



WARNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Shaw E-mail – clerk@warnham.org.uk

MINUTES of the Annual Parish Meeting of the Warnham Parish Council held on Tuesday 11th April 2023 at 7.00pm in the Parish Rooms, St Margaret's Church

Members:

Cllr Ann Lloyd (C) (AL)	(P)	Cllr Stuart Ritchie (SR)	(P)
Cllr Geoff Read (VC) (GR)	(P)	Cllr Sally Pavey (SP)	(P)
Cllr Chris Gould (CG)	(P)	Cllr Fiona Robinson (FR)	(P)
Cllr Tom Bickford (TB)	(A)	Cllr Ian Gurling (IG)	(P)

In attendance: Mrs Shaw (Clerk)

Also present: None present.

1. Chairman's Welcome -
The Chairman welcomed the members of the meeting.
2. Apologies for absence –
There were NO members of the public in attendance.
3. Minutes of Previous meeting-
Council noted and approved the minutes from the APM in 2022. Cllr proposed that the minutes were accepted. ***It was UNANIMOUSLY agreed that the Chair duly accept and sign the minutes.***
4. Chairman's Report -
The Chairman of the council read out the Chairman's report which is attached in Appendices.

With no further business the meeting closed at 19.10pm

Chairman..... Date.....

Appendix 1

Chairman's Report 2023 – Cllr Ann Lloyd

I feel that this year has been one of success but also one for frustration especially for the Parish Council and therefore for the Parish itself.

A great deal of time is taken up at our meetings with matters dealing with planning and highways considerations. Again, this year, the District has put a hold on planning applications for new builds, due to the water neutrality bill, which halts large scale developments. The parish council has mostly considered applications to grant permission to extend or allow change of use for a building within the community, leaving Warnham Parish untouched with any new build applications for a second year running. Chris Gould, as Planning & Highways Chair, has helped steer us through the various planning applications we have received, his knowledge in planning and the community has helped the parish council to deliver the best for the community. Time and effort is taken to consider these applications and to ensure that we maintain and, where possible, enhance our environment.

Alongside planning applications usually come applications for remedial work on trees in the Parish. These are usually restricted to people's gardens but there are times when the tree surgeons have been called upon to deal with tree work in public spaces, due to aging trees or ash dieback. Should a tree need to be felled and removed we are always ready to replace them. An example of this was the planting of an oak tree in November on the Village Green as part of the Queen's Green Canopy.

The Parish Council are strong and active supporters of the Wild About Warnham group, spearheaded by David Bridges. I was fortunate to attend a district meeting at the council offices in Horsham. At this meeting David and his team were publicly heralded for what they have achieved here in Warnham and are certainly trail blazers in their quest to create networks of land that are enhanced to nurture wildlife, with their expertise now stretching from parish council to parish council.

Other areas of success this year took place in the summer. The late Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee and the official opening of the Shelley Cycle Path. The 5th of June was a fun day for the Parish but the cycle path has given a lasting legacy. You may have noticed the new acquisition for the Parish Council – a van, to enable our two environmental officers, Tony Maughan and Martin Calway, to carry out their work throughout the Parish. Be sure to show your support for the team, whenever you see them about the parish.

Now for what I see as frustration. The wheels of local government do tend to turn slowly and that is certainly the case with our traffic calming schemes. Many of you might know that the Parish Council is not responsible for all matters relating to Highways, the responsibility does fall to WSCC (West Sussex County Council). This unfortunately, does add to our frustrations. The village gateways, mentioned last year, are still not in position – despite the tireless efforts of our Clerk, Mrs Louise Shaw. The gateways have now been ordered and awaiting being installed. Bell Road highway improvements are in the "final stages" of design with WSCC – we await. Vehicles continue to speed through the village and along the Parish lanes, despite many emails and phone calls to HDC and WSCC for them to take further action. The increasing number of potholes may have done something to slow them down! Until a new Speed Indicator Device is installed in Friday Street and in Kingsfold, the newly re-organised Speed Watch team has been out and about, helping to make people

aware of the speed restrictions in this road and elsewhere. The Parish Council continues to fully support this group.

Councillor Sally Pavey has been keeping the Parish Council up to date of any Gatwick Airport expansion plans and has been instrumental in arranging meetings with leaders of HDC and WSCC and Jeremy Quinn MP. Recently Councillor Pavey and the Clerk have joined forces and are currently attempting to liaise with other local parishes who are affected by noise, emissions, transport etc. Thanks to them for this work.

Warnham Parish is a thriving community. With this, must come change and the Parish Council is no exception. This year we have lost two Councillors, Emma Fraser and Greg Morley-Smith, both from Kingsfold. Due to pressure of work and family reasons they have resigned. I thank them both for all their efforts. With that, we are also in the midst of an election this year which could see further changes to the councillors who serve the community.

To conclude, on behalf of the Parish Council I would like to thank our County Councillor, Christian Mitchell, together with our District Councillors Stuart Ritchie and Trisha Youtan. Thanks for attending our meetings and for keeping us informed of what is happening at District and County levels. I would also like to express my thanks for all the help and support from the other members of Warnham Parish Council and special thanks for the assistance given to me by Clerk, Louise Shaw.

Thank You.