

PARISH OF CHARLESWORTH - ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the Annual Assembly Meeting for the Parish of Charlesworth held on 17th March 2021 at 7pm via Zoom.

PRESENT

Clerk: C Lewkowicz, Councillors: D. Cooper, P Cooper, C Swindells (Chair), M Gill, G Robinson, A Woodall & 2 Members of the Public

APOLOGIES

A Worrall, E Saidu, J Haken

1 APPOINTMENT OF CLERK TO THE MEETING

Carol Lewkowicz was nominated & seconded as Clerk to the meeting

2 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of 20th March 2019, having been circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record. There was no meeting held in 2020 due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

3 PRECEPT 2020/21 & 2021/2022

The Meeting was informed that the precept for 2020/21 was £11,402.51 The precept for 2021/22 would be £11,319.28 which is an increase of 0% on the previous year. There was a decrease in the base of 7 households.

4 MEMBERS ATTENDANCES AT MEETINGS 2018/19

The Parish Clerk confirmed that the attendances were in order and a quorum was achieved at all meetings.

5 CHAIR'S REPORT 2020/21

Councillor C Swindells reported as follows: -

I would like to start the meeting by thanking the members of the Parish Council and the Parish Clerk for their continued hard work during the past twelve months.

We now have 952 households within our remit and have decided in view of current difficulties the charge to local homes for the Parish Council will not be increased for the year of 2021.

Nobody would have thought at the beginning of 2020 that the year would be so challenging, we had a good start and arranged defibrillator training for members of the public to attend in January, little did we suspect that by the end of 2020 these would have saved our parish defibrillators would have saved two lives.

We started this year in with the replacement Parish Council notice board courtesy of the George and Dragon Pub.

Also, early 2020 three of our Parish Councillors attended a training session at the police station so that they could play an active role in the local Speedwatch group. Although this is

not a Parish Council issue the speed of the traffic coming through the village is a great concern to the residents and the Parish Council continue to fully support the village.

The Parish Council also helped the local school with the request for a second crossing patrol and with the help of Councillor Jean Wharmby we pushed through interview timing so that the crossing was covered in January and February.

After March due to Covid 19 and lockdown restrictions we were faced with altering the way we held our meetings, and all had to come to terms with "Zoom" meetings. Despite the challenges of zoom meetings, I'm very proud of the way we have managed to work together as a team and continue to support our community.

We have continued to look after the Common Land in the village and created a sub-committee to look at our responsibilities for common land within the village.

During lockdown we carried out some minor repairs to play equipment on the Village Green and replaced the majority of the bark.

We also continue the upkeep of Brenda Tetlows Gardens and Pinfold and would like to thank our Parish Council gardeners for their hard work during this past year.

Our largest project this year was to repair the surface of the Common Land on Town Lane at the side of Pinfold leading up to the school, this has made a vast difference.

We have also contributed towards other projects in the village donating £150 to a plaque and £600 to a pathway linking Long Lane to Marple Road.

During lockdown, with the assistance of Councillor Jean Wharmby we were quick to tackle the cancellation of the local bus through the village and this was very quickly re-instated.

Although the Remembrance service was cancelled, we dedicated our wreath and paid our respects to our local heroes on 11th November. I would like to thank Cllr Peter Cooper for securing the wreaths to the cenotaph.

At Christmas we arranged our two fabulous Christmas Trees (Simmondley and Charlesworth) due to the covid lockdown, we decided to light these from the 1st of December bringing a bit of light to the winter nights.

Our final project was the approval of an Orchard for the Village Green, the trees have now been planted and I look forward to reporting back with the progression of this project next year.

Finally, I would like to say it is an honour to serve as the Chair to such a proactive group of Councillors during what has proved to be a difficult year. Despite the cancellation of the Well Dressing, Carnival and Remembrance Service we have managed to accomplish a lot and I look forward to working on future projects during the next 12 months.

Cath Swindells

Chair of Charlesworth Parish Council

6 ANY OTHER PARISH MATTERS:

No other comments were made.

Meeting opened – 7 p.m. and closed – 7.15 p.m.