



WALPOLE CROSS KEYS PARISH COUNCIL

Chair: Nick Dyble

Clerk: Caroline Boyden

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF WALPOLE CROSS KEYS PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY THE 17TH OF MAY 2022 FROM 7.00PM AT JEPSON HALL

PRESENT: Cllr Nick Dyble (ND) Chair), Cllr T Roberts (TR), Cllr G. Coates (GC),
Cllr R. Dyble (RD), Cllr K. Hughes (KH), Cllr H Dobson (HD), Cllr G Roberts (GR)
Cllr R White (RW).
Cllrs Julian Kirk (JK),

1. **WELCOME** – a formal welcome was given by the Chair, Cllr N Dyble.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Borough Cllr Sandra Squire (Covid)

3. **MINUTES**

To approve the Annual Parish meeting minutes from the 28TH of April 2021, proposed GR, seconded RD and unanimously accepted by all present at that meeting.

4. **Chairman's Annual Report:**

Walpole Cross Keys Parish Council Chair's report May 2022.

Last year, the Annual Parish Meeting was held online via Zoom due to COVID restrictions. Eventually, in June, face to face meetings resumed in the Jepson Hall. Of course, COVID is still with us but some kind of normality has resumed. I must thank all Parish Councillors and Caroline, our clerk, for their continued commitment during the past 12 months.

In February Peter Brown resigned from the Council as he has moved out of the village. However, in April we were pleased to welcome Councillor Bob White. The village population has grown over the past few years and we have permission to increase the Parish Council's number from 8 to 9. This means we have a vacancy to fill and are keen to hear from anyone that would like to join us.

The introduction of a speed limit along Market Lane has been on every meeting agenda for the 3 years that I have been a councillor (and many months before that), and I am very pleased to say that with help from our Borough and County councillors, funding has been secured and the speed limit should be implemented within the next few months.

On the subject of speed limits, our speed activated signs show we do have a problem with speeding traffic along Sutton Road so we decided to purchase white gates with additional signage in the verges at each end of the road that will be installed soon.

Some of the roads in the village are in poor condition and it's been a frustrating battle to get repairs to potholes done although, recently some of the footpaths have been resurfaced. Another frustration is the amount of litter around the village and I must thank the organisers and participants of the litter picks that go a long way towards keeping our village tidy.

The Parish Council has the task of reviewing and commenting on planning applications and one recent case proved the value of our neighbourhood plan. The plan was brought into force back in 2017 and is an excellent document that I advise everyone to read. It's available on the Parish Council website. The plan has an expiry date of 2026, but it is apparent that an update is overdue. Work has begun on this complicated task with the help of the Borough Council.

Every winter, flooding and drainage become an issue, so I have had two site meetings with Philippa Noon from the Internal Drainage Board. Sites of potential flooding have been identified and some solutions proposed. As always, funding is a problem, but I hope to see some drainage improvements implemented soon.

I must just mention some notable successes:

- A defibrillator has been installed outside Walkers Garage on Sutton Road, funded by a generous donation from the Dole Charity.
- Caroline worked hard to gain her Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA) last year.
- In December last year, the village was awarded a commemorative plaque to recognise the community spirit shown in the village during COVID lockdowns and restrictions. The plaque is on display in the Jepson Hall.
- The village gardens are now being maintained by the Walpole Mower Man. I must thank Rosie Dyble and Gill Coates for their hard work on the Millennium Garden, and donation of trees by Councillor Julian Kirk.

At the beginning of the Annual Parish Council Meeting, the Chair, and Vice Chair step down, then a Chair and Vice Chair are elected. I hope they will find it as interesting and enjoyable as I have.

Nick Dyble.

5. No reports from our Borough Councillors.
6. Annual Report from County Councillor Julian Kirk – see attached
7. Parishioners Open Forum – none present.

Reports from the Walpole Cross Keys Primary School and Norfolk Constabulary – see attached.

Meeting ended at 19.22