposal by Mr M Paines and seconded by Mrs Ross these accounts were adopted. (A copy is enclosed in the minute book)

SCHOOL GOVERNORS REPORT

As there is no school governor to report to the meeting, the clerk had obtained information from the All Saints Primary Head Teacher. The clerk to establish who is a Governor before the next years meeting.

As of May 2017 there are 74 children at the school with 15 new children expected in September. Divided between 4 classes. Each class is supported by a full time teaching assistant with

specific classroom assistants to help children with varying needs.

Mrs McGarr was appointed permanent head for the federation from Easter 2017 and is also the federation SENDCo (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities coordinator) Mr Moule is the deputy head.

The school regularly send out a newsletter which keeps parents and interested parties informed of the activities of the school.

WEBSITE

Mr Chambers reported that it had been a good year with much progress made on the website. It now looks more user friendly with lots of new pages. He now tries to keep it up to date regularly. Events can now have an expiry date do not remain on the site long after the date.

The Chair thanked Mr Chambers for all the work he has done on the site and asked if he knew how many people actually visit the site.

VILLAGE HALL ACTIVITIES

Mr James Easter (Chair of the Village Hall Committee) gave a report on the events at the Village Hall. He said that they now hold regular Quiz evenings which are proving very popular. Preparations for the Annual Fete are under way with several new attractions including some alpacas.

The Kitchen is being upgraded with new ovens and new matching white crockery. There are plans to upgrade the social club. Their AGM is on 1st June. 2017.

FRIENDS OF BOYLAND COMMON REPORT

Mrs Pam Ross gave the report for the Friends of Boyland common.

She began by saying that the Friends have held meetings during the year only when it was deemed necessary to make plans or to regroup. The constitution states they should meet three times a year.

Once again the group were very grateful to the farmers who undertake to cut and cart the hay, to David Riches and Steve Tickner for cutting the grass and new recruit Ivan Lord, with his “mean machine” who is also available for serious cutting back. Keeping on top of the brambles, blackthorn and removing the hay encourages the wild flower population to increase which is the main objective of the group at this time.

Mrs Ross continued that she had written to the farmers to thank them for the hay cutting etc in 2016 and again at the beginning of 2017 asking if they would be willing to do so again this year.

On 5th June Stella Taylor led a wildflower walk.

On 16th July the Friends were represented at the Shelfanger village fete with a stand. Mainly to remind people of the groups objectives.

On 19th July the “Friends of Boyland Common” were honoured to receive a “Highly Commended” award in the Norfolk Common Biodiversity Award ceremony at the Abbey Conference Centre in Norwich. Helen B (NWT) had nominated the group. Pam and Helen collected the framed certificate. In August and October the Quaker Wood project borrowed the bug hunting and plant identification equipment.

September saw an enquiry from the Aves family as to whether it would be possible to graze sheep on the common. Information was sought from the NWT.

In April (22nd) a working party met to deal with the overgrown southerly corners on both sides of Common Road. The grass cut and the blackthorn suckers blitzed and general cutting back.

Finally it is hoped that the Owl Box may have attracted its first occupants

The AGM closed at 8.00 pm Date of next meeting May 2018

Signed _____ Date _____