

Monk Fryston Parish Council

Minutes of Annual Parish Council Meeting held at the Community Centre, Old Vicarage Lane on Tuesday 17 May 2022.

Present: Cllrs Susan Woodhall (SW), Nigel Spofforth (NS), Matt Burton (MB), Malcolm Robinson (MR) and Bill Holmes (BH)

Clerk: Philip Scott

The meeting opened at 7.30pm

Item	Action
1	To elect a Chairman. Cllr Woodhall was elected unopposed as Chairman.
2	To receive the Chairman's declaration of acceptance of office. Received.
3	To receive apologies for absence. Received from Cllrs Shaw and Kaye
4	To elect a Vice Chairman. Cllr Spofforth was elected unopposed as Vice Chairman
5	To receive the Vice Chairman's declaration of acceptance of office. Received.
6	To receive the Councillors Declarations of Acceptance of Office. Received from Cllrs Burton, Robinson and Holmes
7	To elect Council representatives to the Burial Committee (2no), Planting Group, Projects Working Party Group, Highways and Footpaths Group and Communications Group The following representatives were elected:- a Joint Burial Committee: Cllrs Woodhall and Robinson. b Planting Group: Cllrs Woodhall and Shaw c Projects Working Group: Cllrs Spofforth, Burton and Woodhall d Highways and Footpaths Group: Cllrs Woodhall and Robinson e Communications Group: Cllr Burton (second appointment deferred)
8	To appoint a GDPR Data Controller lead Councillor. Cllr BH appointed
9	To receive the past Chairman's Report from Cllr Woodhall Last year was challenging for MFPC. At the beginning of the year, it was faced with the resignation of three councillors, and in conversations with several villagers when asked why there was apathy and reluctance to join the Council, the criticism offered was blunt and often harsh. The PC was out of touch, stuffy, set in its ways, it failed to listen and was slow in doing things. I listened to views on what was expected of a Parish Council: better communication, faster and effective decision making, more support.2021 and more recently this year, saw the addition of five new members. Working parties of two councillors were formed each with a separate mandate to appraise and report to main council monthly. Councillors Spofforth and Cllr Shaw review planning applications before Council feeds back to the Local Authorities, ensuring local planning regulations are adhered to and the green belt is preserved.Cllr Robinson and Woodhall review Footpaths and Highway, working closely with NYCC and local landowners to ensure easy access to the countryside around us.Cllr Burton and Ellis established a new Communications Team, revamping the website, Newsletter, and social media sites. During lockdown, Council relied heavily on Microsoft Teams to hold virtual meetings and disseminate information. Better use of the network is now needed to promote and publish documentation required legally for council to function. A start has been made on assessment of documentation and protocols used by Council by Cllr Kaye.Cllr. Spofforth, Woodhall and Burton have expanded the Capital Projects Team (CPT) which now meets regularly with influential bodies in the village, The School, Community Association, Education Trust bringing a new perspective to listening to village needs and developing local amenities.Cllr Woodhall and Cllr Shaw assess the village planting schemes, and all councillors are looking at a way to brighten up our Christmas celebrations. So much has been achieved. Big cities like Leeds have money to pour into sport and recreational

facilities, enabling them to encourage young people to focus on the benefits of outdoor sports and social interaction, one of the government's main commitments to offset the mental negativity suffered by many, coming out of Covid. Our village must rely on fundraising benefactors to provide playing fields and facilities for our young. With Grants to the local junior football club, MFPC has enabled the team to improve the status of their pitches by adding better drainage facilities and providing portable floodlights. A grant to the Ladies netball team enabled them to buy much needed equipment. Both teams continue to grow and expand. With CPT continuing to advise, the council continues to support, and find to find new ways to improve the quality-of-life standards of the villagers. MFPC strong objections to a Lithium battery storage plant, support of SDC opposition to a licensing application for development off land the A63, and opposition to numerous developments have served to protect the environment. A vigorous campaign to introduce a 20mph speed limit on Water Lane and the A63 has begun. Well received by villagers it is hoped the posters and bin stickers on display will influence public and government opinion. It will need a change in the Law but is achievable. Council has joined the 21st Century and become an online banker. Progress has been achieved in assessing many of the protocols and documentation used by the council is up to date An onerous task but one which must continue. A new working partnership with the Joint Burial Committee of MF, BS and Hillam has been evolved, altering structure and financial arrangements. MFPC has led the way in forming a Platinum Jubilee steering group to oversee village celebrations in June. Supporting in event organising and financial support. It has been a good year, a successful year, with all councillors contributing well. Can I, before I finish give a special thanks to our Clerk and responsible financial officer. Philip, you work tirelessly, and calmly behind the scenes, doggedly offering advice based on extensive knowledge and experience, You recently steered us through the Council elections so smoothly, I doubt any of realised the hard work you put in. If he doesn't know the answer, he will find somebody who does. Although we do not always agree, you have over the year steered an amicable pathway through what I have found a very steep learning curve.

10 To receive the Responsible Financial Officers Report

Income – £28926 (down £2900 from last year)
 Expenditure - £44031 (up £10,156 from last year)
 Total bank balances - £174987 (down £13,117 from last year)
 Total debtors - £5891 (up £3,552 from last year)
 Current Liabilities - £6158 (down £9490 from last year due primarily to payment for the VAS signs this year)
 Assets - £68146 (up £162 from last year)
 Overall net worth - £247927 (down £8161 from last year)
 All the above are exclusive of the £4902 apportionment held on behalf of the Joint Burial Committee

11 To remind members of the existence of standing orders and to consider the opportunity to review standing orders by the process set out in Standing Order 41. Noted that the two documents were in the process of being updated

12 To consider payment of any subscriptions falling to be paid annually. The YLCA and SLCC subscriptions were agreed to be paid when due.

13 To list property in the ownership of the Council. The plots at Chestnut Green. (7no) and the cemetery.

The meeting closed at 7.54pm