

Parish Chairman: Kerri Harold
Parish Deputy Chair: Amanda Beal

Record of the 2022 Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council

Date of Meeting Monday, 25th April 2022
Time of Meeting 1830

IN ATTENDANCE:

Parish Cllrs Cllrs A Beal (Deputy Chair) Cllr (Mrs) J Los; Cllr E Constable; Cllr H Bulmer; Cllr L McCormick; Cllr Shores and Cllr (Jon) Los

Ward Cllrs Cllr G Maitson **Parish Clerk** Andrew Crabbe.

1. Present and Apologies (Chair to confirm quorum)

Clerk confirmed apologies had been received from Cllrs, Harold (Chair), Levy, and Ward Cllr Jump.

Resolved Noting the apology of Cllr Harold, Cllr Beal advised Cllrs that she would be chairing the AGM in the absence of Cllr Harold. Chair confirmed the meeting was quorate and welcomed Cllrs to the meeting.

Cllr Beal noted no members of public were in attendance at the AGM.

BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED

1. To provide the opportunity for the Parish Chair to confirm (or otherwise) their intention to continue in the role for another year.

Cllr Harold had previously confirmed that she would continue in Office as Chair for a further year

Resolved: There were no submissions from Cllrs to contest the office and Cllr Harold assumed the position with immediate effect

2. To provide the opportunity for the Deputy Chair to confirm (or otherwise) their intention to continue in the role for another year.

Cllr Beal confirmed she would continue in Office as Deputy Chair for a further year

Resolved: There were no submissions from Cllrs to contest for the office and Cllr Beal assumed the Office with immediate effect.

3. To allow Cllrs to a) vote their agreement to the above or b) to invite Cllrs to put themselves forward for the roles (Chair / Deputy Chair) in the event of either person wishing to resign.

Resolved: No submissions were received for the roles of Chair and Deputy Chair

4. To provide the opportunity for all Parish Cllrs to confirm their intention to continue as Cllrs and for them to update their current Declarations of Interest.

Resolved: All Cllrs confirmed their intention to continue in office and completed a Declaration of Intent, which can be found on their profiles on the Parish Council website.

5. To provide the Parish Chair an opportunity to present End of Year Report / statement.

Chair's Statement for the AGM

2021 saw major challenges facing the country still gripped with the pandemic and the first few months of the year still with wide scale restrictions in place. This of course affected everyone and for the first few months of the year our Parish Council meetings continued to be held remotely by Zoom where we snooped into each other's dining and living rooms (sometimes with envy) and saw the wearing of (sometimes questionable) lounge and leisure wear. I would like to say that both myself and Amanda as Deputy Chair feel that all of us met the challenge of remote meetings and working admirably, even those of us who are less IT gifted (mentioning no names, but myself included).

The year also saw a number of new Councillors join the Parish Council, bringing new skills, views and knowledge to compliment those already in place with our longer standing Councillors. I know I speak for both myself and Amanda, when I say we have a great team on the Parish Council, we work well together, listen and value each other's views, and work with a great sense of humour to lighten the many challenges we have faced, so well done everyone.

Planning was a major aspect of the Parish Council's work in 2021 with over 65 planning applications being received in the year. Large scale housing developments took place and will of course continue into 2022, meaning the Parish is ever growing. I believe it is important to note that whilst the Parish Council acknowledges the strategic nature of new housing, largely outside of the remit of the Parish Council's powers, we never the less must continue to champion the need to protect our rural environment and landscape and that we try to find a balance as we go forward.

As Chair of the Parish Council my strategy for 2022 will be for the Parish Council to continue to strive to enhance and improve our Parish and community, with a number of key projects, including the Queens Platinum Celebrations, the allotments on Long Lane, bigger celebrations at Christmas, new defibrillators in the parish and new public benches. I will also advocate the linking up the various parts of the Parish with 'green corridors' of which the adoption of Beverley Parklands will prove a key point as will projects to improve the two parks in the Parish, King Street and Victoria Park.

And very importantly we shall continue to encourage public involvement in the work of the Parish Council and strive to improve communications and offer the opportunities for residents to let Councillors know what they want the Parish Council to prioritize; we shall do this by social media and our brand new, state of the art website as well as encouraging residents to attend Parish Meetings.

In finishing, both myself and Amanda would like to thank each of you for your valuable contributions and hard work on behalf of the community and we look forward to working with you and doing it all again this year.

6. To provide the Parish Clerk an opportunity to present a Financial End of Year report / statement.

Finance Officer's Statement for the AGM

As advised in the April monthly financial report the parish finances have finished the year on a high with a bank balance of £26,922.56 and a forecast balance of ££23,185 (after taking into account all existing liabilities). This does not mean the Parish Council held back on its spending, and indeed 2021 was a year of relative high spending in which the Parish Council invested in new large village signs, resurfacing of the King Street playground, a new website and noticeboard in Shopeth Lane, much applauded Christmas lights and decorations (the beginning of a future extravaganza) and of course a considerable spend on gifts for all the primary school children in the Parish and benches to commemorate the Queens Platinum celebrations.

With regard to the new year, Cllrs will be familiar with the approach I intend to follow as Financial Officer, and my headline will be encouraging Cllrs stick to the agreed budget which will be signed off tonight. This is the basis of effective financial management, the only way for us to ensure we remain financially solvent and most importantly demonstrate to residents / tax payers we are sensible and professional in managing public money.

Effective financial management does not mean the Parish Council should not spend on improvements for the community and I will be encouraging Cllrs to continue to review the reserve account which in my view remains unnecessarily high – I will be lobbying for releasing further funds from the reserve until such time as it is a (recognised) sensible level of circa £8k This will mean that a further 30k could be released in the forthcoming year(s) to fund projects Cllrs feel will benefit the Woodmansey community, without impacting on the budget and of course in turn, the precept demand.

Thank you for your support and for listening to my advice over the past year... so far we have steered the finances of the Parish Council smoothly and I look forward to another successful year working for you all.

There being no more business for the Annual General Meeting, Cllr Beal closed the meeting at 6.50pm

Signed as a true record *Amanda Beal* Date *April 2022*

Cllr Amanda Beal – Woodmansey Parish Deputy Chair