

Minutes of the Cley Annual Parish Meeting

Held at 6.00pm on Thursday 9th May 2024 in

Cley Village Hall, the Fairstead

Attending: Cllr Holliday (Chair) Cllr Allen (Vice-Chair), Cllr High, Cllr Baker, Cllr Williamson, Cllr Deane and Parish Clerk Gemma Harrison.

7 members of the public were present.

1. Welcome and to consider apologies.

1.1 Cllr Holliday welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1.2 Cllr Holman sent her apologies (family commitment), the apologies were accepted.

2. Declarations and Dispensation Requests by Councillors in any of the agenda items listed below.

2.1 Cllr Deane and Cllr Baker are both members of the Harbour Committee. Cllr High declared an interest in Newgate Green.

3. Agree the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 11th May 2023

3.1 The minutes were circulated prior to the meeting; they were PROPOSED by Cllr Allen as accurate and correct and SECONDED by Cllr High and AGREED by all.

4. Receive the Chairman's Report for 2023 – 24

4.1 Cllr Holiday read out the annual report which can be seen in full at Appendix A.

5. Receive Accounts for the year to 31st March 2024

5.1 The Clerk gave an update on the accounts which can be seen at Appendix B.

6. Public Opportunity for Questions to Councillors

6.1 A member of the public stated it was good news that the Artemis Steps were now being looked at by NCC. A question was asked about the handrail on the other steps further along the Coast Path, Clerk will speak to the Trails Team at NCC to see where this is in the scheduled programmed works.

The meeting ended at 18.14pm

APPENDIX A – Chairman’s Report

Cley PC Chair report May 2024

First of all, I’d like to thank the Cley Parish Cllrs for all their hard work and dedication this year. They do a huge amount to keep the village running smoothly. I would like to particularly thank my vice Chair, Richard Allen, for his invaluable support during the year. I can’t stress enough how grateful we are to our clerk, Gemma Harrison, for everything she does for us as a community. She goes over and above her duties, and we would be lost without her. Thanks also to Don Harrod who does a fantastic job keeping the Curloo spic and span.

Cley Parish Council has had a very productive year.

We co-opted Richard Deane this year as our seventh councillor and he has been an extremely helpful member of our team.

We’ve finally managed to raise awareness with authorities of the safety issues with the steps coming down from the bank into Coast Road at Artemis. The Trails team (who manage the Coastal Path) will be arranging the infilling of the lower step and fitting a handrail extension.

We have now spent all our Community Support Grant of £1500 which we received from the Norfolk Community Foundation. As you know, we’ve been giving Tesco vouchers and electric throws to parishioners who’ve come forward. We are hoping to refresh our parish community support fund with grant funding ready for next winter. In the meantime, we have signposted to other places to go for help such as the Blakeney Food Bank - check out the ‘hardship’ page on our website, cleypc.info.

Our intrepid Toadwatch team saved over 1000 toads and frogs this season which is absolutely brilliant.

Richard Deane has been looking at data from our speed camera. The volume of traffic is staggering with up to 2000 vehicles a day coming down Holt Hill and 1500 along the Coast Road. The average speed down Holt Hill was 24mph and the Coast Road 26mph. The worst area for speeding is Blakeney Hill with an average speed of 25mph in the 20mph zone. There are concerns regarding speeding along Old Woman’s Lane but the data shows the average speed was 22mph at the bottom of Barn Drift.

Thank you all very much indeed for your support to save Blakeney Surgery. Despite our campaign the Integrated Care Board met to decide on the closure of Blakeney Surgery on May 7th. The decision was to close the surgery with a six-month grace period to agree on mitigation for the loss of medicines collection. No mention of the mitigation needed for the loss of face-to-face appointment for which we have

strenuously campaigned! We have referred the closure to the Secretary of State as we feel due process has not been followed.

Due to Gemma's fantastic grant writing skills, the Parish Council was awarded a grant of £1500 towards the running costs of the community café, which now runs every Wednesday and is deservedly popular. Huge thanks to all the bakers, baristas and bingo callers who have made this welcoming 'hot spot' such a success.

Our litter picks have been a great success. We are very grateful to everyone who turned up and filled numerous bags with rubbish. We found the usual mix of bottles (rather too many alcoholic), cans, fast food wrappers and car parts.

We have adopted a biodiversity policy for the parish which shows the part Cley Parish Council plays in conserving and enhancing the biodiversity of the area. The policy is on the website alongside our other policies. We have also agreed a footpath and loke policy, trying to balance the need to maintain access with the desire to preserve habitat. With your help, we've had two very successful loke working parties.

We need to have the improvement works for Newgate Green programmed in by Highways. This comprises the restoration of the green in front of the church with four parking spaces for the church. We are rather disappointed at how the previous works along the north side of the Green have weathered and are looking at higher specifications for the proposed works near the church.

Cley Parish Council is pleased a decision has been made on Arcady.

We had a very successful year on the allotments. Huge thanks are due to Christine and Roy Williamson and Judith Holman for all their hard work. We have a few plots still available on our friendly, sociable allotments if you fancy growing your own fruit and veg!

Following October's floods on the River Glaven at Letheringsett, and the two storm overflows from Holt Sewage Treatment Works, Anglian Water attended to answer questions on water quality in the Glaven. They say permitted storm overflows from the Holt Sewage Treatment Works do not harm the Glaven. Apparently chalk streams such as the Glaven receive no special treatment: however, the Environment Agency has imposed stricter controls at Holt STW on phosphates in the treated water (which cause algal overgrowth). We brought up again the issue that Glandford STW are often malodorous, and they asked us to call-in issues so they can be investigated.

Work has been progressing, albeit slowly, on our Neighbourhood Plan. The NNDC Planning Policy team have commented on our draft policies so these will be rewritten and brought back to a further community engagement event.

Regarding the parish's budget for next year, we have tried to keep our spending as close to this year's as possible (only £146 more). However, we have slightly fewer houses now paying council tax so the cost per average sized property is up very slightly from £41.98 to £43.29, an increase of 3.11%. The Curloo and Community Café are not included in the parish budget as they are funded by donations.

The Curloo continues to provide a very useful service. Our thanks go to Cllr Allen and Chris Lubblock for all their work in keeping it running smoothly.

Electric vehicle charge points were debated again last year. The Village Hall agreed that chargers could be installed in the VH car park provided the power comes from an external source, not from the VH itself. We planned to hold a village referendum to find out your views on electric car charging in the village, but we did not receive the necessary information from NCC so we've deferred our decision.

We think the village needs a second defibrillator that is more accessible to the High Street. It is not in our budget so we are going to try to grant fund – they are about £1,500-2,000. The newly repainted phone box seems a good location.

The Heritage Walk has been such a success we have had now printed 6000 leaflets! There is now an information board at the start on the Curloo and one in preparation for in front of the church.

We continued to receive complaints last year about late night noise disturbance. There is no specific decibel level which constitutes noise disturbance: rather it is what prevents the enjoyment of your home. Environmental Health will respond to complaints if there is a previous history of noise disturbance. It is therefore important to log instances so there is a record

The Coronation Picnic was a huge success. About 225 parishioners and friends enjoyed cream teas, ice creams, cakes, beer, wine and children's games in glorious sunshine. Very many thanks to our clerk, Gemma, for organising and running the day.

APPENDIX B – Finance Update 23/24

CPC made 189 payments - £28791.64 in total.

Receipts – 220 receipts received - £31,036 of which Precept was £14,267.

Community Support Grants -

£2619 CSF – including heated blankets and Tesco vouchers. **£80.24 remaining**

Community Café

Costs £938

Receipts £4223

£3285

Cley Curloo

Costs £ 4210

Receipts £ 2915.40

Loss £1294.60

Ruby's Funeral Donation

£346.63 (£359 new 4 seater bench)

Heritage Walk

£960 remaining

Newgate Green

£25 plus £1600 with NCC – (£1625) plus 50% grant awarded towards the works. Current

Balance **£3250**

Allotments

Payments - £2378.84

Receipts - £2651.09

Allotment stall - £167.73

Credit £272.25 plus £167.73 = £439.98

Fundraising Account as of 31st March 2024

£7524.78 – Broken down into the following...

| | |
|---------------|---------|
| Newgate Green | 25 |
| Heritage Walk | 960 |
| Rubys Funeral | 346.63 |
| Café | 3292.18 |
| CSF | 80.24 |
| Toilet | 2380.75 |
| Allotments | 439.98 |