

Kingscote Annual Parish Meeting

Tuesday 16th May 2023 – Draft Minutes

Meeting Commenced at 7.30pm, Kingscote Village Hall

Meeting Concluded at 8.10pm

Meeting Chair – Councillor Tony Wooldridge, Chair of Kingscote Parish Council.

Chair of the meeting welcomed a dozen members of the parish to the meeting. Attention was drawn to a display of photographs of many of the parish's volunteers who all do so much for the local community.

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of 18th May 2022 were agreed.

Parish Council Report

- A report from the Parish Council was given by Cllr Tony Wooldridge and is attached to the minutes.
- Cllr Wooldridge made particular note of the fact the Graham Nichols had stood down as a councillor after 40 years' service and Councillor Sebastian Cooper after 10 years' service. Both were thanked in their absence and Councillors Steve Tattersall and Steve Teague were welcomed as the two new Parish Councillors.
- A discussion took place regarding the two village defibrillators and the clerk agreed to provide Training & Awareness information through the Parish Council and Kingscote Online websites.
- John Calland volunteered to assist with managing the Bagpath defibrillator.
- The possibility of a First Aid course was discussed.

Village Hall Committee Report

- A report by Mr. Brian McTear from the Village Hall Committee was provided and is attached to the minutes.
- Councillor Richard Gale thanked the Village Hall Committee for their hard work in maintaining such a magnificent Village Hall and his sentiments were echoed by Councillor Wooldridge.

Parochial Church Council Report

- A report from the Parochial Church Council was given by Reverend Caroline Bland and is attached to the minutes.
- Reverend Bland gave particular thanks to Rosemary Simms for her long and much appreciated service as the church organist. She also sent her best wishes to Harry Tubbs, the outgoing Church Warden who has moves to sunnier pastures in Seaton, Devon.

Footpath Warden Report

- A report from the Voluntary Footpaths Warden, Julian Foxon, was given by Councillor Tony Wooldridge on his behalf.

County Councillor Report

- No County Councillor report

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District Councillor Report

- No District Councillor Report

General Matters for Discussion

- Ongoing Highways matters were discussed including leaving behind confusing signage when works have been completed. The Council continues in its efforts to hold the Highways Department and their contractors to account.
- Last year there was a suggestion that the change of use for the barn behind Hunters Hall for storage could create problems with lorries using the narrow access lane. Councillor Richard Gale explained that his farm had recently purchased the land behind Hunters Hall but although the barn might be used for light industrial storage, he did not expect there to be a significant increase in traffic along the narrow lane. The gateway from the A4135 has been widened to improve access from the main road so that the field can be used for loading sheep and avoid the need for the increasingly large lorries to come through the village.
- Cllr Wooldridge brought up the local Climate Action Group and was aware that no meeting has taken place yet this year. There have been a number of activities such as insulation, heat pumps and other sustainability activities within the parish so he hopes to convene a meeting in the near future.
- There was a general discussion about the Matara Centre and all present were keen to improve links between the Matara Centre and the village. Cllr Wooldridge advised that Mr Higgins is open to suggestions from the local community and will pass on the general willingness to explore how this can be progressed.

Minutes compiled by Mr Simon Hale

Parish Clerk