
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Tuesday, 14th May 2019

7.30-8.30pm Nettlebed Village Club

MINUTES

PRESENT

CHAIRMAN: Wendy Ayre-Tilbury

CLERK: Jo Pugh

The meeting was also attended by: Barbara Lewis, Geoff Bond, Norman Gibson, David Butler, Amanda Foister, Wim Klauke (Parish Councillors)

Mandy Ritchens (Age Concern Oxford), Jim McWhirter (Nettlebed Good Neighbour Scheme), Malcolm Lewis (Neighbourhood Watch) and six members of the public

APOLOGIES for absence were received from Steve Harrod (OCC Councillor), Jo Robb (SODC Councillor)

1. Introduction and Welcome

Wendy Ayre-Tilbury (WAT) thanked everyone for coming and introduced herself as a member of the Parish Council and Chair of this Annual Parish Meeting. The introduction of fellow Councillors followed.

2. Reports from Parish Council & any reports from village groups to be presented

Nettlebed Parish Council - Chairman's Report - Wendy Ayre-Tilbury, Parish Councillor
Playground inspections are carried out every 6 months and appropriate repairs undertaken. An annual inspection is carried out by ROSPA, and I am pleased to confirm that little of need has resulted from these inspections. The equipment has been power-washed this year and will be re-painted in the near future.

Barry Lambden regularly empties the bin in the playground and NPC would like to take the opportunity to thank Barry for his continued help. I'm happy to say that the playground still has a clean sheet in terms of no accidents reported.

The footpaths and bridleways of the parish are walked and monitored by The Chiltern Society. Any repairs, clearing, etc. are arranged either with the Footpath Warden, owner or a little elbow grease from a volunteer or two.

The Allotment - nearly all plots are now occupied, there are just 1½ remaining. A copy of Rosemary Passmore's allotment report is available on the table can be seen [here](#).

A summary of things the Parish Council have been working on over the last 12 months:

- Path clearance at Port Hill & Priest Hill
- Removal of vegetation from the brick kiln (ongoing)
- An OCC Councillors grant was applied for and has been awarded to replace the Awareness board by the brick kiln
- Designation of puddingstone site as an LGS (in progress)
- Annual Litter pick was a great success
- Playground gate and missing boundary fencing replaced
- Allotment plots cleared / nearly all rented
- WW1 planting of an oak tree (Tommy) & plaque in collaboration with Nettlebed Community School & NRBL was a memorable event for all involved.
- Fortunately, the defibrillators installed in 2016 have not been used, but we will be replacing the pads and battery as is required every 2 years so they are in working order.
- Public Transport – The Parish Council continue to support the Comet buses initiative.
- Parish Clerk has completed ILCA training course and is hoping to start the CILCA course in June
- Gullies to be installed on the Watlington Road at the top of Priest Close to alleviate the water collecting on the path.
- Potholes at Catslip have been filled

Parish Council Meetings are generally held on the first Wednesday, every other month in the Small Hall at the Village Club. All members of the public are welcome to attend and to make representations during the Public Session. Notices of the meeting are posted on NNN (email to residents who have signed up to this service), displayed on the Parish Council website, the Nettlebed Community Website and notices are posted on the Parish Council noticeboard.

The remaining meeting dates for 2019 are: July 3rd, Sept 4th, Nov 13th

I would like to thank all my colleagues on the Parish Council, Rosemary Passmore for overseeing the allotments, Nan McDonnell and the Churchyard volunteers along with the many people who have assisted or contacted the Parish Council who care about their community. Also thanks to, Jo Pugh, the Parish Clerk for her hard work and dedication behind the scenes. I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank Malcolm Lewis for his contribution during his short term of office.

Nettlebed Parish Council - Financial Report on the Accounts for 2018/2019 – Jo Pugh

The accounts have been balanced, the Annual Return has been completed and the accounts have been examined by the Internal Auditor who has signed the Annual Return – all matters were satisfactory. They will be submitted to the Parish Council for approval and the required paperwork will be sent to the Government appointed external auditor, Moore Stephens.

The balance brought into the year was £12,641 and the balance carried forward at the end of the year was £8,679. Receipts in the year totalled £3,076 (excl Precept) and Payments in the year totalled £22,297. The Fixed Assets of the Council represent around £42,567.00

WAT thanked everyone who provided reports for the meeting and advised that paper copies were available.

District Councillors' Annual Review - To view this report [here](#)

Oxfordshire County Council Parish Report - To view this report click [here](#)

Thames Valley Police May Report – to view this report click [here](#)

Allotment Report – Rosemary Passmore – to view this report click [here](#)

Nettlebed Good Neighbour Scheme – Jim McWhirter

Click [here](#) to visit the Good Neighbour Scheme page on the Community website

Jim McWhirter delivered a brief, but passionate speech saying how much he and Tess have loved their time in Nettlebed, he's sorry to be leaving but has had a great time. He finished with "the more you give, the more you get". Jim received a warm round of applause from the room. WAT said she spoke on behalf of everyone when she said how much he would be missed by the village.

Jim gave an update on the status of the various groups that he is involved with:

Coffee Morning (10am on third Tuesday) and **Lunch** (12pm first Tuesday) of every month in the Village Club. Volunteers have stepped forward to help so these will continue.

Shopping bus – Clare Harwood and Wendy Ayre-Tilbury have volunteered to take over the administration for this service. The bus has capacity of 14 and people should be encouraged to use the door-to-door service – it is good for their funding if the clients have a bus pass. Details of [how to book](#) are on the website

Oil buying group – still looking for a volunteer to take over the administration of this service. Nobody has stepped forward yet but people will be able to buy through Boiler Juice or Barton Petroleum – JMW will email buyers.

Good Neighbour Scheme – Sue Abbott will be the new Chairman of the Good Neighbour Scheme. The AGM is on 21st May. Pat Harwood continues as co-ordinator of the transport scheme – 07944 696329

Community Website Editor / general updating and managing NNN will be taken over by Pete Foster. Susan Byers, Lotte Earle A'Hern & Parish Clerk will all be Editors of the website. Digby Knight will continue to provide the technical support.

Nettlebed School and Community Centre – Barbara Lewis

Barbara Lewis reported that Lucy Beirne, has taken over from her as the Lettings Officer and Treasurer. Barbara had been in the role since the NSCC opened in March 2006.

Lucy works in the School Office 9.30-11.30am Monday–Friday in term-time. She can be contacted at the School on 01491 641328 during those hours or on 07984 055 699 any time. To read the full report click [here](#)

Nettlebed Community School – click [here](#) to view overview provided by Bethany Greenwood, Headteacher

Age Concern (Oxford) – Mandy Ritchens, Community Development Manager delivered an overview of the support that Age Concern provide. She also had a table with lots of useful information leaflets. Mandy said there are 165 activities for over 50's every month. [The Community Information Network](#) provides people with information on local support services and activities, money matters, benefits and social care. She also spoke about [Social Prescribing](#) as a way in which Age Concern can help people to link with a range of local, non-medical activities, opportunities and support that can improve people's health and well-being. If you know someone that's lonely or isolated do get in touch with Age UK, you can refer friends and family (they need to know you've referred them) – this will very often end up with a home visit and this can really help. Lucy Ryan is the networker linked with Nettlebed Surgery.

To visit the Age UK (Oxfordshire) website, click [here](#)

Nettlebed Royal British Legion – Margaret Butler

The NRBL have had a very full year. Click [here](#) to read about the NRBL's year. If anyone would like to join the British Legion they would be most welcome to join us on Thursday nights, any time from 7.30pm at the Nettlebed Village Club.

Nettlebed Volunteer Group – Wim Klaucke

The Volunteer Group has been busy this year, click [here](#) to read about the work done to keep the commons interesting; the 'Nettlebed wetlands' and how Team Nettlebed attacked the invasive species - Himalayan Balsam

Nettlebed & District Commons Conservators – Patrick Amory

To see an update on the building work at Catslip / Crocker End and the forestry works on Nettlebed Common click [here](#)

Nettlebed Art & Craft Show – Susan Byers – see report [here](#)

The Art & Craft Show will be held in Nettlebed Community School Hall on Saturday 3rd August 12 noon to 6 pm and Sunday 4th August 10 am to 5 pm

For Entry Forms to show paintings or to have a craft table:
email: nettlebedas@gmail.com or phone Sarah on 01491 641136. All proceeds go to Local Charities. Free entry and parking. Teas available all day. Disabled Access

Nettlebed Churchyard Gardeners – Susan Byers

If you have spare time on a Wednesday morning between 10-11.30 am, weather permitting, do come and join us. We often end up in The Field café for coffee and a chat afterwards. Every now and then we do need to buy more plants or compost so any donations to help with the upkeep would be most welcome. For more information, please contact Nan McDonnell on 641710.

Click [here](#) to read about the loss of the Lime trees and planting of a euonymus.

Nettlebed Bell Ringers – Susan Byers - See report [here](#)

This ancient skill is in need of recruits here in Nettlebed. Come and learn..... it is fun, sociable, and keeps our brains working as well as exercising our arms!

This a hobby for everyone from 11 years upwards.

We practise on a Wednesday evening but only when there are enough of us. If you would like to come and watch, contact Susan Byers on 01491 641168

Nettlebed Folk Club – Mike Sanderson

The Club is a volunteer run, non-profit organisation.

Concerts are held on Monday evenings from 8pm at The Village Club. All will be welcomed – the average audience numbers are usually around 120. For information give us a call on 01628 636620 or visit the website <http://www.nettlebedfolkclub.co.uk/index.html> to hear more about the acts and about the Folk Club click [here](#)

Nettlebed Neighbourhood Watch – Mr Malcolm Lewis

Congratulations to our local Police Officers PC Barb Taylor and PCSO Janice Smith for receiving the Local Police Area Commander's recommendations for Good Conduct also for attempting to save a man's life having experienced cardiac arrest at Huntercombe Prison.

Senior Citizens Christmas Party – Wendy Ayre-Tilbury

The Senior Citizens Christmas Party takes place every December. It was a great success again this year – around 70 guests enjoyed a wonderful meal, were entertained by the school children and everyone left with a gift bag, the contents of which were kindly donated by local residents and companies.

This is a non-profit event and is free to all our Senior Citizens. It is run entirely by volunteers. We are always looking for contributions, whether support on the lead up to the day, the day itself, or donations for gift bags. We'd love to hear from you if you would like to join us – contact Wendy Ayre-Tilbury - 01491 641597

3. To invite the public to raise any matters of interest

There was nothing raised publicly.

4. The meeting closed at 8.30pm