

Wymondham & Edmondthorpe Parish Council Draft Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting

Held at Edmondthorpe Social Club on Tuesday 28th May 2019 at 7.00pm

Present:

Chair of the Meeting: Howard Gresham (Parish Council Chairman)

6 parishioners

Parish Councillors: Trevor Mear & Pat Peters

Borough Councillor Joe Orson

Note taker: Terry Brown (Clerk)

078 Introduction by the Chairman

Howard Gresham introduced himself as the Chairman of the Parish Council and that he would chair this Annual Meeting.

His introduction can be found at Appendix 1

079 Apologies for absence

District Councillor Malise Graham

Cllr Nigel Hobson

Christian Semmens, Jenny Weston, Michael Walker, Dr Jon Lewis

080 To approve the minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting held on 21st May 2018

These were approved and signed by the Chair

082 Matters arising from the minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting

None

083 Annual Report from the Parish Council

The Chair outlined the progress made by the Parish Council over the last 12 months. A full report can be seen as Appendix 2.

The salient features include

- continuing use of the made Neighbourhood Plan to liaise with Melton Borough Council in planning issues.

- continuing development of measures to combat speeding which include working with Leics CC Highways to introduce new speed restrictions and the installation of an third VAS.

- implementing a change of street lighting to LEDs.

- working with St Peter's School to improve access to the play equipment

- Maintaining villages infrastructure such as the bus shelters and contributing significantly to important parish artefacts such as the repair of St Peters clock.

084 Annual Report from the LCC County Councillor Joe Orson

He reported on the progress in the core activities of the Council and the problems caused to finances by specific areas of responsibility such as Social Care and Children Services.

In reply to a question about reserves he recommended that the Parish Council should maintain sufficient reserves for the future since the requirements placed on the Parish Council for extra services was likely to increase significantly. He drew attention to a similar process adopted by other nearby Parish Councils.

Government funding for the Melton Mowbray bypass had been approved and that work was expected to start in 2020.

085 Reports from Community Groups and Organisations

Wymondham & Edmondthorpe Journal - Appendix 3

Wymondham Village Hall Committee - Appendix 4

Edmondthorpe Social Club

Ally McGann gave a detailed report on the wide range of activities hosted by the Social Club in the last twelve months – please see Appendix 5

086 Open forum – questions and discussion

There was an extensive discussion on the support provided through its Academy status to St Peter's School with the general feeling that such support did not always work in the favour of small rural schools and for St Peter's in particular in its current circumstances.

The Clerk was asked to check on the outcome of the recent bid by the Parish Council to register the School as a community Asset.

This was followed by a similar extensive discussion on the financial problems facing the Church of St Michael & All Angels, Edmondthorpe brought about by a small congregation and yet very significant future financial requirements. Running costs currently were of the order of £3000 and yet income was around £100.

The Church is now in the care of the Church Conservation Trust who had set the Church a nominal income target to raise £2000 a year. The meeting discussed means to meet this target. Champing (i.e. church camping) had been successfully used elsewhere.

The Chair drew the meeting's attention to the existing two means of financial support available through the Parish Council via application (see www.we-pc.info/grants) and the meeting **resolved** to asked the Parish Council to consider whatever means of support, financial or otherwise, that could be made available.

Cllr Peters reviewed the current position with the play equipment at the school. The new Executive Head had suggested a 'working group' be formed to take this forward, and she is happy to work with the Parish Council on this. In the first instance, the equipment and surfacing deemed unsafe needs to be removed and disposed of. This could allow the play area and remaining equipment to be open for school and community use, providing there would be adequate inspections carried out for out for school hours use.

But the meeting was insistent that a more active stance should be taken to bring this asset back into full parish use and that such an objective was entirely feasible. Therefore, the meeting **resolved** that the Parish Council be asked to consider a move to taking the assets into direct ownership.

Finally, whilst the meeting agreed that many residents had helped to improve the appearance of the parish with their grass cutting, uncollected dog faeces remained a significant nuisance. Therefore, it was agreed that the Parish Council be asked to revisit the problem with the probable need to install more bins.

The meeting ended at 9.15pm

Purpose of the Annual Parish Meeting

Annual Parish meetings are a chance for town electors to discuss parish affairs and to pass resolutions thereon (although such resolutions are not binding on the Parish Council). The Council particularly welcomes ideas for projects in the Parish that could be developed during the forthcoming year.

Who can attend the meeting?

The Annual Parish Meeting is a meeting of all the local government electors for the Parish. It is NOT a Meeting of the Parish Council, which the public can participate in. Anyone may attend but only registered electors of Wymondham and Edmondthorpe may speak and vote.

Will I be able to ask questions and make suggestions?

Yes, any registered elector may ask questions of the Council, which will usually be answered by the Chairperson, the Clerk to the Council, or a designated Councillor.

An elector may also make suggestions and comment on anything pertinent to the people of Wymondham and Edmondthorpe. This will be welcomed and is the whole purpose of the meeting.

Who will chair the meeting?

The Chairperson of the Parish Council will chair the meeting. If the Chair is not able to attend, then the meeting will elect a chairperson from amongst those electors present.

Will Parish Councillors be there?

Usually they do attend and will speak if need be. But the purpose of the meeting is to enable the ordinary electors to have their say. Councillors will listen with interest and as electors themselves, also have the opportunity to raise questions and make comments if they wish.

Will notes be taken of the meeting?

Yes, a written record of the meeting will be taken and will be presented at a future meeting of Council for their consideration.

What else happens at the meeting?

We have invited local clubs, societies and other voluntary and statutory organisations to speak about the work of their group.

How long will the meeting last?

As long as need be, within reason. It really depends on those present and the number of questions and the discussion that is raised. Generally, the meeting will last no longer than 2 hours.

Appendix 2

Annual Parish Meeting Tues 28th May 2019

INTRODUCTION by the Chairman.

Good evening everybody and welcome to this Annual Meeting.

As Chairman of the Parish Council I shall be chairing tonight's meeting.

This is not a Parish Council Meeting but rather a less formal chance for the residents of Wymondham and Edmondthorpe to discuss parish affairs and pass on opinions to the Parish Council.

Anyone can attend this meeting but only registered voters of Wymondham and Edmondthorpe may vote on resolutions.

Questions:

Any registered elector may ask questions and as chair I, or one of the other councillors here tonight will try and answer with the help of our Clerk, Terry, who has kindly volunteered to take written notes of the meeting.

Speakers: *Reports*

We have invited all the local groups that we could think of to come and speak about the work that they do in our community.

Interval:

We will have a 15min break and the Parish Council have decided once again to provide complimentary drinks and nibbles.

Open Forum:

After the break there will be a chance to ask further questions, open up a discussion and pass resolutions on all Parish affairs.

These resolutions are not binding on the PC but are useful to inform the PC of opinions and will be taken into account in future decisions of the council.

Length of meeting. We'll try and keep the meeting to below 2hrs and be finished by ½ 9.

ANNUAL REPORT by the Chair on behalf of the PC.

Over the last 2 or 3 years the PC with the help of the Neighbourhood Plan Group completed a Neighbourhood Plan and as a council we now refer to this and use it to inform our responses to Melton Council regarding planning applications.

We've been working with the Traffic Group and Leicestershire Highways to try and reduce the speed of traffic through Wymondham.

We try and spend the small portion of your rate money that is the Precept wisely and for the benefit of the community. With this in mind we have been looking at the maintenance and running costs of the street lighting, some of which is getting towards the end of its life and now needs replacing. After looking at various schemes we have decided to install LED lights, and the lower running costs will produce savings that will eventually more than pay for the new equipment.

The Wymondham Allotment Association have been working with us to resolve the parking problem, otherwise the allotments seem to be working well.

The play equipment is required to have an annual safety inspection and the PC pays for this. We also organise the cleaning and maintenance of the bus shelters and the provision and maintenance of the two defibrillators.

We are able to give grants to community projects and this year supported the repairs to Wymondham Church Clock with a contribution of £3000.

This year we are looking at improving the appearance of the approaches to Wymondham and integrating this with various speed reduction measures.

Wymondham Edmondthorpe Journal
Report to Annual Parish Meeting 28/05/19

The 'Wymondham Edmondthorpe Journal' has just entered its 53rd year as an independent village magazine. The cover illustration is the one drawn by the late Rigby Graham for the 3rd issue.

We have a circulation figure of 175+ copies which are published on the first Sunday of the month. As we are a registered publication copies are also sent to the National copyright office in Scotland and the British Library.

The annual subscription remains unchanged at £5 and the advertising rates have increased by a small amount, which relates to £1 per quarter page. The combination of these covers the cost of printing at present and any postage costs.

The vast majority of the groups and societies in the two villages submit copy on a regular basis, and although we welcome articles on subjects which may be of interest to the community, priority is always given to information regarding events and meetings which are taking place in the current month or near future.

Our band of 11 voluntary distributors do a great job delivering the Journals punctually and we are very grateful to all of them for turning out in all weathers to do so.

Jenny Weston

Editor

Wymondham Village Hall
Report to Annual Parish Meeting 28/05/19

Wymondham Village Hall has been consistently well used throughout the last 12 months. Weekly users are: 2 Badminton Groups, a Pilates Class, Gong Yoga; U3A Wood Carving group; Market Overton Free Church. Occasional user groups have been Melton Borough Council; St Peter's Church PCC; WI; Wymondham and Edmondthorpe Parish Council and Wymondham Players. Private Hire of the hall by those mentioned above plus Children's Parties, Private Parties, Funerals, Christenings and Weddings amount to 258 days or evenings throughout the last year.

The Village Hall Committee run regular fundraising functions. Weekly Coffee Mornings, Fortnightly Music Sessions, Monthly Sunday Sizzlers and Quiz and Film Screenings every 2 months. We have also had screenings of the, Rugby 6 Nations, the World Cup and the Royal Wedding. Other fundraising functions held throughout the year have been 8 Pub Nights, 2 Live & Local performances, the Autumn Fair, 90th Anniversary, Burns Supper and Cicle Classic.

Maintenance Projects in the last 12 months have been some new floorboards in the main hall, vents under the radiators in the main hall to enable full circulation of air, repairs to the oven, a new DVD player, some electrical wiring has been re-routed, the window frames on the front of the hall painted and a new flushing system has been fitted in the Gents.

New furnishing and fittings have included the purchase of 80 new upholstered chairs plus a trolley for moving them

In the next 2-3 months the Ladies and Gents Toilets, the Kitchen and the Bar will also be re-decorated and some new shelving fitted in the bar.

We do need to keep a reserve of money in hand to replace the flat roofs in the next 4-5 years, and a new boiler system will also have to be installed in approximately 5 years' time, if not beforehand.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Parish Council for their support in providing precepted funding towards the annual cost of utilities, licenses, insurance and servicing.

Our Annual Meeting will be held on June 27th at 7.30pm in the hall, when a financial statement for the current year will be available. We will send the Parish Council a copy following the meeting, which all members of the community are invited to attend.

Jenny Weston

Chairman

Wymondham Village Hall Committee.

Edmondthorpe Social Club

Report to Annual Parish Meeting

28 May 2019

Edmondthorpe Social Club opens every Friday evening (bar service provided) and there are regular music evenings and social events held on Saturdays. The Social Club also opens from noon – 2pm every third Sunday. Everyone is welcome – members, residents and guests alike – and we have welcomed a number of new faces through the door in the last 12 months.

It has been a positive and enjoyable year with highlights including:

- 'The Big Lunch', which celebrated 100 years since the end of the First World War and the centenary of votes for women.
- A darts competition, with money raised on the evening for The Air Ambulance Service.
- A fun, well-attended Christmas Eve party with Santa!
- 2 well-attended quiz evenings.
- An excellent New Year's Eve party, with attendees aged from 8 weeks old to 94 years old!
- Table top sales, which have reached full allocation of tables.
- A harvest supper, followed by an auction of donated produce, with proceeds donated to The Air Ambulance Service.
- A cycle race that was held in March, with great feedback from the organisers.

There are approximately 40 registered members (each paying a £5 annual membership fee) and the Social Club also receives regular bookings from local groups. This, coupled with the successful events, has produced a modest trading profit over the 12 months. This has allowed the committee to purchase new equipment including a stainless-steel preparation table and kettle (that allows us to provide a selection of teas/coffees during bar events and functions). The Social club was also donated an additional fridge.

Little maintenance has been required over the last 12 months, but the chimney stack was repaired at the end of 2018 and a new Carbon Monoxide detector has been fitted.

We welcome new faces to our events, so please keep an eye on our listings in the Journal and on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/EdmondthorpeSocialClub).

Future plans for the Social Club include an electronic payment facility (subject to successful trial) and, subject to funding, installation of an upgraded water heater and improved outdoor seating.

As always, huge thanks to the volunteers and committee members that keep Edmondthorpe Social Club running so successfully.

Ally McGann

Edmondthorpe Social Club committee member