

BIRDBROOK PARISH COUNCIL
ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 10 MAY 2017

PRESENT: Mr T R Walker (Chairman)
Mr S Rhenius (Vice Chairman)
Mr P Smart
Mr A Cook
Mr D Simpson
Mr M Gilbert

ALSO PRESENT: District Councillor Diana Garrod
James Cleverly MP
Mr A Baxter

CLERK: Mrs D Hilliard

17/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

17/20 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY FOR 2016

The minutes of the meeting of the Annual Parish Assembly for 2016 were agreed as a correct record and signed. Steve Rhenius proposed and Alan Cook seconded, all in favour.

17/21 MATTERS ARISING

None.

17/22 REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN

At the request of the Chairman a moment's silence was held to remember the following residents of the parish who passed away during the year – Phyllis Wiseman, Robin Hodge and Michael Freestone.

The Chairman presented his report which will be published and circulated to all households in the parish. A copy is attached.

17/23 REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR DIANA GARROD

Cllr Garrod reported that since she had only been elected in October 2016 her report was necessarily short. Mrs Garrod gave an overview of the District Council's work during the year and reminded those present of two areas:

Councillors' Community Grant – This grant totalling £1500 would be available again for 2017 and she invited applications for appropriate causes.

Local Plan – the new local plan would be going to Council in July and was available to view online. Part of this plan was the proposed development of 3 new garden

communities rather than to constantly add onto already existing town and villages where the infrastructure struggled to cope with new housing developments.

Cllr Garrod then invited questions. Dominic Simpson asked where the proposed sites were for these new communities.

Alan requested an application form for the Councillor's Community Grant for 2017.

17/24 REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

County Councillor not present.

17/25 REPORT OF BIRDBROOK COMMUNITY HOUSE TRUSTEES

Richard Walker reported that the Trustees were working along the guidelines of the constitution and that the Chairman of the Parish Council is now ex-officio Chairman of the Community House Trustees. It was noted that the Community House had been rethatched during 2016.

James Cleverly MP was invited to speak. He had no formal report to make but invited any questions from those present. Richard Walker asked about the poor standard of superfast broadband in Birdbrook and it was suggested the Parish Council contact Matthew Hancock MP. The Clerk will draft a letter.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at approximately 8.00pm

Signed: Dated: