

Bressingham and Fersfield Parish Council

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Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in the Village Hall on the 24th of April 2018

Present:

Councillors Mr R Hewitt, Mr K Traynier, Mr D Hodges, Mr R Spall, Mrs D Burroughes, Mrs S Cole, Ms M Lanchester, Mrs B Webb and the clerk Mr M Mortimer.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Mr B Spratt, Mr B Roberts, Mr J Kemp, Mr D Neville, Mr B Stone, Mrs M Harris and Mr R Brock.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the 2017 Annual Parish Meeting.

Copies had been made available at the meeting and the minutes were approved and signed.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes

None

4. Annual Report of the Parish Council

The Chairman, Mr Hewitt, spoke of a busy year and thanked Ms Lanchester and Mr Kemp for their work on management of the allotments and Mr Traynier for his oversight of footpaths and speed signs.. He referred to major issues like water on the A1066, the Harvest House development and litter. He said he was proud that the council had supported the Village Hall and shop. He reminded people that information about the PC's activities was available on the website.

5. Statement of the Parish Council's accounts to 31st March 2018

Copies were available at the meeting and a copy of the statement is included in the minute book and will appear on the website.

6. Reports from County Councillor

Mr Spratt sent his apologies.

7. Report from District Councillor

Mr Stone sent his apologies and sent a report which is in the minute book and on the website.

8. Reports from Charities.

Elizabeth Barker – Mrs Burroughes reported a quiet year with just one payment for a light at Bressingham church. There is a full report in the minute book.

The Fuel Allotment – In Mr Neville's absence Mr Hewitt reported a positive financial situation and asked for suggestions for donations.

9. Report from Bressingham School

There was no representative and no report.

10. Reports from Parish Organisations

Bressingham PCC

Mrs Burroughes reported an exceptional year with arrival of the final funds from the Lottery and much work completed on the fabric of the church. She informed the meeting that a headstone for "John" (the ancient skeleton found during work on The Chequers) should soon be in place thanks to local stone masons Bierton and Woods.

A report is in the minute book.

Fersfield PCC

Mr Hewitt reported reasonable attendances throughout the year with excellent ones at Easter and Christmas. He expressed relief that a replacement craftsman had been found to complete the essential remedial work.

Village Hall.

Mrs Webb was pleased to report that the carpark had been repaired by the water company in return for allowing its use by Anglian vehicles during the pipe-laying operation. New lighting had been installed and the toilets redecorated she said.

The Ladies Club

Mrs Cole gave a report describing a variety of events and talks encompassing flower arranging, yoga and fudge making.

The report is in the minute book and on the website.

The Drama Group

Mrs Webb spoke of a busy year including productions of Marigolds and Hansel and Gretel which together made over £1400 which with other activities made a total of £2340 for The Village Hall.

A report is in the minute book.

The Afternoon Club

Mr Brock sent his apologies and a report which is in the minute book.

The Allotment Association

Ms Lanchester reported that there was full occupancy at the site and with reasonable cash flow there were no plans to increase rents.

The accounts and a report are in the minute book.

The Footpath and Speed Sign Warden

Mr Traynier reported footpaths in decent condition.

The website

Mrs Harris sent a report which is in the minute book and on the website.

11. Any other matters

With regard to war memorials Mr Hewitt agreed to remove all wreaths and other marks of respect by the 31st of October and suggested anybody wishing to retrieve a wreath should do so before that time.

The meeting ended at 8.55