

CASTLEMORTON PARISH

Draft Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 12 May 2022 at the Parish Hall, commencing at 7.00 pm

Present: Parish Councillors: Barbara Wilkes, Jeremy Hubbard, Don Lupton (Chairman), David Smallwood, Dawn Fisher, Nigel Baker and Hilary Flanders.

In Attendance: Christina Leake (PC Clerk)

Members of the Public: Mrs Sue Lupton & Tim Cotterell

1A/22 Apologies: C&D Cllrs Tom Wells and Mick Davies. PCllrs M Wilkinson & J Hubbard

2A/22. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 20 May 2021 be signed by the Chairman as being a true record of that meeting.

3A22 Matters Arising

None

4A/22 Report by the Chairman of the Parish Council

The Chairman presented the report of the parish council of proceedings and activity over the last 12 months including the increasing number of planning applications and boundary commission local government review. The report included an acknowledgement to parish councillor Mr Jerry Fryman who after 16 years had tendered his resignation. A vote of thanks was recorded for all his contributions to parish matters over the years and in particular with matters pertaining to planning. Full report on website.

5A/22. Finance Report by the Responsible Finance Officer

Details as attached and explained:

Opening balance of £57,277.89, receipts of £64,877.66 & expenditure of £113,279.40 and a **closing balance of £8,826.15**.

- The Responsible Finance Officer reported on financial records dominated by the parish hall extension and now complete. There are also increasing general administration costs. However a saving was realised in negotiation of the insurance in a change of company but expenditure necessary for a full external audit as turnover in excess of £25,000 and local groups benefitting from section 137 expenditure. With completion of parish hall extension, the parish council contributed a little under the £10,000 pledged.

6A/22 Parish Hall Trust Report

The report included the completion of the extension project with a grand opening, an acknowledgment to committee members and especially those recently resigned with thanks for their extensive supporting work over the years and the enthusiasm of those continuing the good work of providing a much needed facility for the village. Full report on website.

7A/22. Other Reports

Footpaths: Cllr Flanders reported on footpath activity as regards maintenance and the support from WCC. There is also the new project of seeking to register the track from the B4208 up to Worcestershire Wildlife property alongside Bannut Tree House. Full report on website.

Highways: Cllr Smallwood highlighted the remedial highway activity which takes place especially in conjunction with the lengthsman. Ongoing water leaks can be difficult but hopefully in time resolved. Full report on website.

CEAG: Cllr Fisher reported on this newly established committee and the amount of activity that has already taken place with the interest shown. The aim being to consider ways that Castlemorton can reduce its carbon footprint and increase biodiversity. Full report on website.

St Gregory’s Church: It was noted that changes will be taking place as regards ecclesiastical boundaries following the departure of the present vicar in January 2025. There are many discussions and considerations underway for the way forward. Support is presently sought for the management of the church finances.

8A/22 Castlemorton Hub Website

The chairman introduced Mr Tim Cotterell who has set up a website providing details of village organisations. It is known as the Castlemorton Hub and has all the immediate information on the front page with links to the respective websites which are managed by the independent organisations. Any information to be posted on front page can be managed by Tim and supporting administrators. This facility is presently free for users with thanks to Mr Cotterell and he is always pleased to receive any comments pertaining to improvements. Aim now to promote this facility. Castlemorton.org.uk

9A/22 Public Comments

The lack of parishioners was noted and consideration was given to hosting a speaker another year.

10A/22. Acknowledgment

The chairman thanked everyone for their support in attending this meeting and with no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 7.15pm

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