

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held at 8pm on Tuesday 4th May via zoom

Meeting Chaired by: Parish Councillor David Kellner

Minutes by: Clerk, Claire Power

1. Welcoming Statement

The Chairman of the Parish Council opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

2. Acceptance of the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 10th May 2019.

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 10th May 2019 were accepted and to be signed by the Chairman after the meeting.

3. Chairman's Report on the Parish Council activities over the last year.

The Chairman of Wing Parish Council, Councillor David Kellner, talked about the struggles and hardships people have felt over the past year during the pandemic.

District and County Councillor, Councillor Netta Glover, was thanked for her tireless service and support for the village over the past 21 years as she will not be standing for re-election in the upcoming May elections.

Wing Parish Councillor Charlotte Hellgren-Derry, following 14 years on the Council is standing down. She was thanked for her dedication and hard work over the years and her passion for the village will be missed.

Wing Parish Councillor John Benson, following 9 years of service, is also standing down. He has been involved with the Neighbourhood Plan and part of the team that managed to sign a long term agreement for Long Spinney.

An update was provided on the recreation ground improvements project where additional funding, the football pitch renovations and that a cost cutting exercise was currently underway to reduce the expense of the new pavilion.

A crowd funding project took place to raise funds for the Bowls Club to provide them with an irrigation system for the bowling green and also to level the part of the bowling green so it is up to County level.

A new village sign has been made to replace the rotten one and is now in place.

Tree works have been carried out, the lime trees around the recreation ground have been reduced in size, other trees in Jubilee Green and Long Spinney have also had work completed.

We have a few streetlights not working but we are working with UKPN to re-connect them and this is on-going.

The foodbank was set up by members of the community, which the Council have supported, to help parishioners during the pandemic as it has been a tough time for people.

Community grants have been given to the Bowls Club for the irrigation and to the Wing Helpers to assist parishioners.

We are working alongside Reverend Howard on a social-prescribing project and ways of increasing help towards companionship and mental health.

Thanks to the What's On In Wing team.

4. Presentations from community groups and organisations

The following community groups gave presentations about their organization:

Wing Bell Ringers

Bell ringing re-commenced in July 20 following the first lock down but restrictions still limited capacity.

A single bell was tolled for Prince Philip on the day following his death and on the day of his funeral.

In addition, a single bell was tolled on the 1st anniversary of the lockdown and on the day of Sir Captain Tom Moore and for two weddings.

Open days will be held to encourage more people to take up bell ringing.

Regular bell ringing practice takes place every Friday evening.

Wing Snooker Club

We had to close under the regulations but during the time we have repainted the room, two tables have been re clothed.

Starting this year, we now have a snooker coach available.

We would like to encourage more people to play to play snooker.

Wing Helpers

A Facebook page was created in April 20 and a flyer created and delivered by volunteers by mid April.

We had over 80 plus volunteers willing to help with shopping or pick up prescriptions.

We changed the Foodbank to a Food Drop and Swap service so people could exchange excess products in their cupboards to items they needed.

During full lockdown, the food service was moved to the porch of the Church, as the Church needed to close but it enabled the service to still be provided. A fridge was donated by a parishioner.

Another flyer with additional information, including the Help line telephone number was delivered to all the village.

Fresh produce was donated by parishioners and local businesses.

Fundraisers took place to provide microwaves for the local veterans. At Christmas we organised a raffle and local business were very generous donating prizes. At Easter, we ran a raffle for an easter egg which raised more funds. For Christmas, Cottesloe School provided lots of generosity and food items. From this, a nomination service was carried out and asked in the community who would need a Christmas Dinner. The veterans received cards and a present from the pupils of Cottesloe School.

We would like to say a Big Thank You to everyone that has helped us out during the last year, the parish has been incredibly generous and whenever help has been asked, the village has provided.

Wing Bowls Club

The Bowls Club green is re-opening mid-May following closure due to covid.

The new irrigation system has been installed and working well, thank you to the Parish Council for the funding towards this and the levelling of the pitch. We are waiting to have the green 'starred' to enable it to be used at County level. We'd like to welcome existing members and anyone else interested giving bowls a try.

Wing Heritage Group

The Chairman read out a report received from the Heritage Group. The report included a information on talks that have been provided, exhibitions and displays from other local groups. We are looking to resume Wing History Walks and archaeological digs around the village.

During lockdown, an illustrative history timeline was produced and is now on display in All Saints Church.

The Walk Around Wing leaflet has also been updated and a few articles have been published in What's On In Wing.

Wing Women's Institute

We had a garden party in the August and organised goodie bags for members.

We kept our knitting group and other groups going in smaller groups.

During the lockdown we produced 100's of laundry bags for NHS staff and then moved over to make masks.

We are planning on campaigning on raising the awareness of early signs of ovarian cancer and starting our monthly meetings.

1st Wing Scout Group

We have just over 100 members. During the pandemic, we met virtually every week with various challenges and talks on different skills and topics.

We have also taken part in some County events. It included a virtual camp which happened in March. We had a Space themed event, each section made rockets and even managed to taste the food of astronauts.

We couldn't take part in the usual Remembrance Sunday parade, but we did manage to collate a collage of members to mark the event.

As restrictions reduce, we will concentrate on the outdoor activities and preparing to go camping.

Long Spinney is a massive part of our Scout group, thank you to the team that manage the area.

Wing Village Hall

We have felt the full impact of the restrictions as our regular bookings have not been able to resume due to social distancing requirements. It has been the worst year in the history of the hall. However, we have carried out a lot of maintenance so we are ready when the lifting of restrictions happens.

The Cupboard has closed and the area is planned to be turned into snug for informal and relaxed meetings.

We were chosen by Jardines as the site in Wing to hold a vaccination centre. The only costs we asked to be covered were for heating and lighting.

We have installed external lights on the front of the building.

Cottesloe School

Even though the school has been closed to a majority of pupils, but we still had around 100 pupils onsite to support key workers.

It was a pleasure to assist the Wing Helpers with the food bank.

We had a kind resident that donated 10 laptops so children could have access to online learning.

We had lots of volunteers helping with the testing of over 1,000 to enable the school to be re-opened.

We've had to adapt to online learning both at home and in school. Every child will have access to a Chromebook.

We are looking forward to establishing the Youth Council and the Summer School to assist learning opportunities to help them catch up on education potentially missed.

Unitary Councillor Peter Cooper

A brief history of Councils in the area was given.

The elections in the next few days will reduce the number of Councillors from the District and County Councils to the Unitary Council. As part of the new Unitary Council, local Community Boards have been set up which will bring the

Council services to a more local level to enable local issues to be dealt with by people more involved with it. Health and Well-being is a key priority.

Wing Gardening Club

We meet once a month and have around 50 members. We have talks every month, go on trips and hold plant sales. Thanks to the Parish Council as the grant received from them pays for the coach. New members will be welcome.

Overstone Combined School PTA

It has been a challenging year for fundraising but we have looked at opportunities such as a Christmas Raffle, Ice-cream Fridays and uniform sales. We have started a gardening club to make the external areas more pleasing. Going forward we are planning on holding a fete in September but it depends on covid restrictions on school events. We are looking to hold Bonfire Night, have a more permanent drop off site for clothing, small scale school events and organising gifts for the pupils moving up to Secondary school in September.

All Saints Church

Thank you for the very warm welcome we've received since moving here in June last year. The Church closures haven't stopped us working with the four schools in the area, including Cottesloe School. The Reverend has been included in the Community Board steering group. We have moved the Foodbank / Swap-Drop service back inside the Church and it will be manned at certain times so people have someone to chat to. We are also looking at working with local groups assisting people with addictions etc. Wi-fi connectivity using the Church tower for community benefit is being investigated. All Saints Church has been offered as a venue for a Youth Café.

Friends of Long Spinney

We are a small informal group to try and support ways of raising funds and contributions to increase the availability of the area. Raise awareness of local walks in the area. Long Spinney has been a green haven during the recent lockdowns. We have installed the wooden dragonfly sculptor. We welcome anyone who would like to assist in helping raise funds for the area.

Wing 1st Football Club

A report had been sent through and was read out by the Chairman. We are in our 3rd session and are currently in the middle of the league.

Police

A report had been sent through and was read out by the Chairman. Crime is low within the Wing area at the moment but it may change as the restrictions are lifted. Crime prevention advice such as tools are marked, doors and windows are locked, and timer switches are used was given. Please report any incidents to the Police.

Wing Tennis Club

A report had been sent through and was read out by the Chairman. Wing Tennis Club offers players of all ages and standards the opportunity to play. We aim to be friendly, sociable, welcoming and inclusive, encouraging all to enjoy this sport. The Club decided to open the club and courts to all with a free membership and access. We were delighted with the take up of over 70 villagers who signed up and, weather permitting, could get out and play. The junior coaching course will be commencing soon. We have been attending meeting and are involved in the consultation regarding the recreation ground improvements, this includes the addition of floodlights for the tennis courts.

Friends of Cottesloe School

A report had been sent through and was read out by the Chairman. We are a group of parents and teachers who arrange events throughout the year to fundraise extra funds for the school. The funds are spent on enhancing the equipment and opportunities available to the pupils. Once the social restrictions are lifted we hope to involve the wider community in events that we hold.

Wing Community Library

A report had been sent through and was read out by the Chairman. We had to close our doors during the various lockdown periods. We are currently open on reduced hours and with covid safe measures in place. We haven't been able to hold out usual events or open the childrens picture book area to younger readers as yet. We have a good supply of new books, including over 175 childrens picture books and 'reading well' titles.

We look forward to being able to open for longer hours in the coming month and being able to meet people face to face again.

Wing with Wingrave Cricket Club

A report had been sent through and was read out by the Chairman.

The Club aims to promote and encourage participation in the sport of cricket for all ages and genders in and around the villages of Wing and Wingrave.

Wing currently runs 1 side that competes in the Four Counties Cricket League

Our aim is to expand the playing side to have a regular friendly team playing at least once a week. We are also actively planning the introduction of youth cricket with the intention of providing coaching and again regular opportunities to participate in regular matches.

We are always looking for new members both playing and non-playing.

Overstone Combined School

This has been an unusual year for the school with the impact of Covid. The children have been amazing with their home learning which was streamlined to help all families working from home. The school was open to vulnerable children and those with parents who were critical workers and we had approximately 80 children in school daily.

Since welcoming all children back in school, as the restrictions have eased a little, we have been working on supporting friendships and anxiety to make the children feel more settled. A huge number of children who were working from home in the lockdown received computer devices to make learning easier and many of these were donated by members of the community to whom we were very grateful.

5. Public Open Forum

There were no public questions raised.

6. Close of Meeting

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and the groups for their presentations.

The meeting closed at 9.58pm