

MINUTES OF STOKESBY WITH HERRINGBY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD AT STOKESBY COMMUNITY CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 11TH MAY 2022 AT 7PM

The Parish Council Chairman, Richard Youngs, presided and the following Councillors were present:-

Ed Wharton, Leigh-Ann Medhurst, Richard Youngs, Rob Lloyd, Philip Crane and Dawn Lamb. The Parish Clerk and Borough Councillor Adrian Thompson were also present. There were five members of the public present.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None received.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 14TH APRIL 2021

The minutes were read, agreed and signed by the Chairman.

3. UPDATE ON MATTERS ARISING

None.

4. PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

a. Chairman's Report

The Chairman's Report was presented by Richard Youngs (**Appendix A**).

b. Financial Report

The Financial Report was presented by the Clerk (**Appendix B**).

5. VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS AND OTHER REPORTS

i. County Councillor
No report.

ii. Borough Councillor
Adrian Thompson reported that he had had a busy year as Mayor of the Borough, which would finish tomorrow. Adrian had visited every ward in the Borough which had made him appreciate what the Borough had and what the issues were. Adrian continued to give his salary back to the parishes, giving spring bulbs, trees etc, and would be offering a donation towards the play equipment project. Filby's Neighbourhood Plan had been adopted, and Fleggburgh would be in June. The bus service through Filby was being considered, with a potential start in June or July, which would be Great Yarmouth to Norwich on an hourly service.

iii. Police
No report.

iv. Website
The report from Richard Dixon was presented (**Appendix C**).

v. Sports and Social Club
Rob Lloyd reported that the Club had seen a change of staff, and he thanked those who had put in a lot of work. The Club was in good hands, Friday sessions were popular and there had been some Sunday

openings, with attendance getting back to pre-Covid times. Tickets were available for the event on Friday 3rd June.

vi. Poors Marshes

Ed Wharton reported that the subsidy payment was being reduced, however the Trustees had applied to be in the Countryside Stewardship scheme. This would begin on 1st January 2023, with the first payment January 2024. The marshes had been put out to tender as it was felt that the market should be tested, with the existing grazier being the successful tenderer. There were 23 claimants this year, with £150 per household awarded. It was noted that a tree had fallen onto the BT line which needed dealing with – this had been reported to Openreach. The tyres were still dumped in Milldyke, and a volunteer from the Inland Drainage Board had volunteered to fish these out.

vii. Community Centre

Rob Lloyd reported that the refurbishment of the building continued, and the building was coming back to life. The grants received from GYBC were very much appreciated, with the Hall being closed for a considerable time. For 2021/22 there was an income of £12,000, most of which was Covid grants. Expenditure was £11,530, mainly on renovations. There was just over £24,000 in the accounts, and Rob was happy to supply the breakdown of figures. The Committee was trying to market itself to hirers and was not back up to the previous levels. Rob thanked everyone who filled committee positions and played their part.

viii. Fete Working Group

Rob Lloyd reported that after two years off, the Fete was back up and running for 2022, with a strong team of volunteers. A local business was sponsoring the raffle, and tickets would be out soon. The date for the Fete would be Saturday 6th August.

ix. Defibrillator

Ed Wharton reported that the defibrillator was now 7 years old, but had not been used. Pads and batteries needed to be replaced at periodic intervals. It was checked once a month.

x. Parochial Church Council

The report from St Andrew's Church was presented (**Appendix D**). Adrian Thompson was thanked for helping to lift the tree preservation order. Philip Crane noted that he was not happy that memorials had been laid flat without consulting relatives, and the Clerk noted that memorials did need to be steadied but was normally dealt with in a sensitive way; and that depressions had been filled with unconsecrated soil from Honingham. The Clerk was asked to raise these concerns with the PCC.

ACTION: Clerk

6. GENERAL PARISH ISSUES

Richard Youngs reported that there was some minor maintenance required to the sand store doors, and some posts at the Green. It was suggested that a village litter pick could take place once a month, all that would be needed would be

pickers, gloves, high viz vests and black sacks. An A frame with pickers was suggested.

Adrian Thompson confirmed that the litter on Caister bypass required a road closure order, and was the responsibility of Norfolk County Council. This type of thing did let the Borough down.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.34pm.

Signed:

Dated:

DRAFT

Chairman's Report

Firstly I would like to thank Catherine for all her hard work and advice we would be lost without her. Also thanks to the Parish Councillors for their support, input and unrewarded work which goes unnoticed by many but a walk around the village soon shows who's cut hedges, cleared up litter and all the small tasks which keeps the village special.

In the last year we have agreed on providing a Speed Awareness Monitoring (SAM) camera for ourselves, approved a small planning development and are moving closer to improving the play equipment on the green. Let's hope this year will be covid free so we can get back to meeting and socialising again, with the Queens jubilee and Summer fete already being planned .

In closing my report I think we all would agree that without Adrian's generous help and advice the village would be poorer for it.

Richard Youngs, Chairman

Summary of Parish Council Accounts 2021/22

Receipts

	<u>2020/21 (£)</u>	<u>2021/22 (£)</u>
Precept, Shortfall & Concurrent Grant	8,230.00	8,230.00
Grants & Miscellaneous	3,778.13	1.15
Interest	9.09	7.79
VAT Reclaim	1,477.46	334.17
TOTAL	13,494.68	8,573.11

Payments

	2020/21 (£)	2021/22 (£)
Churchyard & Open Spaces	1,970.00	1,970.00
Salary	1,794.65	1,798.68
Audit	60.00	45.00
Hall Hire	20.00	6.00
Insurance	190.40	181.90
Administration	401.70	287.48
Repairs and Replacements	736.53	0.00
Miscellaneous	15.00	111.75
Section 137	40.00	40.00
VAT	1,530.83	250.00
Capital Expenditure	7,233.28	1,250.00
TOTAL	13,992.39	5,940.81

Bank Reconciliation

Opening Balance at 1st April 2021	10,240.70
Total Income	8,573.11
Total Expenditure	5,940.81
Closing Balance at 31st March 2022	12,873.00

Earmarked Reserves:

Street Furniture Fund	4,816.00
Ex Youth Club Fund	773.01
Staithe	1,000.00
Election Reserve	850.00
General Reserve	£5,000.00
Free Funds:	433.99

Stokesby Website

Annual Report for Stokesby Parish Council

2021/22

The Stokesby Website has continued to be a source of information for both the village and people wanting to visit this lovely area of Norfolk. The site has at the time of writing this report had been visited 20210. Each month I receive a breakdown of where and what areas of the site receive the most attention.

The clerk to the Parish Council continues to have control of the Parish Council page and its contents ensuring that all necessary documents and all legal requirements are up to date. Details and minutes of past and future parish council meetings can be found on this page.

The various groups and clubs who use the village hall continue to be kept up to date through the pages of the website. The Ferry Inn and Village Shop continue to be the most popular pages visited over the last year.

'Google Search Console' continues to send me Information regarding which pages are most visited, it also shows where in the world people have visited the site, Australia, America, Holland continue to be the most regular overseas visitors to our village site.

The Wix package which was used to design the site makes it easy to change the format of the pages which hopefully keep the site interesting for visitors.

Again, I would like to thank the Parish Council for their support in funding the hosting cost of the site. This are the only cost incurred in keeping the site running.

Richard Dixon

Secretary's Report St Andrew's Church, Stokesby

2021 has been an eventful year for St Andrew's Church.

The request to fell the beech trees at the entrance to the churchyard finally reached its' conclusion in November 2021 with permission from Great Yarmouth Borough Council to fell 6 trees in total. High winds in September had uprooted two trees including one which had a Tree Preservation Order. It is hoped that clearing of the trees will take place in early January 2022. Damage to the church included one of the dedicated church windows being destroyed including its mortar surround. A further tree which poses a risk to the chancel is due to be felled during the summer of 2022. This tree does not have a Tree Preservation Order in place. The wall separating the two burial areas was also badly damaged and discussions are taking place on the best way to address this.

In August 2021 a meeting with Archdeacon Steven Betts, Rev Sue Hemsley Halls , Margaret Alston (acting as Vice Chair) and myself took place in St Andrew's Church to discuss the feasibility of holding services in the church whilst extensive building investigations on the tower were being carried out. It was proposed that the church be temporarily closed due to possible Health & Safety risks. During this time we have had investigations carried out by a structural engineer and architect to establish the degree of damage there is to the tower in particular. We have yet to receive the final copy of the findings but hope to obtain a "ballpark figure" regarding costs which will enable us to commence fundraising. Despite Covid restrictions we did manage to hold one wedding during the summer and there have been several burials following funeral services which have had to be held in one of our neighbouring churches due the church being closed.

A Remembrance Service was held on the village green and it was encouraging to see many members of the village attend this. We also held a candle-light Christingle Service on the village green in December which was also well attended.

Following guidelines from Diocesan House those headstones which were loose or wobbly were laid flat to prevent any risk of injury, particularly as the ground is very uneven in places and can easily cause a person to fall. Franszika Callaghan, Church Buildings Officer, visited St Andrew's Church for consideration as to whether it can be placed on the "Churches at Risk" register. We are awaiting a decision on this.

We are realistic as to the time it may take to raise funds for what appears to be a major repair to the church, but equally are anxious to resume worshipping at St Andrew's.