

Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly of Halford Parish Council
Held on the 10th of May 2023 at 7.00 pm at The Bridge Inn

Present:

Present: Cllr Nick Gale (in the Chair)

Councillors Gerald Newell and Sarah Whalley-Hoggins

Clerk: Karen Parnell

In attendance:

One member of the public

County Councillor Izzi Seccombe

Apologies: District Councillor Malcolm Littlewood

1) Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly in May 2022

Were agreed and duly signed off by the Chairman to be a true record.

2) Matters arising therefrom

None

3) Chairman's report on the work of the Parish Council during the last twelve months

THIS IS THE END OF MY NINTH YEAR AS CHAIRMAN OF HALFORD PARISH COUNCIL AND FOURTEEN YEARS SINCE I FIRST BECAME A COUNCILOR.

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK NEW AND OLD MEMBERS OF THE TEAM AS WELL AS OUR COUNTY COUNCILLOR IZZI SECCOMBE AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR PENNY O'DONNELL FOR HELP IN LOOKING AFTER THE NEEDS AND REQUIREMENTS OF ALL THE RESIDENTS OF THE VILLAGE.

HALFORD IS A TINY VILLAGE WITH VARIOUS COMMITTEES AND ORGANISATIONS WORKING HARD TO ORGANISE EVENTS WHICH ARE INCLUSIVE FOR EVERYONE.

WE HAVE HAD POP UP PUBS. JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS, HARVEST FESTIVAL, LENT LUNCH, COFFEE MORNINGS, FILM EVENINGS, COLIN'S PROGRESSIVE SUPPER WHICH RAISED £625 SPLIT BETWEEN THE CHURCH AND VILLAGE HALL, (THANKS TO SUZIE BLACK FOR HER ORGANISATION OF THE EVENT), VILLAGE QUIZZES AND A PANTOMIME.

VERY RECENTLY FINANCIALLY SUPPORTED AND ATTENDED VILLAGE CELEBRATIONS IN RESPECT OF CORONATION. EVENT WAS SHOWN IN VILLAGE HALL, STREET PARTY AND VILLAGE CLEAR UP ALL A HUGE SUCCESS. ALL WERE ARRANGED BY A VERY SMALL POOL OF VOLUNTEERS WHO ARE TO BE APPLAUDED FOR THEIR WORK.

EVERY EVENT WAS WIDELY ADVERTISED VIA SOCIAL MEDIA, E-MAILS, "WHATS APP" AND WORD OF MOUTH.

PRECEPT

PRECEPT HAS BEEN KEPT AT SAME LEVELS FOR ANOTHER YEAR WHILE KEEPING SERVICES THE SAME.

QUALITY STATUS

RETAINED. WHICH HELPS MAINTAIN OUR PROFILE WHEN DEALING WITH DISTRICT AND COUNCIL MATTERS.

DONATIONS

THE COUNCIL DONATED THE SUM OF £10000 TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL SUPPORTING THEIR WORK UNDERTAKING THE REPAIR OF CHURCH WALL IN MILL LANE. THIS WAS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED AND WAS IN FACT LESS THAN HALF OF THE AMOUNT OF THE FINAL BILL.

ANNUAL DONATION TO CHURCH CLOCK FUND OF £250 WAS MADE.

FUNDS WERE ALSO MADE AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT BOTH JUBILEE AND CORONATION CELEBRATIONS.

ROADS AND DRAINAGE

WE KEEP ON TOP OF THESE ISSUES WHEN ADVISED TO US BY RESIDENTS.

PLANNING APPLICATION. LAND NORTH OF IDLICOTE ROAD. HALFORD.

SADLY AT A PLANNING MEETING HELD IN STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL OFFICES THE APPLICATION ON BEHALF OF ROSCONN DEVELOPMENTS WAS PASSED.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR SARAH WHALLEY-HOGGINS AND MYSELF ATTENDED AND LODGED OUR OBJECTIONS ON YOUR BEHALF. A CLOSE RUN THING.

5 VOTED TO PASS, 3 VOTED TO DECLINE AND 1 ABSTENTION.

TRAFFIC SPEED ON THE FOSSE

THERE WILL BE A PEDESTRIAN CROSSING INCORPORATED IN THE SANCTION FOR THE BOWLING GREEN HOUSES ON THE FOSSE. IT WILL BE INSTALLED BEFORE HOUSES ARE OCCUPIED.

**VILLAGE IMPROVEMENTS AND MAINTENANCE
VERGES AND INFRASTRUCTURE ARE KEPT IN AS GOOD A STATE AS POSSIBLE THANKS TO ADVICE FROM RESIDENTS WHEN MATTERS ARE IDENTIFIED.**

VILLAGE HALL

**REDEVELOPMENT PLANS HAVE BEEN SCALED BACK BECAUSE OF UNACCEPTABLY HIGH COSTS.
THANKS TO DONATIONS BY CHARITIES AND RESIDENTS,
REPLACEMENT OF THE SLOPING ROOF DAMAGED BY STORM IS NOW COMPLETE.**

**SADLY THE THREE FLAT ROOFS NOW NEED WORK AND FINANCING WILL HAVE TO BE SOURCED.
A MORE ECONOMIC PLAN FOR THE FUTURE OF THE BUILDING WILL BE CREATED ONCE THIS WORK IS COMPLETE.**

VILLAGE VOICES

PARISH COUNCIL GIVES FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO THIS NECESSARY VOICE OF THE VILLAGE.

THE PUB

WE ARE ALL PLEASED THAT THE PUB IS UP AND RUNNING AND IS PROVIDING A WARM AND TASTY WELCOME. MESSAGE IS :- USE IT OR LOSE IT.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

THE PUBLIC ARE MADE AWARE THAT THEIR VIEWS ARE IMPORTANT AND THAT THEY ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND ANY PARISH MEETING AND LODGE THOUGHTS AND COMPLAINTS DURING THE 15 MINUTES SET ASIDE FOR THEIR USE.

PARISH CLERK

IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT OUR CLERK KAREN PARNELL'S WORK HAS BEEN EXEMPLARY IN KEEPING US ON THE STRAIGHT AND NARROW. MUCH APPRECIATED.

WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY

THE PARISH COUNCIL ENJOYS IT'S WORK WITH THE COMMUNITY AND CONTINUES TO WELCOME THE REGULAR PASSING OF INFORMATION BETWEEN THE RESIDENTS AND COUNCILLORS.

**THANKS FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION.
NICHOLAS GALE
CHAIRMAN.**

4) Statement of Accounts of the Parish Council

Karen had produced the end of year accounts for 2022/23, which she summarised; a copy was sent to all Councillors and was available to any public present. Income was £ 10093 and Expenditure £ 19053 - The year-end balance is £17241 representing a deficit of £ 8960 (Due to church wall repairs).

5) District Councillor's Report

Not present

6) County Councillor's Report

Councillor Izzi Seccombe, Warwickshire County Councillor 2022/2023

It has been a momentous year with the death of Queen Elizabeth II followed by the coronation of King Charles III. A number of church services have taken place. WCC have congratulated the King and Queen Camilla and pledged allegiance to them. Volunteering has been an important focus of the celebrations and WCC understands the importance of volunteering and the impact on communities. There are monies available for supporting community assets. WCC budget and finance were discussed. Efforts are being made to support residents during the cost of living crisis. A drive to take up free school meals is taking place. Izzi is now recovering well after health concerns and is now able to attend more meetings.

7) Any other business

None

Meeting closed: 7.20pm

Signed:.....Chairman