

## CASTLEMORTON PARISH

### Draft Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 23 May 2024 at the Parish Hall, commencing at 7.00 pm

**Present:** **Parish Councillors:** Mike Wilkinson (Chairman), Nigel Baker, Jeremy Hubbard, Dan Bowker, Rosemary Powell and Rebecca Rollinson

**In Attendance:** Christina Leake (PC Clerk) DCllr Christine Wild

**Members of the Public:** 2

**1A/24 Apologies:** PCllrs D Smallwood, H Flanders, D Fisher, DCllr Gallagher and CCllr T Wells

#### **2A/24. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 11 May 2023 be signed by the Chairman as being a true record of that meeting.

#### **3A24 Matters Arising**

None

#### **4A/23 Report by the Chairman of the Parish Council**

The Chairman presented his first annual report as chairman of parish council noting proceedings and activity over the last 12 months and including acknowledgements to the support from fellow councillors. In addition: Welcome to 2 new councillors, necessity for increased precept, consideration to planning applications, liaison with highways and footpaths County Council officers, responsibility with the Parish Hall, liaison with the 2 new district councillors, the activities of the environmental group, council representation on various bodies and including his own new appointment as a Malvern Hills Trustee. Further activity and What's On reported in the bi monthly news sheet.

#### **5A/24. Finance Report by the Responsible Finance Officer**

Details as attached and explained:

**Opening balance of £3,505.63**, receipts of £9,408.51 & expenditure of £7,060.07 and a **closing balance of £5,854.07**.

- The Responsible Finance Officer reported on financial records

#### **6A/24 County/District Councillor Reports**

DCllr reported on her year with the district council and appointments to those committees associated with Environment and Health & Wellbeing the latter in association with the county council. Very rewarding learning about local biodiversity activities and with the county council in seeking connection within communities the support available particularly in tackling loneliness and isolation.

#### **7A/24 Reports**

**Parish Hall Trust:** Included the healthy state of the financial affairs of the

hall with a steady level of bookings and enhanced with the benefits of FITs from the PV's. The addition of trees to the grass area and bird boxes to the east wall of the hall.

**Footpaths:** Cllr Flanders report included footpath activity as regards maintenance with the support of the lengthsman. New gates are planned to replace the present stiles either end of CM 532 to assist walkers between New Road and Parish Hall to offer an alternative to walking on the main road. DEFRA is offering grants to improve Accessibility For All with a couple of stiles identified for replacement with gates.

**Highways:** There are several ongoing matters receiving the support of the CC, pothole repairs and drainage in addition to the continued efforts of the excellent lengthsman.

**CEG:** Cllr Fisher noted in her report the continued increasing range of activity including, autumn talks, visits and the churchyard project.

**8A/24 Public Comments**

An update was provided regarding the future administration of St Gregory's Church. Rev James retires in August 2025 and future considerations will include the Longdon & Berrow Benefices and the whole Malvern and Upton Deanery.

No further comments from parishioners.

With no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 7.40pm

Signed..... Date.....