**Minutes of the Glaston Parish Meeting**

 **Held on 21st November 2024 at 19.00 in the V.H.**

1. **Present.**

 Caroline Mattock, Stuart Mattock, Hugh Talbot, Richard Garton, Sue Lee, Robbie Rudge, Anthony George, Katie Balmer, Ian Balmer.

**2.0 Apologies.**

 Cllr Andrew Brown, Steph Talbot, , David Lee, Di Morgan, Di Payne, Anna Bussey.

**3.0 Welcome.**

Ian Balmer welcomed everybody to the meeting. Cllr Browne sent his apologies as he was chairing a full meeting of RCC.

**4.0 Minutes of the Previous Meeting.**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 16th May 2024 were agreed as a correct record.

**5.0 The Playpark.-An Update**

A paper had been circulated with the agenda.

The Chairman reported that the contract with FCC had been signed on 11th October and the funds totalling £39,472 were now available. It is planned to install the new equipment in Feb/March and an opening ceremony is planned for the Easter weekend. Members of the meeting were asked to give some thought as to how this event can be inclusive to the whole village and enjoyable.

The Chairman thanked Richard Garton for his help with this project.

**6.0 The Village Noticeboard.**

Follow discussion at the last meeting it had been agreed to replace/refurbish the village notice board in the current location. The balance of CIL monies would be used for this .

During discussion it was suggested that the notice board should be located elsewhere in the village. It was explained that the decision to remain in the current location was made to avoid the need for planning permission. It was suggested that another notice board could be established if it was seen as important but this would require planning permission or a faculty from the church if on church ground. Quotes are currently been obtained and the notice board will replaced asap.

**7.0 Community Infrastructure Levy-An Update.**

This fund which accumulates when there are new build houses added to the village has now essentially been used for the purposes that have been agreed by the Village Meeting.

In summary;

1. Five year support to maintain the defibrillator. £1,759
2. Emergency repairs to the Village Hall. £2,690
3. Contribution to the Playpark. £2,121
4. Village Notice Board.( commitment) £ 300

Total expenditure. £6,870

This leaves a remaining potential balance of £218 depending on the exact cost of the notice board.

**8.0 Update from the Rutland County Council.**

The latest Parish Forum which took place on the 6th Nov covered a number of issues and included the following;

Update from the Police and Crime Commissioner.

 Rutland and Melton is one of 12 neighbourhood policing areas within the Constabulary. Rutland has 4 beats with dedicated beat officers but unfortunately the officer for Uppingham has been reallocated to Oakham for 3 months after which she will return.

The Constabulary expect to get an additional 100 officers following the recent government announcement.

Rutland has 5% of the population of the area covered by the Constabulary and 2% of the crime.

Resilience Partnership.

The meeting were given a presentation regarding resilience planning for major incidents.

Update from the CEO of Rutland County Council.

The update included the following points from Mark Andrews;

1. Although the timetable for producing the Local Plan was on course and would be delivered to the planning inspectorate on time it could be with them for a year before potential approval.

As the government have issued higher targets for house building it is unclear if the 5 year land target will be acceptable.

It is possible there will be a ‘ free for all’ in terms of planning applications for a twelve month period.

 b)The recent budget had assumed the maximum possible increase in Council Tax ( 5%). Although more funding will be available for Special Education, this increase will be significantly less than the current overspend .

Increased capital has been made available including some funding for pot holes but this can only be used on major resurfacing projects.

The CEO felt that additional revenue savings will need to be found over the next few years to enable the Council to stay financially viable.

**9.0 Update on Traffic Calming.**

Following a meeting with Cllr Wise ( Cllr with responsibility for highways) regarding potential traffic calming measures on the A47 she has now confirmed that a potential 40mph speed limit and ‘ gates’ at either end of the village will be reviewed by the Highways team.

The potential 40mph limit prior to the 30 will also hopefully slow traffic down before the dangerous Bisbrooke junction.

Cllr Wise has gained the support of the Road Safety Officer for this proposal.

A review will be undertaken by Highways staff in the next couple of weeks.

**10.Update from the Village Hall management Committee.**

Caroline Mattock reported on behalf of the village hall committee.

The boiler had been repaired at a lower cost than was expected. A radiator was being relocated and both these improvements will enhance the heating system. Work on the outside space was progressing well and it was hoped to turf an area in the spring.

There were now three regular users of the V.H

Caroline was thanked for her work especially with regard to Raft. It was planned to re-advertise this regular event to attract additional attenders.

The surplus tables had been ‘ re-homed ‘

A photo gallery had been established featuring old photos which were of village interest.

The village hall management committee were thanked for their continued work.

**11.0 Update from the PCC.**

Sue Lee gave the meeting a summary of the report prepared by Anna Bussey which is appended to these minutes.

**12.0 Update from the Community Fund Managers.**

The Chairman reported that in addition to Polly Grimett, Richard Garton had now joined the Community Fund Managers. The only source of income remained the bonus ball while the ongoing commitment remained the annual support to the playpark. Any funds available over and above this would be available for distribution via the application process.

**13.0 Any Other Business.**

During discussion it was suggested that the churchyard would benefit from some lighting at the of the end of the path were the step leads down to the road.

The Chairman agreed to fund one battery light if someone was prepared to pay for a second. It was hoped that this would not require a faculty due to the nature of the lights.

The issue of the maintenance of the cart-wash was raised.

The chairman reminded the meeting that this matter had been discussed at previous meetings. Given that the cart-wash is a listed building but all enquiries had failed to determine who was the owner, the way forward was very difficult.

The local authority were very clear that they had no responsibility for this.

It is likely that the ownership may follow the ownership of the property/properties which originally built this facility.

It was reported that Bob Armitage was mowing the grass around the cart-wash.

Anglia Water regularly inspect some aspect of the cart-wash.

The meeting was reminded that potentially doing damage to a listed property was a serious matter so any on-going maintenance must ensure no damage is made to the structure.

The Chairman thanked people for attending the meeting.

The meeting was reminded that this was the last meeting which would be chaired by the current Chairman. It was hoped that someone would step up to take over this role so that this important formal meeting can continue.

 IAJB NOV 2024.

 Appendix 1

G l a s t o n P a r o c h i a l C h u r c h C o u n c i l – S t A n d r e w ’ s C h u r c h Treasurer Correspondence Address - Church House, Church Lane, Glaston, Rutland LE15 9BN glastonchurch@gmail.com Treasurer’s Report for Parish

Meeting 21st November 2024

MINISTRY, SERVICES, EVENTS & ADMINISTRATION

1. Jane Baxter has given us advance notice of her retirement in Spring 2026. This will inevitably be followed by a period without a parish priest but knowing well ahead means that the PCC will be prepared.

2. The PCC have expressed their appreciation for all the maintenance and improvements made by the Management Committee at the Village Hall.

 3. A short Christmas Day service will be led by Sue and Dave with the usual refreshments afterwards.

4. Sue and David are also planning a ‘Wine & Food Pairing’ event in February, sharing proceeds with the VHMC. More details coming soon.

 5. All our statutory requirements are up-to-date and we will also be doing a Health & Safety assessment soon (although not a requirement for the church).

6. We have been working hard to ‘go through’ older church and village paperwork with a view to making a deposit at the Record Office early next year. We are also planning to create a 'Parish Chest', a collection of historical and modern documents and photographs that will be kept securely but available on request. Copies and less precious items will continue to be available in the church.

 FINANCE

7. To reiterate; it costs ~£10k pa (and rising) to run the church excluding any repairs & maintenance.

8. Finances are stable for the immediate future but St Andrew’s existence and survival relies upon volunteers, financial giving and grant funding. Prioritising and funding repairs and improvements, as well as keeping the church running is an ongoing challenge.

 9. The PCC aims to review and refresh Planned Giving with the support of the Diocese.

 REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

10. Stained Glass Repair – from quinquennial and ongoing. Glass replaced but one section requires recolouring to provide better colour match. Still outstanding.

 11. North Boundary Wall Collapsed Sections: a. 8-10m section nearer Wing Road collapsed overnight 1st - 2nd November 2023. Insurance claim not successful. Funding will be sought after DAC Faculty approval gained for associated tree work. b. Further section collapsed opposite the lychgate in January 2024 and will be imminently repaired after the successful application for funding to the Rutland Historic Churches Preservation Trust by Neil Johnson.

 12. Churchyard Prune & Tidy continues with a small band of helpers (BIG shout out to Caroline Mattock!). Foxgloves planted/sown and a small area of meadow sown. Pre-winter weed and grass strimming around gravestones underway. More jobs on the list, volunteers please get in touch!

CHURCH IMPROVEMENTS/REORDERING

 13. Providing improved and new facilities at the church is a firm intention we are working towards; including mains water, WC, basic servery, appropriate storage for furniture, history & PCC paperwork, access, heating, lighting and audiovisual.

14. GSP Instructed, digitally scanned, existing drawings prepared and feasibility sketches provided. The project team have reviewed and undertaken further research. Reverting back to GSP and reaching out to other professionals is imminent in order to refine the outline ideas before wider consultation. As always, the PCC would be delighted to engage with anyone interested in protecting the future of our church as an integral part of our village. We are in the process of drafting a strategic plan for the next five years.

Can you offer any time ,expertise, financial support or ideas?

Please get in touch. **ALB 21/11/2024**