

Welton Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Village meeting held on 7 June 2022

Present: Cllrs Thane (in the Chair) Banks, Gill, Peck, Rockett, Skinn, Taylor and Ward Cllr Abraham

Also in attendance was the Clerk

2348 Apologies

Cllr Boyle and Rev. Cannon Elaine Beilby

2349 Opening address by Cllr Mike Thane (Chairman)

The Chairman stated that as it had not possible to hold an Annual Village meeting during 2020 or 2021, information presented would include issues relating to the previous two years.

Welton Parish Council had continued to operate during the Pandemic and periods of national lockdown, to maintain service delivery including maintenance of the water course and the provision of street lighting and winter salt bins through SLAs with ERC.

The Parish Council continued to work in close liaison with partner agencies including the County Council, Highways England, the Police, Humberside Fire and Rescue, the Ambulance Service, Welton Memorial Hall Trustees, St. Helen's Church, local businesses and neighbouring Town and Parish Councils, to address a range of local issues.

During 2020, the Parish Council had met with the Area Engineer from ERC in relation to the impact of flooding in some areas of the Parish, including Cowgate. This resulted in a camera survey by ERC which identified problems with some parts of the drainage system, now scheduled for repair. Yorkshire Water were also involved and they had carried out various investigations and repairs to the infrastructure.

Recently the Parish Council had commissioned works on the drainage system adjacent to the A63 to clear a build-up of debris and litter in order to restore the flow of water and reduce the risk of flooding in Beck Side.

In 2020, the Parish Council had relinquished guardianship of Welton Memorial Hall. The Parish Council however continued to have an interest with two Councillors' serving on the Board of Hall Trustees. The Parish Council had also supported the Memorial Hall Trustees during their building project by allocating grant funding for the purchase and installation of a new heating system at the hall and for a new set of chairs.

Using business contacts developed in the course of Council activities, the Chairman was now working to obtain funding for the development of a new outside storage facility at the Hall.

Grants had also been allocated to Welton Community Cinema and St. Helen's Church towards maintenance costs of the cemetery in Common Lane.

The Parish Council was also working to support residents who had established a Melton Pond Project Group.

During 2021, a schedule of works to improve the street scene was drawn up in partnership with ERC to include cleaning of street signage, the renovation of street furniture, benches and bins, and schedule works to improve the grassed area of the large green, as yet to be completed.

Additionally, members' had been assigned more specific roles and continued to attend liaison meetings with Wykeland in relation to the planning application for Plot E, Melton, the Brough South Development and Transwaste, ensuring that the views of residents and the Parish Council are effectively communicated.

The Chairman explained that the Parish Council currently held a healthy bank balance due partly to having not been able to progress projects during the Pandemic and to the grant funding derived from the wind turbines at Melton.

The sum of £16,000 had been earmarked for grants during 2022-23. Any person wishing to apply for funding towards a project or activity within the Parish should initially contact the Parish Clerk for further information. The Parish Council would also be reaching out to community groups to apply for some of this funding.

The Parish Council intended to use reserves to progress larger projects having allocated £15,000 for the Melton Pond Project and £30,000 for the Trod Path Project.

Due to the level of funds held at the budget meeting in December 2021, the Parish Council had taken the decision to reduce the amount of funding for services during 2022-23, paid by residents through the Council tax precept. This meant that the Parish Council was able to reduce the precept by 20% for the coming year.

Members' recorded their thanks for the Chairman's comprehensive report.

2350 Public Forum

No members of the public were present or had otherwise sent comments to the Clerk for the attention of the Parish Council.

2351 Questions

In response to a question from Ward Cllr Abraham, the Clerk provided an update on the Melton Pond Project.

It was reported by Cllr Gill that Dale Road had been graveled under the Wolds Way Partnership; the quality of works was excellent and residents were pleased.

Rev. Cannon Beilby joined the meeting to record her thanks for the work of the Parish Council in supporting the Queen's Jubilee celebrations.

Rev. Cannon Beilby left the meeting.

In response to a question in relation to the impact of floodlighting at the new community centre in Common Lane, Ward Cllr Abraham stated that she would request an update from ERC Planning Department.

2352 Closing address by the Chairman

The Chairman thanked members for their attendance at the meeting and for their on-going commitment and support during the period of the Pandemic which had been very much appreciated.

The Parish Council had sadly lost two members, Cllr Vanessa Walker who had passed away and Cllr Derek Fairweather who had retired after many years of service. The Parish Council was pleased to welcome newly co-opted Councillor David Taylor.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.32pm