

## **GREENS NORTON PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL VILLAGE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 29TH APRIL 2024 IN MEETING ROOM 2 AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 7.30PM**

(Refreshments were made available )

**PRESENT:** Chris Bowmer, taking the Chair as Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr Charles Manners as WNC Unitary Ward Member, Joanne Maddams from West Northants Emergency Planning and Business Community Team, Linda Paice taking Minutes as Clerk to the Parish Council and 17 electors of the parish.

Chris Bowmer as **CHAIRMAN** welcomed villagers to the meeting clarifying that it was not a meeting of the Parish Council and he gave a broad overview of issues addressed by the Parish Council over the past year. He highlighted the current two vacant seats on the Council and the difficulty experienced when trying to find people open to co-option for a role which broadly required paying attention, being open minded, thinking about what is important to people, ability to read through the language in Consultations and Planning documents and committing time to a bit more than 10 meetings a year. Mostly reading thinking and emailing.

He followed by giving an overview of the Greens Norton Village Charitable Trust established following the sale of the old Village Hall. There had been some uptake and applications for grants from such groups as the Community Choir, St Barts Church, the Parish Council, the School, the Community Centre, Cricket Club and latterly Bradden Village Hall. Two further applications were currently in the pipeline for consideration at the next meeting of the Trustees.

More and better Community Engagement has been done via various social media platforms and, of course, the Village Newsletter

The ongoing works under the Parish Council umbrella were highlighted and there were interchanges in regard to the impending decision on the proposed DHL on the A5 with various views expressed. The application was currently due to go to WNC Strategic Planning Committee for determination. The longstanding loan taken out to purchase the Community Centre building was soon to end and parishioners were welcome to put forward to the Council their views on how the reduction to the Council's budget might be effected and the money reused for the benefit of the village.

Residents were also invited to put forward their Vision for the Future of the Village to allow the PC to put together a document for future reference. Suggestions could be sent to the Clerk on the current position – what you like about the village and what you don't like – what you feel is good and what you feel is missing.

The **MINUTES** of the 2023 Annual Village Meeting, having been circulated were agreed and signed as a true record.

Cllr Charles Manners as **WNC UNITARY WARD MEMBER** for the village had submitted a detailed report which was included in the Report Pack and had nothing further to add.

**REPORT PACKS** had been made available containing information from the School, the Village Show Society, Fifty Plus, Scouts, Community Centre Association, Sew 'n' Sew, Pocket Park, Village Show Society, Community Choir, the Police and the financial overview from the Parish Council. Fifty Plus, the Church and the Newsletter Group had been invited to submit a report but none had been received.

Joanne Maddams was welcomed to the meeting from **WNC EMERGENCY PLANNING AND BUSINESS COMMUNITY TEAM** who gave the meeting a presentation and information on creating an Emergency Plan for the village, the final determination of those present being that co-ordination on such would depend upon involvement by all organisations in the village. The issue would initially be taken back to a Parish Council meeting for further consideration. Joanne was thanked for giving up her time to attend the meeting and left some information on the table for people to take away.

There were no specific **ISSUES MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISH TO RAISE** put forward.

There being no other business, people were again thanked for attending and the meeting closed at 8.20pm

