

# Ilketshall St. Andrew Parish Council

Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting Monday 6 June 2022, 7.00 p.m., held in the Village Hall

## **1. Welcome.**

All seven Parish Councillors (Gerald Godfrey (GG), Andy Spinks (AS), Jacqui Harrison (JH), Lea Ingham (LI), Penny Ward (PW), Colin Ward (CW) and Rod Apps (RA) were present. There was one member of the public present (Chris Roberts).

## **2. Apologies for absence.**

There were no apologies for absence.

## **3. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 7 June 2021.**

These Minutes were confirmed as being correct, and were signed by the Chair.

## **4. Report from the Chair of the Parish Council.**

Since the last Annual Parish Meeting held on 7 June 2021, the Parish Council has mostly worked on a 'remote' basis, due to the resurgence of the Covid pandemic in late 2021 and also due to the closure of the Village Hall during the early part of 2022. Meetings of the Parish Council were held in June, July, September, October, and December 2021 and then in January, February and April 2022. The Parish Council has continued to benefit from a full complement of Councillors (7) with a near-100% attendance.

Apart from the routine business of the Parish Council (comprising, for example, reviewing Planning Applications, installing the Vehicle Activated Sign on Top Road and monitoring the results, monitoring the condition and safety of the Play Area), the actions of the Parish Council over the past year have included:

- Pursuing the "Quiet Lanes" initiative, resulting in all the roads in the village, apart from Top Road/Ringsfield Road, due to be designated as "Quiet Lanes" and the installation of the appropriate signs;
- The installation of additional dog waste bins in the village, due to the success of the initial installation near to the Village Hall;
- Investigating ways of countering the speeding problem on Top Road, with one likely outcome the painting of additional markings on the road at various points;
- Investigating ways of countering the HGV problem on Top Road, which has – regrettably - not resulted in any feasible actions;
- Planting of an oak tree near to the Village sign, to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee;
- Surveying the condition of the footpath signs within the village boundaries and fixing plaques to these where possible.

Following the difficulties with the Village Hall re-roofing project and the associated additional costs, the Parish Council made a grant of £2,000 to the Village Hall Committee. This sum

represented, almost exactly, the income from the Parish precept for the year, but the Parish Council was able to make the contribution as a consequence of accumulated reserves.

The Parish Council anticipates that the major non-routine expenditure in 2022-2023 will be the cost of the additional road paintings onto Top Road to deter speeding.

At the current time, the Parish Council has not identified any additional projects to undertake during 2022-2023, but will continue with its routine business.

## **5. Future activities**

It was noted that despite a notice regarding the Annual Parish Meeting having been circulated to all households in the village, just **one** member of the public joined the meeting. This was the same number as last year, despite the fact that this year the meeting was held at the Village Hall. Given that there are 232 registered electors in the village, the meeting concluded that this was very disappointing.

There were no suggestions regarding the future activities that the Parish Council should, or should not, engage in.

There a discussion about how the Parish Council might try to improve the engagement of the population of the village with work of the Parish Council. The meeting concluded that there was little further that could be done, beyond even more communications. The meeting concluded that it might be worth trying to increase the physical distribution of information relating to Parish Council activities and meetings.

## **6. Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

The Annual Parish Meeting closed at 7.25 p.m.