

WHISSENDINE PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Whissendine Village Hall, Wednesday. 15 March 2023 At 7pm

MINUTES

In attendance: 17 village residents, including 6 Parish Councillors and an external speaker.

Meeting started 19.01 hours

1. Welcome & apologies for absence taken: 3 Parish Councillors and representatives from the Craft and Produce show and the Village Hall offered their apologies.
2. Minutes of 2022 Village meeting (on whissendine.net): Agreed.
3. Parish Council Chairman: Will Farr gave a report on the work of the Parish Council in 2022-23, proposals for 2023-24 and took opinion on proposals: In the last year there have been repairs and upgrades in the play-area, a village barn-dance to celebrate the late Queen's Jubilee, liaison with EM Airport re airspace and new routes, support for the Neighbourhood Plan preparation, consideration of planning applications coming forward, establishment of working contact with Trent Rivers' Trust, etc.
In the coming year: the Village consultation responses (2021) that wanted focus on community buildings will be responded to by putting CIL money towards appropriate upgrades and improvements to the Village Hall and Sports Club.
4. Rutland County Councillor Mrs Powell: Last year at RCC been a year of change with new Council leadership (officer and Member) and forward-planning underway. Housing supply figures now up to 6 years in hand so the tilt in favour of development has reduced. Reserves being drawn on for next 4 years but savings still needed. Levelling-up Fund award will go to 'culture' initiatives. The need for phot ID in the upcoming elections noted.
5. Representative of Vista: the sight-loss charity unable to attend.
6. Report from Chair of Whissendine Good Neighbour Scheme. New Chair and committee since late-2022. Other schemes are being modelled on the WGNS model. 60-70 current clients and most requests are medical transport needs, 20-30 requests a month. They have c30 volunteer drivers; co-ordinators take c7 calls per week from clients. WGNS won award this year.
7. Report from representative of Whissendine Environment Group: Report from the Secretary. Work restricted due to limited number of volunteers and the increasing age-profile of the group. Focussing less on community engagement and more on projects. Projects include maintaining and improving planting at the Sports Club; clearing the windmill environs; Chapel Walk is now being maintained/tidied each spring, The Banks tyre has been planted up and an autumn planting of native wild flowers has been tried; litter picking of verges on 29 April 2023, hanging baskets at the shop, seasonal cutback outside the Church, seat on the Village green painted and bulbs planted beneath.
8. Report from representative of Whissendine Village Hall trustees: Some new hirers attracted but more needed. External funding being actively sought and IR-heating being evaluated with a view to it being functional by Winter 2023.
There is now broadband at the VH. Insurance costs are being addressed by contact with like interest groups.

WHISSENDINE PARISH COUNCIL

9. Report from representative of Whissendine Sports Club trustees: AGM on 27 March 2023. Ambitions are 'Whissendine Hub' a multi-purpose venue, including sports. New Committee expected from 27 March 2023 Brett Steven's, Paul Taylor and Iain ... The land ownership issue is nearly regularised and the next stage is applying for Charitable Status. Proposing to demolish the current building and replace it with a building that can also accommodate a Youth Club and Youth Activities, etc. It is intended that the SC Committee will consult with the village residents. The final building is intended to be self-funding.
10. Report from representative of the Whissendine Craft & Produce Show Group: 86 exhibitors in 2022, with 462 exhibits; this was post-pandemic and in a drought-year, so that vegetable/fruit exhibits were affected. There was a targeted approach via the school and the Grapevine to encourage the junior entrants (400% increase from 2021).
11. The Parish Clerk will report on the Long Clawson Charity activity in 2022: 24 support requests were received and accepted as valid in 2022. The land at Long Clawson is commercially let for grazing by a professional third party. The land-income is received every six-months into the Long Clawson A/C after payment of annual gifts this year there will be no remainder. The account currently shows a balance of **£6949.62** [30 January 2023] (**£6619.50** (30 Jan 2022)). The land-income received in 2022 was £969.14 in April and £969.14 in October; totalling for the year £1938.28) (2.2% annual return); plus £11.65 interest. The Church of St Andrew, Whissendine also donated £120 of their charity funds to this charity in November 2022. Whissendine Grapevine Group donated £500 in January 2023.

Confirmation of monies in Long Clawson a/c from 2022/23.

The income for the year 2022/23	£2569.93 (to 30/1/23)
Gifts made in the year 2022/23	£2390.00
For reserve	£ 179.93
Account balance to go forward:	£4559.62 (plus Feb and Mar interest).
12. Questions on any topic from the floor: None
13. Presentation from Trent Rivers' Trust about their current projects in the village up to November 2024. The 'Natural Flood Management in the Soar' Project is focussing on three catchments. Whissendine is one catchment that has been selected. One project is about 'Community Engagement' and support with flood preparedness another project is working with local landowners to achieve natural flood management.

Meeting closed 20.15 hours