

The Annual Parish Meeting of Culmington held on Tuesday 2nd May 2023 at 7.30pm at Diddlebury Village Hall

MINUTES

Attendance: Cllrs I Steele (Chair), A Pike, M Holland, M Seabrook, J Turley, J Mear and J Watts. Cllr Motley (Shropshire Council) and H Coonick (Clerk)

1.0 Apologies for Absence: Cllr C Byng

2.0 Notice Convening the Meeting

In accordance with Statute, the notice convening the meeting has been duly published on the Council's Notice Boards and elsewhere throughout the Parish.

3.0 Annual Reports of the Parish Council and other groups/committees for the year 2022-23

- a) **Chairman of the Parish Council: Cllr Steele** (Full report available on the Parish website or by contacting the Clerk) He commented on the very different year compared to the previous 12 months, having now come out of lock down. He thanked Cllrs Mear and Byng for representing the Council on the Village Hall Committee and the Flood Action Group. He also thanked the H.Coonick (Clerk) Cllr C Motley (Shropshire Council), Dave Lewis (Environmental Maintenance) Jeff Williams (Parish Paths) and Hugh Disley (Flood Action Group). He also thanked the Councillors for attending the meetings and having a say in how our community is being run.
- b) **Shropshire Council: Cllr Motley** reported that it was indeed a very different year coming out of Covid but also the changes at National Government level. She thanked the parishes for their efforts to provide 'Warm Welcome' events and this demonstrates the strong community spirit in the parishes. There is pressure from National Government for County Council's to become more involved in devolution. The Council's finances are difficult but there are no plans to make dramatic cuts to services. Her role has changed during the year and she is now Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Communities. She is impressed by the teams running the Children and Adult services and the Mobile Health and Welfare Hub is visiting cattle markets to make health care more accessible to farmers. The Council has applied for money under the levelling up fund but was not successful for the Craven Arms area. Despite this they are trying to get demand responsive public transport for rural areas. The Boundary Commission propose that Cardington is included in the Corvedale division. She proposes a meeting between Chairs and Clerks to discuss the parish boundary review which will need to be complete by October this year.
- c) **Village Hall: Cllr Mear** reported that the village hall had returned to normal after the Covid lockdowns and she thanked all of the committee members for there efforts in making that possible. They have obtained planning permission for an extension to have a bar, so will be fundraising (including a Parish Ball) and applying for grants. They had a very successful Promises Auction and Tractor Run last year which raised money for the MS society. They have improved contacts with other local groups and have a facebook page and have events planned. A burst pipe damaged the hall during the Winter and it has been closed since, but will reopen in mid-May. The AGM is on the 20th June.

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d) **Flood Action Group: Cllr Byng had given her apologies.** Cllr Steele reported that the Group continued to monitor drains and ditches and regularly attended the National and Shropshire Council Flood Forum meetings.

e) **Culmington Footpath Group: Mr Jeff Williams** sent a report: A grant had been obtained from Shropshire Council footpath team and some more tools have been purchased. After he break for a hip operation the team replaced a stile on Mulberry Lane in Lower Hayton followed by a series of stiles and a footbrige of the Culmington to Hayton footpath at Barracks farm with the Shropshire Ramblers. There is one more stile to replace at Lower Hatyon before they concentrate on footpaths around Burley and Medley Park. He has tried to advertise for help in Ripples but has had no response. He thanked Andrew Pike and new recruits Hugh Disley and John Preston.

4.0 **Community Governance and Boundary Review:** Cllr Motley had mentioned earlier in her report that the Boundary Commission had not agreed to Shropshire Council's request to increase the number of divisions and had proposed that Cardington Parish join the Corvedale Division. Members of the public can make comment upon this proposal. Culmington Parish Council will continue to consider its Parish boundaries including Vernolds Common, The Pheantry, Sparchford, Elsich and Seifton Bache.

5.0 **Consider Updating the Parish Plan:**
The last plan was completed in 2016. Cllr Motley suggested that the Local Plan officer is asked if anything has changed which may require the plan to be updated.

6.0 **Consider Infrastructure Projects for Inclusion in the Place Plan:**
This item will be included in the agenda for the next meeting. Potential projects include Flood prevention, speed limit extension, village hall extension, transport service, faster broadband for the village and village hall and improvements to sewage and drainage systems in the village.

7.0 **Open Forum:** There were no members of the public present.

Signed by the Chairperson:

Date: