

Hindolveston Parish Council

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Present: Wayne Bowditch (Chair), Hazel Carter, Chip Davison, Wayne Jolly, Trevor Leeder, Neil Lewis, Mary Walsh (Vice-Chair)

and: Vincent FitzPatrick (District Cllr) and one member of the public

Annual Parish Meeting
on **Thursday 21 April 2022 in the Millennium Pavilion at 7.30 pm**

MINUTES

1. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. Apologies for absence from S Aquarone (County Cllr) and PC Dawson (SNT Fakenham) were accepted
3. The minutes of the previous annual parish meeting held on 17 June 2021 were approved and signed.
4. Report from the Parish Council

Another strange year due to Covid-19, but the Parish Council was able to meet in person at the Millennium Pavilion. The newsletter has been going out on a regular basis nearly every month. The Parish Council still has fund available for distribution to individuals and families who have been badly impacted by the pandemic. About half of the fund has been used, but we would welcome applications from those in need even if the need is no longer directly a result of the pandemic.

The Parish Council received a number of small business support grants from the District Council as the Millennium Pavilion had to close. Last year this was used to upgrade electrical installations such as lights in the Pavilion. This year the Pavilion was re-decorated and new stackable chairs were purchased. A second defibrillator was purchased to be located at St George's church. The Parish Council appreciates the trouble that people take to keep the village looking nice (for instance picking up litter, cutting back overgrowth, providing flowers for the war memorial) for the benefit of all. A group of residents have joined together and take part in organised litter picks (or as it suits them). The Parish Council provided litter grabbers and the hi-vis vests. Thanks to all those who contribute to the pleasant appearance of the village.

The Santa Romp was repeated again this year with a decorated tractor and trailer for Santa. Presents were distributed to children and donations were collected for the Mid Norfolk Food Bank. The Silver Band Trust was disbanded and the remaining balance transferred to the Parish Council. A donation of £500 was made to the Village Hall and the rest is held in reserve for the Parish Council to use (particularly to support musical or cultural activities). The Parish Council made donations to the Air Ambulance, Break and the Royal British Legion. The Parish Council thanks all those who have helped and supported the work of the council. It is very much appreciated.

5. Reports from village organisations
 - a. Coffee Shop (Mary Beek)

The weekly Coffee Shop reopened on February 1st 2022, following the lifting of government Covid19 restrictions and has run every Tuesday since then. The Village Hall Committee has outlined Covid safety guidelines for all volunteers working in the Hall, and Coffee Shop volunteers have complied with these.

The re-opened Coffee Shop has proved very popular with villagers and is attended by around 40 people each week. Some new volunteers have come forward to join the rota to run the event and there is also a rota of cake bakers who supply baking each week.

We plan to continue running the Coffee Shop on a weekly basis. New volunteers for serving at the Coffee Shop and for baking cakes are always most welcome.

- b. Village Hall (Julie Lovett)

Since our last up-date for the Parish Council we have completed the work on the Village Hall Project. It took longer than anticipated but the Committee are pleased with the results and we have had very good feedback from village residents. The new kitchen is complete and the new entrance hall is also now in use. We have followed the recommendations from our fire risk assessment and up-graded the fire-fighting equipment, installed mains wired smoke detectors and

widened the inner door to the new entrance lobby to allow us to maintain the same number of people allowed in the building as before. The main hall, kitchen/servery and new entrance lobby have been re-decorated and new curtains fitted in the main hall.

We are very grateful to all our funders: Village Hall users, North Norfolk District Council, the Geoffrey Watling Trust and the Parish Council for their financial support for this project and to the volunteers who have worked on the project.

The Hall reopened in November 2021 as soon as NNDC Building Control signed off the renovation work and the Committee had completed its Safety Review. Regular weekly classes for Tai-Chi, Martial Arts and Fitness class and monthly Textile group meetings and Life Drawing classes resumed. All of these have had some disruptions when virus numbers rose and instructors felt it would be unsafe to continue, but it is good to see the hall able to open its doors again. A new series of weekend Art Workshops has begun and a Yoga class is due to start in May. The Coffee Shop restarted in February and now runs every Tuesday morning. Last weekend Hindolveston Crafts in Action hired the hall for an exhibition of work by village residents showcasing some of the amazing talent we have here. The Village Hall Committee has kept the government's Covid guidance in place and hall users are asked to wear masks, keep the windows open and observe social distancing. Many of our volunteers are not yet ready to meet indoors, so we currently have fewer activities than before the pandemic began, but we are gradually returning to a fuller programme.

c. St George's (Jill Davison)

In the absence of a Priest in charge and a churchwarden, members of the PCC have overseen church duties with the help and guidance of our lay minister Carolyn Sexton. Carol has organised monthly services following covid regulations. Unfortunately our regular congregation is small and we thank Briston for their ongoing support. Sadly, finances continue to be a great concern as we struggle to contribute to our Parish Share. In September 2021 we were lucky to receive a Lottery grant of £9000 for the church room and look forward to the completion of the refurbishment. A big Thank you to George Kemp for cutting the grass, Chip Davison for cutting hedges and the Parish Council for maintaining the upkeep of the old churchyard. St George's is now part of the new Brinningham and Briston benefice and we welcome Rev. Dr Trudie Morris to our village.

d. Ladies Group (Mary Groombridge)

We had no meetings between April 2020 and August 2021 due to COVID. We had a planning meeting in September 2021 when we discussed the future programme and had meetings in October (Jane Hoggar, ex Bluebell Dancer) and a quiz night in November. We decided to have another break from December 2021 to February 2022 as COVID cases were increasing again. Meetings recommenced in March 2022 with a talk and image presentation by Brian Hedges on 'The Way we Were' showing local rural life through the ages.

We are hoping to continue meetings for the rest of the year at 7.30pm on the second Thursday of the month in the Millennium Hall.

6. Open forum – villagers may talk about any issue in the village

The meeting was closed at 8 pm