

DURLEY PARISH COUNCIL AGM MEETING REPORT

Durley Parish Council held their AGM Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 9th May, 2023 in the Ken Stainer Suite at Durley Memorial Hall.

As this was a new Term of Office Cllr Delmege welcomed our new Parish Councillor Christine Bailey to the Meeting, along with Jonathan Williams who is our new District Councillor.

New Declaration Forms and Register of Interest Forms were signed by Councillors present and it was agreed that letter of thanks will be sent to Peter Childs who stood down as a Parish Councillor and David Mclean who did not stand again for District Councillor. Both have been assets to Durley Parish Council and have contributed to the well-being of Durley residents over the years that they have been in Office.

Cllr Delmege (Chairman) chaired the Meeting. Also in attendance were Cllr Watts, Cllr Ellen, Cllr Rappini, Cllr Pitter, Cllr Bailey along with the Clerk (Mrs Anne Collins). Also in attendance were District Councillor Kurn and District Councillor Williams. Apologies were received from County Councillor Humby, District Councillor Miller, and Cllr Rutherford. One resident was also in attendance.

The first item on the Agenda was the Election of Officers, the following were elected:

Chairman – Cllr Delmege
Vice Chairman – Cllr Watts
Hall Management Committee Chairman – Cllr Ellen
Hall Management Committee Vice Chairman – Cllr Pitter
Highways Officer – Cllr Rappini
Footpaths Officer – Cllr Rutherford
Recreation Ground Chairman – Cllr Watts
Sawmills Representative – Cllr Bailey
Transport Representative – Cllr Pitter

Cllr Ellen and the Clerk gave a report on the Coronation Event held at Durley Memorial Hall on Sunday 7th May. A more detailed report is given later in this Magazine.

The Clerk has arranged a further Public Meeting with Southern Water representatives for Friday 12th May at Durley Memorial Hall to discuss the issues that are ongoing at the Pumping Station in Heathen Street. A further update will be given to residents and Councillors, along with proposals for the future to stop problems reoccurring.

Durley Parish Council is working with the Southern Parishes Group to try and achieve a better bus service through Durley. Bus time tables are available in foyer of Durley Memorial Hall if residents would like one. HCC are reviewing the bus services in May so it is hoped that the situation will improve. Cllr Pitter will keep in touch with the transport companies to see what can be achieved.

County Councillor Humby sent through a written Report and DC Kurn and DC Williams gave Reports at the Meeting. Issues raised by the District Councillors included the state of Wintershill and the many pot holes, support for the CIL funding application that has been submitted for the Hall car park renovations, pumping station activities, bus timetabling, banking services and provision of a doctors surgery in BW.

A member of the public was present to ask Councillors about a Lawful Development Certificate Application that she had received. Councillors agreed that it is for the Applicant to prove his case as this is a legal matter. If residents have evidence to prove otherwise then they should submit it.

The Clerk confirmed that Flick Drummond MP has offered her support in getting the Local Electricity Bill amended and has also asked for further information about the infrastructure to services in Durley to take this matter further.

Clerk reported that the village noticeboard on the Sawmills Green is near the end of its useful life so will need replacing. Councillors agreed that as this noticeboard is in an exposed spot it should be more robust. Clerk will obtain costings for a replacement.

CLlr Watts gave a Neighbourhood Watch Report and reported that there has been some thefts in Durley and 3 violent assaults over the last month. Residents are also warned that scams are still on the rise.

CLlr Rappini gave a Highways Report stating that he has reported many pot holes and the blocked drains which have been reported are still not cleared. There is also a blocked pipe under the road in Mincingfield Lane. Heathen Street is causing a concern and many lanes and roads now need urgent attention.

A Financial Report for May, 2023 was given by the Clerk. Clerk presented the Annual Governance Statement for 2022-23 and the Accounting Statement for 2022-23 for Councillors to approve. These were duly signed by the Chairman and Clerk ready to send off to the External Auditor.

CLlr Ellen gave a Hall Report stating that the new Hall Caretaker has now been appointed. She will commence shortly, but is having a hand-over period with Donna until she takes over. No result has been received yet on the CIL Funding application for the Hall car park or the LED lighting/Hall ceiling/insulation. However, it is hoped that we will know shortly as we would like work to be carried out during this summer. CLlr Ellen gave his thanks for all those who helped with the Coronation Event at the Hall and made cakes along with serving refreshments.

All Parish Council information can be found on the Durley Parish Council website, this includes Agendas, Minutes and Reports.

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