

Great Finborough Parish Meeting

Minutes of the Great Finborough Annual Parish Meeting held on 18th May 2022 **Held in Pettiward Hall**

12 members of public present

Chairman – Cllr Simon Tarabella, Clerk – Paula Gladwell,

Apologies – June Nathan, Rev Sarah Jenkins

1. The minutes of previous meeting of 6th May 2021 were approved and signed.
2. Cllr Otton gave her report, which is attached to these minutes. Concerns were expressed by members of the public regarding the poor quality of road maintenance. Cllr Otton confirmed that her group has put forward a motion to Council to bring Highways maintenance back in house. It was noted that there is an online petition to support this. Concerns were also expressed around the local road closures and the impact multiple closures have on road users. Cllr Otton asked that people email her with their specific concerns when they happen. A member of the public expressed their lack of support for the Parish Council's efforts to get the 30mph speed limit extended on High Road. It was confirmed that the Parish Council's actions stem from repeated requests from several residents for improved safety measures at this site by slowing traffic speeds.
3. Cllr Matthissen gave his report, which is attached. Concerns were expressed about the failed refuse collections in Church Road. Cllr Matthissen asked that he be informed when this actually happens in the future and that photos of the offending vehicles are taken in support of a complaint. A question was put as to why MSDC are not insisting that all new houses have solar panels fitted, Cllr Matthissen confirmed that the Government cannot make developers do this and even though new building regs legislation is imminent these still do not make it mandatory.

Item 4k brought forward

4. k. Police Community Engagement Officer PCSO Stefan Henriksen introduced himself and invited questions. Stefan's role as a Community Engagement police officer is to be in the community to field any public concerns and to feed them back to the force. It was noted that if residents have any concerns they can make them heard through Stefan. It was confirmed that the engagement officers role takes him to local schools, fetes, youth groups and council meetings which is what the local police officers used to do, and Suffolk Police are now trying to get back to this style of community policing. It was noted that the new Inspector, John Murray is keen to liaise with communities again and through Stefan will chase up things that don't happen. This route to the police force is not meant to cover reports of crime necessarily but more to voice concerns. Stefan confirmed that he alone covers 73 parishes so cannot be seen actually out and about but is based at Violet Hill and can be contacted by email, phone, social media or via your parish council. Stefan was asked what are the top priorities of the police at this time? "to catch criminals and make the community safer" and confirmed that Community policing is very involved in educating people against scams and fraud.
 - a. Cllr Tarabella gave his report from the Parish Council which is attached to these minutes and thanked the Parish Councilors for their commitment over the past year.
 - b. The clerk read the report from Rev Sarah Jenkins, St Andrew's Church which is attached.
 - c. David Preece gave a report for the Pettiward Hall Management Committee which is attached. The Chair expressed his regret that he had been unable to attend the recent AGM and was sorry to hear that no members of the public attended confirming that it is a sad reflection of village life. Cllr Tarabella thanked the trustees of Pettiward Hall for their time and commitment and praised the fantastic job they do looking after such a great facility.

- d. Judith Cameron's report from the Garden Club was read by Peter Turner and is attached to these minutes. Thanks were extended to the garden club members who look after the public herb garden.
 - e. There was no report from Great Finborough Primary School
 - f. The clerk read a report from June Nathan from the Woodpecker Hill Volunteer Group a copy of which is attached. Thanks were extended to the volunteer group at the wood for the superb show of woodland flowers.
 - g. Mary Smyth gave a report from the Allotments Association which is attached.
 - h. Simon Tarabella gave a report from the editorial team for the Newsletter which is attached.
 - i. Simon also gave a report from the Community Speedwatch team which is attached.
 - j. Katie, the new chair at Great Finborough & Buxhall Under 5's gave Delia Prior's report. Thanks were extended to the nursery group for accommodating the visiting Ukrainian children and making them so welcome.
 - l. There were no further parish reports.
5. Any other matters – Concerns were expressed regarding the MSDC refuse vehicle refusing to access Church Road on occasion due to parked cars. It was suggested that the posts on the village green are removed to allow for car parking on the grass to ensure more room on the road for larger vehicle to traverse Church Road, perhaps with a plastic surface installed preventing poaching of the ground. It was confirmed that the Parish Council had discussed and considered this request and agreed that they are unwilling to lose Village Green area to more parking. Some additional parking has recently been established in Church Road and anymore would not be supported by the Parish Council. Yellow lines were then requested for the pinch points; it was confirmed that this would probably not be supported by the parish council as the periods that Church Road are deemed inaccessible by the refuse truck are very infrequent and any emergency vehicles would access the road by force if necessary. Cllr Matthissen confirmed that he would talk to Public Realm to find out what the issues are with the refuse truck as sometimes they were willing to pass the parked car and sometimes not.
- A request was put forward to provide car park indication signs to make it more obvious that there are public car parks available in Valley Lane and Middlefield Drive. This request will be added to the next Parish Council agenda for consideration.

The chairman thanked everyone for coming and for their time and commitment to the village and its residents and closed the meeting at 9.20pm.