

Manningford Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 17th May 2021 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall

Present: Parish Councillors Richard Netherclift (Chairman), David Proto, Sue Lympos and Andy Reed.

Clerk Ruth Kinderman

Residents David Wheen and Bridget Lanyon

1 Welcome by the Chairman

Cllr Netherclift welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Apologies

Unitary Councillor Paul Oatway

3 Minutes of annual parish meeting 21st May 2019

These had been circulated by email and a copy was signed by Cllr Netherclift as an accurate record of that meeting.

4 Report from Wiltshire Council

No report – Cllr Oatway apologised for his absence due to obligatory attendance at a Wiltshire Council meeting following the recent elections.

5 Chairman's Annual Report

Cllr Netherclift delivered his report which is attached as an appendix to these minutes. He thanked everybody for their support during the unusual times through which we have passed.

6 Items from the public

None.

MANNINGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR 2020/21

I would like to start by thanking all Parish Councillors who have served on the council over the last year. Your time and efforts are very much appreciated. There have been some changes on the PC due to one or two relocating out of the Parish and we will be endeavouring to replace these and indeed fill the vacancies that already existed as we are 3 councillors short of a full compliment.

I would also like to thank Ruth Kinderman, our Parish Clerk for her work and attention over the year and for generally keeping us all up to date in spite of the lack of meetings!

2020/21 has been a very strange year due to Covid restrictions and being in some form of lockdown for the duration. This has led to almost no formal meetings, however essential business has carried on whilst respecting the "Covid rules".

The report for the year is in a somewhat different format, and rather than give a view of each area, which tends to be a regurgitation of items from the already published meeting minutes, I offer a broad overview.

The main ongoing work has concerned highways, planning and footpaths and overall things have been relatively "normal".

The battle regarding the volume and speed of through traffic on the C52 has continued although the speedwatch efforts were suspended for the whole year. By the time this report is published they will, I am pleased to say, have resumed and I do believe the occasional visibility of a team checking vehicle speed does have an impact. Thank you to the coordinators (Jo Ridge and Lynda Gaskin).

The Village Hall has been "covid closed" all year although we are hopeful that things will get back to normal as 2021 continues with cautious relaxation of the rules put in place to help stop the spread of the disease. The playground was also closed for some of the year and following an inspection the climbing frame is "out of bounds". We will be looking in to how some additional equipment can be funded.

Planning applications have seen quite a bit of movement, but for the most part have eventually been non-contentious. It is also good to note that there have been a number of new families that have moved to our villages and it will good to be able to get together and make new friendships as well as renewing existing ones. It has been a long time since we had a "pub evening"!!

One great success this year has been the "rebirth" of the allotments in Dragon Lane. The area had been left to the elements for some time and had become significantly overgrown and an eyesore. I would like to recognise the efforts and enthusiasm of resident Chris Wardell that has resulted in almost all the allotments being used and the result a pleasure to see.

Finally, I hope that the year ahead will see us gradually getting back to some sort of normality so that we can meet more readily and look forward to a less traumatic future.

Richard Netherclift