

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council took place on Monday, 16th May 2016 at 7.00pm in Eyke Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Fleming, Cllr Clayton, Cllr Evans, Cllr Stangoe, Cllr Whitmore, District Councillor Herring, and the clerk.

Apologies: Cllr Abu-Hejleh, Cllr Cushing

Election of chairman: Cllr Fleming was proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Stangoe and carried unanimously.

Election of Vice Chairman: In the absence of two councillors, it was agreed to leave this appointment until the July meeting.

Declaration of Interest: Cllr Whitmore declared an interest as a member of the PCC.

Minutes: those of 14.3.16 and the planning meeting of 9.5.16, having been previously circulated, were taken as read, agreed and signed as a correct record.

Matters Arising:

1. Traffic Calming. In response to the parish council's query following the March meeting, Robin Warne from SCC replied on 22nd March with apologies that they are currently unable to advise the parish council of a starting date, but gave assurances that he is chasing this up and will inform the parish council of the revised starting date as soon as he has it. Cllr Reid is also chasing this up
2. Queen's 90th Birthday. £200 from the enabling communities budget is kindly being made available by Cllr Herring. The Millennium Group will organise a celebration tea, which has been very popular before, on the afternoon of June 11th in the village hall. The group is meeting on Wednesday, 25th May to finalise details.
3. Fete. This will be held on the same basis as last year, starting at 1pm, on Sunday, 17th July in The Old Rectory Gardens. Setting up will as usual be on the previous Thursday.
4. Village Hall. Mr Fisher will present a report at the Annual Parish Meeting, when the matter of the transfer of responsibility for the hall will be discussed. Cllr Herring advised that it is worth approaching the funding team at SCDC. There is often more money available for projects than one imagines, and this could be useful for the future of the hall.

Finance:

1. End of year accounts, financial statement and annual governance statement. Mr Fisher, as internal auditor has checked and found all these to be in order. All were agreed and signed.
2. Current Balances. Current account balance: £4936.44. Monies in: £3776.75 (precept) Monies out: £5015.68. Savings account: £6277.19. Monies in: £1936.00 (Outdoor playspace fund) *These figures subject to checking when a bank statement arrives.*
3. Cheques to be agreed: E Jacob and Sons Ltd: £2808.00 (vandal proof football nets, basketball stand and post); Mrs Pooley: £125.00 (telephone, stationery etc. expenses); SALC: £180.29 (subscription); Cllr Stangoe: £52.80 (refreshments for playground opening day); Eyke and Rendlesham Village Hall: £350 (donation); Eyke PCC: £500 (donation).
4. Review of financial control for safeguarding public money. It was agreed that nothing has changed regarding the administering of the parish council financial arrangements, and existing guidelines are followed to safeguard public money.
5. Online banking. The increase in use of the parish council bank accounts during the playground construction highlighted the difficulties of managing without online banking. Barclays bank will not allow an online account, other than view only, to anyone other than cheque signatories, and this is not a viable option. It was agreed that under normal circumstances the clerk, as Responsible Financial Officer can manage the account quite easily, but to alleviate some of the difficulties experienced recently, it was agreed to request monthly, not quarterly, statements.

Any Other Business:

1. Mr Cushing had raised the idea of a barbecue area on the rec. The Parish Council was not in favour of this because of increased fire risk, litter, and public liability. Cllr Herring, who had been approached on the subject on the playground opening day, had also had second thoughts afterwards for the same reasons.
2. It was agreed that Cllr Fleming would get two more notices banning dogs to be affixed on the playground gates, as this is still a problem.
3. Rabbit holes on the rec. There is a concern that holes in the ground in the football area are a potential hazard. It was agreed that this is a grey area in terms of responsibility. Cllr Herring has advised that the Parish Council has a duty to keep the area as safe as possible, but it will be impossible to keep rabbits away entirely.