

Minutes of Scopwick and Kirkby Green Annual Parish Meeting held on 15th May 2018 in Scopwick Village Hall

Present:

Councillors: Cllr Philip Baumber (Chair); Cllr David Nelson; Cllr Janet Flett; Cllr Tim Banks and Cllr Alistair Brackenbury.

District Cllr Steve Clegg.

Parish Clerk Jill Moran.

6 members of the public

1. Cllr Baumber thanked everyone for attending the Annual Parish Meeting and introduced District Cllr Steve Clegg.

Apologies had been received from Cllr Matt Spry, Cllr John Woodward and County Councillor Rob Kendrick.

2. The Minutes of the 2017 Annual Parish Meeting held on the 16th May 2017 were approved and signed by Cllr Baumber as a true record.

3. Councillor Baumber gave a report on the activities of the Parish Council over the past year as follows:

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2018

This year began in May 2017 with the Annual Parish Meeting welcoming Janet Clark from Community Lincs to talk to both Councillors and residents on the benefits and challenges of Neighbourhood Planning. This meeting started a process of consultation and resulted in the Parish Council voting to back the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish. The Neighbourhood Planning process, although overseen by the Parish Council, is a volunteer led exercise and has community engagement at its heart. It is an exciting development and will provide local input into the planning process. It is also hoped that through increased community involvement it will lead to other projects.

Other projects that the Parish Council have worked on this past year include creating a parking area for the Village Hall with a scheme to improve the drainage in the village meadow. The speed of vehicles passing through the parish was been identified as an issue that needs to be addressed. Councillors volunteered to assist with the community speed watch initiative being introduced by Lincolnshire Road Speed Partnership this year. The Parish Council are also looking into purchasing a speed indication device which can be mounted on lampposts throughout the parish.

This year has seen some changes with the Parish Council welcoming two new Councillors, with Alistair Brackenbury and Matt Spry. There is now a full quota of 7 Councillors.

Since stepping down as Chair at last year's Annual Parish Council Meeting Cllr David Nelson has continued to play an active role. He chairs the Playing Field Committee and will give a report on their activities later. He is very much 'hands on', coordinating and taking part in

the annual litter pick and recently he installed the new dog bins on Vicarage Lane and Becksides.

Cllr Woodward is a keen advocate for the Neighbourhood Plan and has played a key role in the community initiative to save the Royal Oak Pub. He is a member of the group Friends of Scopwick Royal Oak and their Chair will be giving a report on their progress later.

Thanks also to Cllr Janet Flett, who is not only Chair of the Village Hall Committee but also takes an active role in its day to day activities and as such is very much at the heart of the Community.

Cllr Tim Banks joined the Parish Council in January 2017. His contribution to the project to improve car parking facilities for the village hall has seen it move forward from planning to implementation later this year.

Thanks to all members of the Planning Committee for taking the time to consider the impact of planning applications in the Parish.

Finally, I would like to thank the all of the volunteers, not only the Councillors but those who put in so much work as part of the Playing Field Committee and who help out occasionally with litter picking, distributing leaflets etc.

3. District Cllr Steve Clegg gave a summary of the some of the activities of the District Council over the year as follows:

- Richard Wright is the new leader of North Kesteven District Council and Dan Gray a new District Councillor for the Ward.
- In April 2017 the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan was approved. This important document seeks to align national planning policy with local needs.
- On the economic front, the District Council had helped to create 184 new jobs in the area and 7 new workshops. Funding has also been secured for the development of Sleaford and over 2 million pounds allocated to fund road improvements.
- Visitor numbers have increased and this year saw the opening of the International Bomber Command Centre with national coverage. The Airfields Trail recognises the importance of the RAF to the area and forms part of the 100 years celebration.
- A new waste collection depot is due to open in Metheringham on the 18th May 2018. The Lincolnshire County Council are carrying out a public consultation on waste management and a link to the survey can be found on the NKDC site. The public are encouraged to report any instances of fly tipping as they will be cleared and investigated by the District Council.

On a personal level, Steve said that he is a member of a planning committee on which he is able to represent his Ward. He also sits on a youth unemployment scrutiny panel for the district.

4. Cllr David Nelson gave a report as Chair of the Playing Field Committee as follows:

- Volunteers from the Committee carry out weekly inspections of the playing field and the play equipment. In addition, over the past year, the Parish Council authorised two inspections of the play equipment by an independent inspector and play equipment engineer to ensure proper maintenance and safety.
- Last year Committee members spread new bark chippings over the play areas, cleaned and maintained the wooden benches and tables, carried out repairs to the gate and planted new shrubs behind the goals and to fill gaps in the hedge.
- The Committee also carried out a consultation asking residents to complete a questionnaire asking whether they supported the purchase of additional new equipment for the park. The response was poor and the Committee decided to concentrate instead on the maintenance of the current equipment.
- Fundraising events have been organised and supported by the Committee. A very successful Race Night in November raised over £1000 and the fundraising account stands at £4.489.

Cllr Nelson thanked the committee members and the parish clerk for their continued help and support over the past 12 months.

5. Cllr Janet Flett gave a report as Parish Council representative on the Scopwick and Kirkby Green Village Hall Committee:

- This year saw Joe Kennard taking over from Kathie Craggs as booking secretary. Joe has instituted improvements to the system including online booking.
- Work continued throughout the year to improve the facilities including the purchase of new chairs and tables. Necessary works were carried out to improve lighting. Future improvements will include new stage curtains.
- The Committee have reviewed and updated policies and procedures. Booking policy was reviewed and fees for users from outside the parish were revised to make the venue more competitive.
- The parish website contains information on the events taking place. The annual summer show being the highlight. Regular events include the monthly hub and the friendship afternoon.

6. John White, Chair of 'Friends of Scopwick Royal Oak' (FOSRO) gave a report as follows:

- As an initial step FOSRO consulted the community via a questionnaire delivered to every household in the parish. 55% of recipients returned the questionnaire and of those 90% supported the retention of the Royal Oak as a public house. Approximately 50% of forms returned expressed an interest in possibly purchasing a share.
- Encouraged by the response and an initial feasibility study, FOSRO with support from the Plunkett Foundation are putting together a business plan. They intend to issue a share offer to support the purchase of the pub by the community and its running as a community enterprise.

- The costs to date have been met by the 6 group members. The Group have now registered as ‘Scopwick Pub Community Benefit Society Ltd.’ They have applied to open a bank account and should be able to apply for available funding.
 - The Parish Council supported the Royal Oak continuing as a public house by an initial application to register the property as an Asset of Community Value. They also triggered a 6 month moratorium on sale to allow a community bid to be put together. This period runs out on the 19th July 2018 and from that date the pub will again be on the open market.
7. Members of the public raised the following issues:
- Anglian water have been pumping water from the their station on Main Street Scopwick with a tanker on site every day. Cllr Baumber reported that they were doing this to relieve pressure on the sewerage system caused by an infiltration of ground water. A member of the public reported that following a blockage at his home Anglian Water found a build up of fat deposits to be blocking the drains. The Clerk will contact Anglian Water to confirm how long they anticipate draining the the sewerage by tanker, what is being done to address the issue in the long term, whether the blockage found has been cleared and what they intend to do to clean up the mess created by tankers on Main Street and at the entrance to the pumping station.
 - What steps are being taken to address speeding of vehicles through the parish? The Clerk reported that in addition to the shared speed indication device (SID), which is due to be in the parish in June, the Parish Council are looking at other solutions. These include joining a community speed watch initiative being launched this year by Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership. Purchasing a permanent SID for the B1188 and/or a temporary one which could be moved between sites. District Cllr Clegg suggested the Clerk contact the RAF police at Digby to see if they could offer assistance.

Minutes submitted by Jill Moran, Parish Clerk
Dorset House Vicarage Lane, Scopwick, Lincoln, LN4 3NT
Tel: 07512 234965 clerkscopwick@gmailcom