

LUDDINGTON AND HALDENBY

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

MINUTES

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 13th May 2024 at 6.30pm in the Luddington Village Hall.

Present: Cllr R Adams (Chair), C Fox (Clerk) Cllr S Walker, Cllr A Hewitt, Cllr C Patten.

Public Present: B Elliott & A Scrimgeour (Incredible Edible Marshland), M Thompson, J Clark, J Christopher, C Holloway, M Fisher, S Duffy, A Christopher, J Christopher, H Staniforth, P Parker, S Grigg, S Trainer, C Carver,

Welcome

The Chair, Rob Adams, welcomed everyone attending and opened the meeting.

Incredible Edible Marshland Presentation

Bridget & Amanda explained how Incredible Edible Marshland started and the varied classes and workshops for all skill levels and ages. A Programme of Events 2024 flyer was available.

Shed on the Isle Presentation

Jon explained the background of the Shed on the Isle, how rapidly this particular Shed has grown, what its aims are, who it is for, not just men! and how it has helped with mental health and well-being in the community.

Luddington Village Hall Presentation

Helen gave a presentation of the finances of the village hall, grants received, profitable events and the need for volunteers. Jane then looked back at 2023 and what the village hall hopes to achieve in 2024.

Minutes of previous APM

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 22nd May 2023 were approved and signed by the Chair.

Chair's report on the work of the Parish Council last year and work/projects for the forthcoming year.

Difficult year, 2 councillors resigned in June of last year and another in February of this year.

Angie joined in September 2023 & Chloe in January of this year.

January also saw us start the process of recruiting for our "Community Operative", two applicants, both very good but Martin Thompson just had the edge.

We also took the bold step of purchasing our own mower which has brought grass cutting in-house. The reason for this was to increase the number of cuts we could give the footpaths but also because our existing playing field equipment really was end of life. I know that the volunteers that had maintained the field for many years had petitioned in the past for up-to-date equipment but that

wasn't forthcoming. CWC has served us very well over the past year and we have no complaints about their service but to add the playing field and extra footpath cuts would have involved a substantial increase in the precept. CWC will continue to cut the field hedge and (hopefully) will respond to any other urgencies that might arise. We also purchased a Multi-tool, strimmer etc & power washer to clean the playground equipment.

We had the trees on the square surveyed and commissioned Arrand Tree Care to raise the crowns of some trees to let more light through.

In April / May 2023 we ended the contract for the council website and took control of updates & postings. Again, Kyanite had given great service, but we need to be able to make updates & changes quickly and often beyond office hours.

New gates, field shelter and picnic benches are new additions to the playing field.

Microgrant fund is now more than expected as the NLC Community Grants team rejected one of our donations, we therefore have funded that from council coffers and returned £300 to the microgrant fund.

Following a meeting between the Clerk & the Highways Officer there are to be some changes to the junction by Axholme House in the summer to improve pedestrian safety when crossing the road.

We have contracted out our payroll & AGAR (Annual Governance and Accountability Return) submission to EVS book-keeping.

Areas where our ambition last year outstripped our ability to deliver were the development on Halkon Close and on Meredyke Rd although we were able to get the house nearest to the Clark's and Kelly's moved further away. On-going projects are The Square scheduled for this spring (Oct 23 minute), and digital speed warning signs. A new PC notice board is temporary on hold due to finding a possible new location.

Suggestions/ideas for the future of the village, questions, and comments

The major concerns were speeding through the village especially Meredyke Road and the plans for the changing rooms on the playing field, refurbishment a popular idea. These issues will be discussed at the APCM.

Other concerns were maintenance on the land at the back of the square and the village hall road access. These will be added to the next proper Parish Council meeting.

The Luddington football team is hoping to continue playing and no update on proposed footpaths. The changes to the junction were expressed as an excellent idea.

Chair closed the meeting at 7.45pm.