

WORLABY PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish held on **Thursday 23rd May 2024** at **Worlabby Village Hall**, Grange Field, Worlabby, Brigg DN20 0LZ, at **6:30pm**.

Present: Cllr M Speakman (Chair), Cllrs H Truelove, T Cave, M Moran, R Bowles, I Fowler

Clerk to the Council: Hannah Hepworth

Ward Cllrs : none

10 members of the public

Minutes

AM2405/01 Apologies

- a) Apologies were received from Wayne Hodgkinson

AM2405/02 Minutes of Previous meeting

- a) The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in May 2023 were noted

AM2405/03 Chairman's Report

- a) Councillor Mike Speakman, Chair of Worlabby Parish Council made a brief presentation on the work of the Council over the previous year.

The year started in May with the coronation of King Charles the third. The village celebrated with flags and bunting decorating houses and gardens. An event was held on the recreation ground with stalls, a fish and chip van and a band. Summer was initially very hot and dry and many of the flower beds volunteers had prepared around the village suffered badly. Consequently, we didn't have as good a display as normal.

Throughout the year, work continued to develop the Jubilee Dell created on the wolds to the north of the village on land owned by a local farmer. Trees were planted and benches installed. A very wet autumn and winter hampered the work and spring sunshine produced an explosion of weeds and thistles which will take some time to eradicate. The exceptionally wet weather also resulted in the road between Worlabby and Bonby being badly flooded, almost to the point of being closed. North Lincolnshire council were slow to respond, and the problem didn't clear for many weeks until drier weather arrived. Remedial work on blocked and collapsed drains is planned for this summer.

Signage on the roads to the village over the tops has been erected to discourage HGVs from coming into the village. Our narrow roads are very unsuitable to be used as thoroughfares by HGVs.

The now regular Dickensian fayre took place on the pleasure ground in December and it was the best attended so far with about a dozen stalls. This was followed a week later by the annual volunteer party held at the village hall. The parish council instituted the volunteer party three years ago as a thank you to all the people of the village who give their time doing many of the tasks that improve life in the village, such as maintaining flower beds, repairing paths, litter picking and landscaping. I wish to say a special thank you to all our volunteers and that includes my fellow councillors and members of the recreation committee who run the village hall. The number of volunteers is slowly declining. The parish council is carrying vacancies, and the recreation committee is struggling to recruit members. The work of volunteers is what makes Worlabby such an attractive village and we need to encourage more residents to join in.

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Despite unusually high levels of inflation and increasing costs, the Parish Council maintained the precept level from the previous year resulting in a small decrease in the level of council tax.

In spring this year, the village hall was the venue for a public inquiry. In about 2019 Network Rail locked the level crossing on Carr Lane, blocking access to the river Ancholme and the newly created Ancholme Way. In practise villagers had enjoyed access to the river for at least 100 years. North Lincolnshire council decided to record a public right of way over the crossing and Network Rail objected. The inquiry was well attended by villagers and residents of the surrounding area. The outcome has not yet been determined.

AM2405/04 Belayses Cook Report

a) The annual report from the Belayses Cook Charity was received
Trustees: Mrs M Rickwood, Chairperson, Mrs S Webster, Mrs S Bowles, Mrs K White, Mrs L Robinson
Throughout the year of 2023, 4 grants were made to Worlaby residents. In addition 35 Tesco's gift cards of £50 each, via the school and pre school, were distributed to families whose children were in the pupil premium category.

The Belayses and Cook Charity is able to help those in medical need (with for instance transport, or related costs). In addition help may be given to those in financial difficulties in view of these hard economic times.

If anyone knows someone who could possibly benefit from the Charity the Trustees will be pleased to hear from them. Please do not hesitate to contact one of the Trustees. All requests will be treated with discretion and in the strictest confidence. All details of the recipients of the grants are known only to the Trustees and not disclosed to any other parties.

AM2405/05 Worlaby Recreation Committee Report

a) The annual report from Worlaby Recreation Committee was received.
The Recreation Committee AGM was held on 22/4/24 and 2 trustees stood down. Wayne was elected as chairman. This year has seen challenges with the utility bills and a process of improvements. The internet has been sourced free of charge and there has been a steady increase in hall bookings and the Bonfire Night was a great success. A £13000 COVID Grant was received and there are 6 months of reserves of costs.

Maintenance work has been on-going including the redesign of behind the stage. The planning application is in for a new extension and bi-fold doors. The hall was used for the inquiry and polling and the Tuesday coffee is well attended. The new website will soon be live and there will be a link on the WPC website that takes you to the new site.

AM2405/06 Public Comment

a) Members of the public raised subjects that they wished discuss.
As a JW club user a member of the public commented that the improvements were really good. The curtains have made a huge difference and the black at the back of the stage has been very effective. The parishioner expressed thanks to the committee and commended them on the coffee mornings.

A member of the public mentioned flooding and said a meeting had taken place with Highways who acknowledge that it is Highway's problem and agreed to plan the work within the next three months.

Two residents raised concern regarding flooding on High Street and believe a drain is collapsed. The Clerk will get in touch with Highways.

It was mentioned that the pre-school have agreed to take on a further lease.

Meeting close: 18:44