

Minutes of Harringworth Open Parish Meeting Held at 6:00pm on 22nd July 2021 in the Village Hall

Present:

Andy White	Chair
Philippa Gasson	Chair of the Appeals Fund Committee
Fraser Stephen-Smith	Vice Chair of the Village Hall Committee
Debbie Waterworth	Secretary

48 other villagers attended

Agenda Item

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed all and explained that an Open Parish Meeting predates the formation of parish councils by a few centuries and is not a parish council meeting. The key difference being that any parishioner may speak at an open parish meeting if they wish.

2. Chair Of Parish Council Annual Report

As the web address of the report had been circulated with the Agenda to all parishioners prior to the meeting the report was taken as read. No questions were raised regarding the report.

3. Appeals AGM

The Chair handed over to Philippa Gasson the Chair of the Appeals Fund Committee, who then held the AGM of the Appeals Fund. The minutes are recorded separately.

4. Village Hall Committee Report

Andy White handed over to Fraser Stephen-Smith, Vice Chair of the Village Hall Committee. Fraser gave a brief outline of the trustees of the village hall, the facilities and the events the hall offers the community and finally the hall finances. The finances have been boosted this year due to a rates refund and a generous East Northants Council grant in line with a Covid 19 community support initiative. He encouraged villagers to make use of the hall for their events or activities and finished by asking for ideas and improvements which could be considered by the trustees in the future.

5. Future of Village Committees

The Chair announced that the Appeals Fund Committee and the Village Hall Trustees were intending to have discussions on how they might rationalise the structure of both committees with a view to possible integration. Any proposals for a change will be brought to a future EGM or AGM of their respective committees for a vote.

6. Questions from parishioners

- **Q1.** The subject of the village defibrillator was raised. Concern was expressed that people might not know that when speaking to the emergency services operator they needed the unit location identifier, printed on the defibrillator box. Without the location identifier the operator is unable to give the correct unlock code for the device. It was

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agreed that the locator identifier should be included in the village directory enabling everyone to have the code at home ready to be given to the emergency operator immediately. (Secretary's note – The location identifier is AU43). This point will be made at a future training session on use of the defibrillator.

- **Q2.** Concerns were raised about the overgrown hedgerows obstructing the view of oncoming traffic along Seaton Road. The Chair said that the matter was being addressed by the Parish Council.
 - **Q3.** A request was made for the provision of a children's play space as a result of the growing the number of young families now living in the village. The Chair pointed out that the minutes of previous parish council meetings showed that the matter is already being pursued.
 - **Q4.** Concern was raised by a number of villagers about the speed of vehicles and bikes entering Harringworth. There is the potential for accidents which could include horses due the active stables in the village. A request for traffic calming measures was made. The Chair explained this would be a matter for the Parish Council to take up with North Northants Council. He reminded all that the first 10 minutes of every parish council meeting was allotted for villagers to raise any issues with the Parish Council.
7. The Chair thanked everyone for attending the open village meeting and the Village Hall trustees for arranging the social evening which was to follow.

Meeting Closed at 6:45pm.

Signed

A D White

Chair of Parish Open Meeting

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