

Minutes of Barton Turf & Irstead Annual Parish Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

Present: T Edmunds, G Neave, J Fletcher, M Mills, J Menges and D Bradley (Clerk)

Also present: 1 parishioner

Apologies for absence from D Dean

The approved minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting had been circulated to Councillors for their information.

#### Chairman's Annual Report

Personal thanks was given to all Councillors for their support and efforts, both in their capacity as Parish Councillors and Trustees of Barton Turf Community Charities. This year regrettably G Neave has decided to step down after 27 years of faithful service to both the above. Many thanks particularly to Glenn and his wider family for their knowledge and assistance. Also, thanks given to M Mills and M Oakden, both of whom are willing to stand again. At the next meeting, cooption of three Councilors will be considered.

The concerns of local people about Better Broadband for residents and businesses in parts of the parish appears at long last to have been addressed, even though its implementation has caused damage to many grass verges in the village. Concerns remain about improving broadband speeds in Irstead and Pennygate.

Recently the community sadly lost John Yaxley. His presence at the Parish Council meetings and wealth of local knowledge of this Broadland community will be greatly missed. The Chairman and all Councillors gave their condolences to Diane, the Clerk, and the family at this difficult time.

Thanks was also given to the County and District Councillors for their time, help and support. In particular to Barbara McGoun our local District Councillor who, due to District Ward boundary changes, will not be standing for election in the area of North Norfolk District Council we now fall into.

#### New Victory Hall

At the recent AGM it was reported that the Hall is financially solvent in accordance with the Business and various management plans implemented by the Trustees.

#### NIBCHG

The past year has seen an increase in membership numbers and an interesting programme of presentations and research evenings. The highlight of the year was the three days of commemorations of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of 1<sup>st</sup> World War. These included an appropriate display of local WW1 memorabilia, a Poppy Trail of the Fallen around the three villages, a NABS presentation entitled "Tomorrow is Yours", a Remembrance Day ecumenical service concluded by a "Victory Tea Party".

#### Barton Turf Community Charities

It has been a relatively quiet year. The same grass contractor as last year has been appointed at the same price. The section of lost quay heading has affected the finances, hence the slight increase in boat permit fees. An honesty box is to be installed on the staithe to boost funds for maintenance of the staithe and car park. The Broads Authority has changed the regulations on staithe hosepipes, but the work on the staithe has been completed and approved by them at a recent inspection.

#### Gaye's Staithe Committee

Another very quiet year. The money box has been completely destroyed by vandals. There is presently an issue with a small section of quay heading, the ownership of which is currently unclear. G Neave is reviewing and will report back. Hardcore is to be replaced on the track every three to four years.

#### Barton Turf Charity for Relief in Need

The Clerk reported from minutes received that Mrs Murrells and Mrs Lamb continue to be the nominated representatives of the Parish Council. Dr Russell-Wells resigned at the end of 2018, a new Chairman is to be appointed in November 2019. The Parish Council was thanked for their work in maintaining the staithe. The Charity is liable to pay the Broads Authority a considerable sum for the management of Barton Fen. However, a waterlogging problem on the fen had resulted in a disruption to the usual sedge harvest so that none had been cut in 2018. Councillors asked for clarification why the Charity had to still pay BA to manage the Fen, when such management resulted in no sedge being harvested.

#### Reports by NCC and NNDC Councils

Norfolk County Council and North Norfolk District Council representatives were not present to provide reports.

#### Residents questions:

Potholes were the main concern, particularly a large one round Berryhall Road. It was feared that once repaired, with heavy farm vehicles regularly using the road, the hole would keep reappearing. The Clerk is to measure the hole and report it, amongst others within the two villages.

There being nothing further to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting.