

KINOULTON
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
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Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in Kinoulton Village Hall on Wednesday 23rd May 2018.

Present Councillors:

Cllr. K. Freeston (Chairman)
Cllr. G. Earl
Cllr. S. Hill
Cllr. N. Oxby (Treasurer)
Cllr. S. Roberts

J Holland (Clerk to the Parish Council)

Visitors Cllr. R. Butler (County Councillor)
Cllr. T. Combellack (Borough Councillor)

Apologies Cllr. D. Bilton (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr. J. Cadwallader

The Parish Council meeting formally opened at 8.00pm.

25. APOLOGIES

Cllr. D. Bilton (Vice-Chairman), Cllr J. Cadwallader

26. MINUTES ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 24TH MAY 2017

Cllr. Freeston asked if there were any discrepancies regarding the minutes from the meeting held on 24th May 2017, as none were stated the chairman signed the minutes.

27. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Annual Parish Meeting Chairman's Report May 2018

The Council continues to meet every month to discuss any matters brought to our attention by Parishioners, the Borough or County Councils. Every meeting tends to include discussions on planning applications, highways issues and the play equipment in the village.

As well as thanking all the Councillors for giving their time towards village life, I'd also like to thank Julie Holland, the Clerk to the Council, for her great work throughout the year. Julie often goes above and beyond her paid hours to ensure the Parish Council runs smoothly.

The past 12 months have been a little busier than the previous year in terms of the quantity of planning applications – we've considered 16 planning applications this year compared to 10 last year.

One topic which has been on our agenda throughout the year has been the issue of Neighbourhood Plans and the idea of a village survey. After many discussions, Kinoulton Parish Councillors decided, as things currently stand, they did not feel a Neighbourhood Plan was necessary for our village and the time, energy and money it would take to implement one and was unlikely to return the investment of time and money expended on the project. Instead, Councillors decided there was great worth in canvassing opinion of Parishioners on a wide range of topics since the most recent village survey was over a decade ago. Life in the village has changed in that time. People's shopping habits have altered and as a result we've lost our Post Office shop and the Farm Shop and internet shopping has exploded. The bus service has been reduced dramatically. It is, therefore, important for the PC to understand the villagers' current needs & aspirations so we can try to follow those thoughts and ideas over the coming months/years.

The need to canvas opinion was prompted by discussions on the financial position of the Parish Council. For many years money has been put aside with the intention of purchasing land for a recreation area for the village; however, with mounting land values it is becoming apparent that this is unlikely to be attainable in the near future. Should this remain an aim for the Parish Council or do Parishioners feel the money could be put

to better use for the village? A recreation ground would incur maintenance costs of a significant amount on a year to year basis and our Annual Stipend would probably not cover the maintenance on top of the other costs we already expend on an annual basis.

The play equipment at the school is under our care and it is still possibly the most inspected play equipment on the planet! Between them Neil, Jan and Sue check the equipment twice weekly to ensure the younger members of the village can play safely. Some of the equipment is showing its age and various elements have been replaced during the year and this is likely to be an ongoing cost to the Parish Council.

Another item which has been raised with the Parish Council during the year has been the deterioration of the roads in the village and the amount of mud in particular areas. As we are in a rural setting with working farms the Parish Council are mindful that mud is inevitable during the winter months. However, it became apparent that the quantity over the past few months has been above this and the Parish Council have been working with Nottinghamshire County Councillor Richard Butler to determine who is responsible for the state of our roads and trying to remediate the issue. In these days of austerity we are in, we have to acknowledge the County Council budget is stretched and so anything we can do individually to help our own situation will be appreciated.

The Allotments continue to be run by the Allotment Society and I thank their committee for their hard work in making it a successful venture in the village.

Our most recent significant expenditure has been to pay for the repair to the Village Clock at St Luke's Church. The Parish Council pays for the maintenance of the clock as it is considered an integral part of the community and I for one am glad the bongs have returned! The Parish Council would like to thank Richard Butler (Nottinghamshire County Councillor) and Tina Combellack (Rushcliffe Borough Councillor) for their generous contributions to the repairs.

All your Councillors give their time freely and willingly and are a vital voice for the village, hopefully keeping our bit of our green and pleasant land as villagers like it. If there are any issues concerning Kinoulton you would like to raise please let us know and we look forward to reading your responses to the survey.

Kathy Freeston
Chair of Kinoulton Parish Council.

28. TREASURER'S REPORT: ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR 2017/2018

The Council is required to:

- a) Provide an Annual Governance Statement which identifies that we have a sound system of internal control.
- b) Have a report from an independent internal auditor.
- c) Complete a basic accounting statement reflecting receipts and payments together with an explain any significant variances from the previous year.

These statements are made available on the website along with the Council's asset register and a record of expenditure above £100 during the year. In addition, the Council also make available on the website

- Receipts and Payments Account for the year ending 31st March 2018.
- Income and Expenditure Account for the year ending 31st March 2018.
- Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2017.
- Notes to the Accounts.

A change this year is that for councils where income or expenditure did not exceed £25,000 they are exempt from submitting the Annual Governance and Accountability Return to the external auditor. Kinoulton falls into this category.

Receipts

- The main source of income is the precept of £6,850, which remains one of the lowest precepts per Band D property in Rushcliffe.
- With VAT refund the receipts for the year were £7,354.97.

Payments

The Council has a number of items of expenditure which occur every year. This includes the Clerk's wages, insurance, and internal audit.

In terms of facilities, the Parish Council is responsible for the Village Green and has entered into agreements for the provision of the Joint Use Play Area at the school after school hours and for the provision of the allotments on Owthorpe Lane. It has also paid for the service of St Luke's Church clock as the Parish Clock. These have associated costs as follows:

- Licence Fee of £500 per annum is paid to the School.
- Allotments: there is a rent of £400.00.
- Village Green varies dependent on what works are required. This year maintenance cost has been £330.00.
- Village Clock repairs of £115.00.

The Parish Council look to support local groups, but last year we did not receive any requests for grant funding.

In budgeting we do set aside sums (£2,400) for the replacement of the play equipment on the Joint use Play Area.

29. KEITH OXBY ON THE HISTORY OF KINOULTON

Keith Oxby gave an interesting talk on the history of Kinoulton.

30. PARISH AFFAIRS

A parishioner commented on how nice it was to have the Parish Clock working again.

The speed of vehicles along Main Street was raised as a concern by a Parishioner, Cllr Freeston said that it will be put back on the agenda for a Parish Council meeting.

A parishioner who was involved with a previous speed awareness campaign said that if the police are supplied with a registration number and if the vehicle is going approx. 40 MPH in a 30 area, the police will write to driver.

Cllr. Freeston also advised that the Parish Council has requested that the 30MPH roundels are re-painted.

A parishioner commented on blocked drains along Main Street. Cllr. Oxby suggested that Parishioners report a problem to Rushcliffe Borough Council or Nottinghamshire County Council; it is easy to do on the website and you can click on map to report a problem. Cllr. Butler also commented that it is very easy to report a problem on either of the websites.

Cllr. Oxby asked how the parishioners felt about the verges being cut, also that the Parish Council had received a request to get the grass cut at the top of Pinfold Lane.

A parishioner suggested that maybe the Parish Council could look at getting the grass cut regularly at the top of Pinfold Lane if Parishioners wished to use that area?

31. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 19th June 2018 at 19.30.

The Meeting ended at 21.15pm.