SWANNINGTON with ALDERFORD & LITTLE WITCHINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council – Jim Graves CERG.MIET.DMS.MCM.
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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON MAY 18th.2022

Present: Mrs.Sue Darling – Chairman Mr.Jim Graves – Clerk

Four councillors Four members of the public Mr.Peter Bullman (BDC)

1. The Chairman gave her annual report:

At the beginning of the year, Covid restrictions were still in place and the Parish Council had to meet via Zoom until the July meeting at which time the Clerk, Mrs.Kirby resigned from her post. The Council continued through the summer with the Chairman acting as unpaid Clerk. The Council then appointed Mr.Jim Graves as Clerk from the beginning of November. Mr.Graves has had 21 years of experience as a Clerk in other nearby villages..

The Upgate boardwalk had rotted and was removed for safety reasons. The Council discussed it's replacement at length and at the March meeting alternative proposals were outlined to members of the public present. Following this discussion the Council resolved to opt for a rolled aggregate path rather than replacing like for like as this would be beneficial for future maintenance. It had already been established that the £5,240 Community Infrastructure levy received during the year could be used towards this project. The Council is currently seeking quotations for this work in line with Financial Regulations and due to the special nature of the site, permission is being sought from Natural England.

Steve Williams continues to be our lead councillor on all matters relating to the commons and liaises with all funding bodies, contractors and volunteer groups to ensure that they are properly maintained.

Our new Clerk has established a website specifically for Council business but agendas and minutes will still be published by the Swannington News.

Following expenditure projections from the Clerk the Council resolved to make no increase in the parish precept which remains at £6,000.

Following discussions at the March meeting the Council resolved to resume an annual grant to the Church towards burial ground maintenance.

This is a very important year, celebrating Her Majesty's platinum jubilee and the Parish Council have funded commemorative mugs to mark the occasion.

My thanks are due to all members of the Council for the time spent on community matters for the benefit of the parish.

Sue Darling - Chairman of the Parish Council

2. The Clerk presented the draft accounts for 2021/2022 and answered queries from the public. Accrued Balances at 31-3-2022

Current a/c £1,390
Deposit a/c £17,523
Commons a/c £29,208

3. County and District Council reports.

Councillor Bullman said that although Broadland had made no increase in precept their level of service would not be affected. Broadland and South Norfolk had decided to locate their combined staff at a new office on Broadland business park with their existing premises to be sold. Possible nutrient pollution to local rivers had caused delays on future development application whilst planners studied the implications.

4. Police Report

No crimes had been recorded in February or March.

5. Any other business - None