

FLYFORD FLAVELL, GRAFTON FLYFORD & NORTH PIDDLER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Flyford Flavell, Grafton Flyford, and North Piddle Parish Council held at The Three Parishes Hall, Grafton Flyford at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 14th May 2019

Present J East S Kennedy S Densham
D Waide P Wakeman R Davey
J Barratt
Mark Broughton - Taylor was present as Clerk
County Councillor -

Apologies L Robinson, R Adams

1. **Outgoing Chairman's Report**

The major achievement of the last year has been broadband enhancement. Fibre broadband had been implemented in Flyford Flavell, but broadband speeds outside the village remained woefully slow. The parish council worked to develop an affordable fibre broadband scheme with the lead taken by Steve Nesbitt. Extensive work and negotiation saw costs fall from £188,000 to £52,000 to connect a further 90 properties. In parallel grants were found which reduced the householder contribution to nil. A contract was signed on 7-9-18 for implementation within 12 months. I understand the majority of the work is almost complete and 90 householders should soon have the opportunity to connect fibre direct into their homes.

Progress on village green enhancements had slowed with just one bench being agreed and installed in the prior year. The working group was reconstituted in October, and a lot of potential improvements explored. Further bulb planting was agreed and £200 made available, though just too late for the 2018 planting window. Four more benches have been agreed. These have been purchased and are waiting installation. A litter bin has been agreed. Play equipment and planting and landscaping proposals have been developed and are ready for public consultation. Water and electricity supply are under investigation, together with further improvement to the grass surface.

A sign for Flyford Green is still being investigated.

We have dealt with twenty two planning items in the past year. The majority were supported by the Parish Council. A few were opposed, with mixed success.

The improvements to Flyford Church have been completed with the implementation of a heating system. The New Homes Bonus grant of £5295 has been made and the Parish Council has funded 50 community chairs.

We have supported the Three Parishes Hall to investigate further enhancement and potential extension. A proposal was developed, but is currently on hold as funding is required for a bat survey.

We nominated Tony Hughes for the Jubilee Recognition Award from Wychavon. I am delighted that he won and accepted the award on behalf of all those who have supported the Three Parishes Hall over the years.

The Grafton Society is being wound up and we have received a donation of £1500. This money is to be used for the benefit of the rural area.

Having seen a low incidence of crime in the Parishes for some time we had a significant increase in burglaries and some vandalism. This has prompted investigation of Neighbourhood Watch and Smartwater. These are both planned for consultation

We are planning a public consultation event in June. This will include village green enhancements, Neighbourhood Watch, Smartwater, and how we might further improve communication to the local community.

We have continued the Lengthsman scheme, and also held a recent litter pick.

Various potholes and road defects have been reported and a number of repairs carried out. Resurfacing is currently being carried out for Bishampton road which it is hoped will repair the road damage at the edge of Flyford Flavell.

We reviewed our GPDR compliance and have appointed a Data Protection Officer and implemented a compliant email communication system, using mailchimp.

We tried a combined, Three Parishes, annual parish meeting this year and held it at Flyford First School. This was very successful, with over 20 attendees and a good variety of input.

The precept was reviewed and agreed to be increased by 4.0%. The precept is still well below the national average for small parish councils.

Steve Nesbitt resigned as a councillor earlier this year, and I would like to record my personal thanks for his excellent work on broadband. I would like to conclude by thanking all our councillors for their valuable contributions and

input, Rob Adams and Linda Robinson for their continued strong support at County and Wychavon, and to Gayle Rowe for her service as Footpath officer. Particular thanks are due to Richard Davey, for excellent support including chairing several meetings and our Clerk, Mark for his continued strong service.

2. Election of Chairman and Declaration of Office of Chairman

Having given consent to the nomination David Waide was proposed by Pauline Wakeman and all were in agreement. The chairman signed the declaration of office.

3. To elect/appoint the Vice Chairman

Having given consent to the nomination Richard Davey was proposed by Saidie Densham and all were in agreement.

4. Apologies for Absence

Rob Adams and Linda Robinson had tendered their apologies for absence.

5. Declaration of Interest

There were none.

6. i/. Tree Warden Vacancy

It was agreed to re-advertise the vacancy of Tree Warden on the Parish Council Noticeboards and the website.

ii/. Co-option of Councillors for North Piddle, Grafton Flyford and Flyford Flavell

Mrs Joanna Barratt of North Piddle came forward for co-option following the short fall of councillors at the election. Mrs Barratt gave a short introduction explaining that due to life changes she now had more time and wished to be involved in community matters.

Mr Richard Davey had missed the election due to work issues but wished to remain on the council to represent Grafton Flyford.

Mr Simon Kennedy had missed the election due to surgery on a knee injury but wished to continue to serve on the council for Flyford Flavell.

In a secret ballot between members all the candidates were unanimously elected to the council.

7. Footpath Officer's Report

No report had been received.

8. Data Protection

It was noted that this matter had been dealt with at the November 2018 meeting.

9. Standing Orders [Rules of the Council]

No amendments were proposed to the present standing orders at this time. It was resolved to re-adopt the standing orders for the coming year.

It was also agreed that a protocol concerning training and the costs for training would be added to the standing orders during the year.

Proposed David Waide Seconded Pauline Wakeman All agreed

10. Report from Staffing Committee

The Staffing Committee met following the meeting in April and agreed the cost of living increase for the clerks remuneration. Further consideration will be given to the clerk's package following the presentation of a diary showing how many hours was required to complete the work. A diary has been kept by the clerk since the April meeting.

11. Treasurers Report

The Clerk presented the Annual Governance Statement for the year which was scrutinized by the councillors and was accepted. Approval of the financial report was proposed by David Waide and Seconded by Simon Kennedy, all were in favour. The Annual Audit Report was presented to the Parish Council, acceptance of this report was proposed by David Waide, this was seconded by Saidie Densham and all were in favour. The report will be posted on the website in due course.

12. Reports from Parish Meetings

A combined parish meeting had taken place at Flyford First School on April 15th. This had proved quite successful with about 20 people turning up.

Please note report on action from the parish meeting in the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the same date.