

Minutes of Scruton's Annual Parish Meeting

Thursday 14th April 2022

At 7.30pm

APM22/01 Introduction and welcome by the Chairman

Some 3 residents attended the meeting.

Apologies were received from Anthony Wood and from John Mainwaring Taylor.

The Chairman, Cllr. Syd Nye, welcomed all present and explained that the meeting is of the electorate, not a parish council meeting, and outlined the purpose of the meeting.

Any copies of reports or of accounts given to the clerk are held in the parish council records and are available from the clerk.

APM22/02 Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting

The Clerk presented the minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting They were proposed by Mr Emison, seconded by Mr Elmer and signed by the chairman.

APM22/03 Scruton Charities Report

The clerk reported on Scruton Charities, its purpose in making gifts at Christmas and to those in the village who are unwell. He also presented a copy of the accounts and stated that approximately 9 Christmas gifts were distributed to deserving recipients.

It was explained that the original Scruton Charities was to distribute fuel supplies during the winter season, but this had now been superseded and gifts of flowers were given to villagers who were unwell.

A thank you was given to Mr John Sadler for completing the accounts for the charity.

A copy of the charities accounts was deposited with the clerk.

APM22/04 Scruton Playing Fields Committee Report

Mr Phil Emison reported from the Playing Fields committee and a copy of the latest accounts submitted. He stated the increased use of the playing fields with some of the equipment having been refurbished. The account now has a surplus which will be used to upgrade equipment.

The trustees continue to fulfil the requirements of the constitution for the benefit of the local community by maintaining and improving the playing field area through routine inspection and maintenance.

Any and all opportunities are taken to improve the equipment and playing area. We ensure a wide range of recreational activities by providing a variety of equipment and space, including an all-weather multi use games area, football pitch and numerous items of play equipment. We also accommodate other village events such as community picnics.

The trustees had contributed a sum of money towards the rerouting of the replacement drain system from Hamhall Lane, which, so far, seems to have cured the problem

The chairman and trustees would like to express their thanks to committee members and others who contribute their time and skills for the benefit of the local community.

APM22/05 Coore Memorial Hall Committee Report

Mr John Mainwaring Taylor reported on the current state of the Committee and a copy of the latest accounts were provided.

During the last year we have been gradually moving back to normal, though some regular bookings and events had still not returned by the end of the year.

You will see from the accounts though that thanks to a second grant from Hambleton District Council our finances remain in good shape. We did however have to reduce the rent from School House for part of the year because of a leak which left the bath unusable until the plumber could do substantial repairs to the pipework. The dining room was also rendered unusable for the same reason.

We continued to look at the need to replace the roof and to assist the decision making had a complete survey which recommended some repairs now with a complete new roof in a few years, or a full replacement of the roof tiles now. The timbers were said to be in good order. We are about to make the final decision on the quotation and expect that the work will be done this year after which we can concentrate on the internal decoration.

Although not strictly about last year, the tenant left early this year and we have taken the opportunity to fully refurbish the School House before reletting.

The secretary has resigned because of ill health and it may be possible to replace her by a relocation of duties amongst the existing members. A more pressing problem is that the treasurer will leave at the AGM this year and whilst there was one response to our advertisement that didn't bear fruit. Unfortunately no one on the committee is able to take on this role.

As always I am grateful for the support of the rest of the committee and again as always we do need some younger members, by which I mean, under 70 !

APM22/06 Scruton Allotments Group

The passing of our chairman and colleague, Chris Snell, has necessitated a change of management in the SAA. A committee of four has now been formed in line with the original constitution of the Association,

each with clear areas of responsibility. Syd Nye chairman, Richard Zeally treasurer, Ian Powell secretary and John Vickers will administer the plots and maintain the machinery. All to be confirmed by the full membership at the next AGM. A new website has been created by Richard with all business and information easily accessible to members.

We have had to change bank accounts, the previous account was in Chris's name and the requirements from the Bank to change account holder meant that it was opportune to create a new account with another Bank that can be operated without having a local branch. The SAA is treated as a charitable organisation by the Banks we had to present our constitution and for that we needed a "Chairman", hence I am currently the interim Chairman until the AGM. We now have online banking which makes all payments a lot easier.

We currently have two plots free with two prospective members chasing them.

The Annual Potato Challenge is underway again this year. The new drainage system in the playing field/cricket club appears to be successful with no flooding of our entrance this year. The Association aspires to provide a shed and rain water collection barrel for all plots.

The AGM will be later this month, we hope to combine it with a social event including a guest speaker, all to be confirmed shortly.

APM22/07 Scruton Cricket Club

The club's is anticipating a busy season with the return of Saturday cricket. Northallerton Thirds will be playing in the Darlington league at the Ground. A majority of the players are juniors who already play for Scruton in the Midweek Wensleydale League where we already play against a number of Darlington League teams.

Extra work on the square has been carried out with Northallerton groundsman. The careful planning of the drainage works to bypass the tennis courts has been successful with thanks to Playing Fields, County Council and Parish Council for all their help.

Allerton junior athletes will continue to use our ground and we enjoy their visits.

Thanks to everyone for another successful Christmas Raffle which raised some £700, with over thirty prizes given out.

APM22/08 Scruton Parish Council

Councillor Syd Nye, Chair of the Parish Council gave a full resume of the work of the Council over the past year and presented his annual report.

Of particular note was the exceptional state of the village as a whole with particular emphasis on the generally clean state that the village is kept. The chairman also spoke regarding the work of the parish council on providing new grit bin, and the removal of unsafe trees. Grass cutting will remain with the Walker Co.

The parish council makes regular inspections of all areas of the village in an effort to make sure the village is clean and tidy and free from any defects.

As this was the year when elections to the parish council were to take place the clerk has received five nomination papers, but only four had been returned to the election department. This means that the parish council will require to co-opt a further member.

The chairmans annual report will be published on the Scruton Network, with a copy inserted within the monthly newsletter.

APM22/09 Open Forum

Topics ranged from celebrations to celebrate Her Majesty's Jubilee which the parish council would contribute financially .

Also the difficulty of finding suitable locations for tree planting within the village

It was also suggested that a plan of the playing field be made available to delineate the various land areas to which legal documents apply.

The meeting closed at 8.05 pm.