

Minute of the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING of IRTHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL held in NEWTOWN VILLAGE HALL on 17th May 2023 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT:

Councillors A. Jordan (in the Chair), R. Armstrong, G. Beck, M. Ridley, C. Robinson and H. Slack.

IN ATTENDANCE – A. Riddell, Clerk

1 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 6TH APRIL 2022 WERE SUBMITTED.

RESOLVED to authorise the Chairman to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 6th April 2022, confirmed as a true and accurate record.

2 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Anne Jordan gave a report on the activities of the Council over the past year as follows:

This year has been another eventful one.

I was re-elected as Chairperson and Councillor George Beck was re-elected as Vice Chair.

The month of May saw a visit from Radio Cumbria to Irthington village. This was for a piece on Irthington in Bloom. The competition resulted in gold and silver awards and was a fantastic achievement for all those involved.

We were asked for comments regarding a consultation on strategic cycling and walking corridors. We agreed that as the current cycle lane stops just after Linstock roundabout, the A689 is far too busy to use safely and the A69 is also unsafe. Cycling from Irthington and Brampton to Carlisle isn't a safe option without cycling lanes.

June 5th was our late Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We had our very own beacon outside Newtown Village Hall, lit by our oldest Irthington resident, Nesta Cowper. This was followed by our councillor Carol Robinson playing the cornet. As part of the Jubilee celebrations, all senior citizens in the parish received a medal and all pupils at Irthington School were given bookmarks.

Concerns have been raised this year about speeding through Laversdale. The current speed limit is 60 mph, which we think should be lowered. On investigation, we have learnt that Laversdale is on the list for reinvestigation. But, as yet, we have not received any new updates.

In addition, we have heard concerns about speeding through Irthington. We are still trying to re-establish our speed watch group, but we need more volunteers who will be given training.

The day after September's meeting, the sad announcement came that Queen Elizabeth II had died. Flags were raised at half-mast in our parish as a mark of respect. A book of condolences was placed in Irthington church for parishioners to record their thoughts.

In relation to parish finances, we all agreed to increase the precept and it is set at £12,097.00. This was to incorporate general increases in expenditure.

In January, we undertook our annual inspection of the play area in Newtown. It only required minor fencing work along with removing of cable ties and the relaying of safety surfacing.

Newtown village green was also badly damaged in January due to a road closure. This resulted in vehicles turning around across the green! This will make it extremely difficult to cut the grass. United Utilities have been made aware of the situation.

In February, we welcomed a new councillor, Robert Armstrong. But we do still require a couple more people.

We discussed purchasing memorabilia to mark the coronation and decided that we would plant an oak tree with a plaque to commemorate this recent historical occasion that took place on May 7th.

Unfortunately, this last year has seen several road traffic accidents along the A689 with fatalities. Concerns have been raised and we are requesting accident numbers from the police. The consensus is that we need safety measures along this stretch of road where the Irthington, Newby East and Laversdale junctions are all within a short distance of each other.

From 1st April, we saw the six district councils and Cumbria County Council replaced by two new unitary authorities.

On 4th May, we held our own elections which saw us all being re-elected as no one contested them.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone for their support and hard work throughout the year.

3 OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS

RESOLVED to note there was no other relevant business.

The meeting closed at 7.10pm.