

ANNUAL ANSTY PARISH (VILLAGE) MEETING

Convening Order for this Annual Parish (Village) Meeting held

On Monday 23rd May 2022 at 6.00pm

At St. James Church

All members of the public were welcome to attend

Minutes DRAFT

1) Election of Chairman for the meeting

Tim Martin was re-elected as Chairman with no other candidates presenting themselves.

2) Apologies for absence

Nabil Najjar

3) Present

Chair Cllr Tim Martin (TM), Cllr Juliette Foy (JF), Cllr Louise Gooding (LG), Cllr Mark Norris (MN), Lesley Simm (LS), Jon Gooding (JG), Anne Martin (AM), Tim Plumptre (TP), Caroline Plumptre (CP), George Smith (GS), Christine Smith (CS), Pam Baldwin (PB), Tom Rowley (TR), Max Hobbs (MH), Gail Norris (GN), Rosemary Paines (RP) Judy & Rob Wilkinson (JRW)

4) Approval of minutes of meeting held on 3 June 2021 & matters arising.

The previous minutes were approved and will be published on our website

5) Reports and Updates

a) Parish Council - Tim Martin

TM made a special welcome to our new Ansty Residents. He advised that Julie-Anne has stepped down as Parish Clerk and made a particular point of thanking here for her support over the years. A card of appreciation will be sent to her.

A new Parish Clerk has now been identified and we hope to be able to confirm this appointment very shortly.

We remain short of one Counsellor and would welcome applicants

Finances in general remain in good shape in part thanks to the contribution of approximately £7,700 from the CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) money resulting from the New Barn Development up on the A30.

TM pointed out that CIL monies need to be spent on infrastructure projects, hence the decision to use a part of these funds for the implementation of our 20mph speed restrictions.

TM also pointed out that we have been able to retain our reserves as so much of the work in the village is carried out on a voluntary basis.

TM mentioned that there have been 10 local planning applications over the last 12 months (that's excluding tree works).

On the 20mph limit, CATG and Area Board approval is in place, and we are now entering survey and legal phase and we are still chasing an update on progress.

Generally, it was felt the 20mph zone should be "Ansty-wide" including Ansty Coombe, Kings Lane, Blind Lane as long this would not add a significant burden in terms of the costs.

Referring to our "Best Kept Village" achievements in recent years, TM reported that we achieved a good result and came 3rd last year, with a glowing report and recorded how enjoyable the joint BKV/ harvest celebrations at PYO in September had been.

"Litter Pick" efforts in March 2022 were also much appreciated – apparently along the A30 was the most significant problem area - in terms of litter - with 6 bags of rubbish having been collected from the verges.

Refurbishment of the weathervane on the Maypole is being planned and Geoff Feltham has volunteered to carry out the high level work.

Our website remains a useful asset – thanks to Rob Wilkinson who continues to be our webmaster, publisher, and editor-in-chief – providing both a wealth of useful information as well as a vast amount of archived detail. Please continue to feed Rob with information on current goings on with pictures wherever possible.

We are currently looking into usage of the website and will try to understand how many villagers use it themselves.

There was some additional debate about the 20mph zone and LS suggested that some SLOW signs at Ansty Water would also make sense.

b) Wiltshire Council Updates

Nabil Najjar was unable to attend.

c) May Day 2022 – Anne Martin

AM and everyone in general felt that this year's May Day celebrations has been a great success. She thanked everyone who contributed – highlighting the 4 weeks of intense

training of the dancers under the guidance of Wendy Spencer-Smith with a commendable result.

Innovation on the IT front thanks to an extension of the Martin family Wi-Fi allowing the use of card payments helped bar sales and proved a worthwhile investment. Fish & Chip van and Pizza enterprise both did good business.

AM added a huge thank you to all the 35 or so volunteers and particularly those who ran the stalls. Keeping in mind that it cost over £500 to run the event, a profit of £1850 was a significant achievement. These profits in part go the Maypole account (a reserve to be used to pay for replacing the Maypole as and when we might need to) and to the Julia's House Charity.

The tombola appears to have particularly worked well (compared with the previous raffles) and the Teddy Bear Action raising over £250 was a great success.

Nevertheless, suggestions for improvements next year would be very welcome.

One point raised was the need for more disabled parking.

Sincere thanks went to AM and her committee for all their hard work making this happen.

d) Nadder Energy – Tim Plumptre

TP kindly provided us with some background about the efforts of Nadder Energy since its inception in 2015. Initiatives such as the local Electric Car Club (details of which will be published on our Ansty website), Solar Electricity production and other community initiatives such as air source heating for schools and ground source.

The Car Club appeared to be an admirable, affordable, and very green concept with a joining fee of only £10!!

MH raised a question in terms of people's general view on solar panels on houses in the village and there was general support and no major objections in principle if the installation is carried out sympathetically. TM said that the Parish Council took guidance from the Conservation Officer Jocelyn Sage at Wiltshire Council on these sorts of issues which were taken on a case by case basis.

e) Ansty Footpaths – Mark Norris

Thanks to Tim, Graham, Jon, Max, Heather, Tom (and not forgetting Oliver Simm), MN reported that the footpaths remained in good shape. The footpath volunteers operate a WhatsApp group to keep a record of their efforts, however, should anyone become aware

of any problems (such as fallen trees) that we are not aware of they should report these to MN directly and/or to the Parish Clerk.

6) Platinum Jubilee tree planting initiative

TM introduced this as an idea to mark the Jubilee, where we record trees planted in the village during the Platinum Jubilee year. As the village does not have swathes of land it owns, this is mostly down to individuals, however it was thought that we could put together a Platinum Record of our combined efforts. It was suggested that this might be an initiative that the Clouds Estate owner might subscribe to keeping in mind the number of trees that have been felled in Ansty Coombe. Some thought could also be given to the preservation and maintenance of our verges.

MN offered to lead this project mentioning that there may be a grant available to us through the Tree Council.

7) Open Forum: The opportunity for residents to raise any issues and for brief discussion.

The lack of verge and hedge maintenance was raised, and the general view was that the maintenance of hedges and verges by Wiltshire Council was much diminished. The absence of road sweeping was also raised. TM undertook to liaise with Wiltshire Council to find out their current maintenance policies.

8) Any other business & closure

TM once more thanked Robin and Judy Wilkinson for being such delightful Ansty residents and highlighted some of their contributions

- Masterminding the website
- Saving the footpaths
- Getting the bridge over FP8
- Best Kept Village awards

In acknowledgment of this the Wilkinsons were presented with a signed picture of their home in Ansty Coombe.



Meeting Closed 18.55

T. Wilkinson