

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE JOINT PARISHES OF GEORGE NYMPTON & QUEEN'S NYMPTON

18TH May 2023

Minutes of the Meeting

The meeting was opened and chaired by Ian Horsnell, newly elected Chairman of the Parish Council. He welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting-** Approved and signed by the Chair.
2. **Apologies-**Apologies were received from Adele Poole.
3. **Parish Council-**Ian Horsnell provided an update from the Council. There have been changes on the Council since last year. Trudy Herniman stepped down from her role as Councillor after many years of service. Ian thanked her on behalf of the Councillors for her service.

Nan Maxwell will step down from her role as Parish Clerk in July and Ian thanked her for her service over seven years. Tom Sellick was introduced and the Council were delighted to welcome him as the new Parish Clerk.

Ian also thanked Jon Ride for his Chairmanship of the Council over recent years and Richard Poole for his work as Responsible Finance Officer. Jon Ride will continue to look after the parish website.

There are currently two vacancies on the Council and anyone interested should contact Ian. Nan Maxwell has expressed an interest.

The Council has considered several planning applications over the year including for a development on the land next to Bowden Hayes which has now been reduced to two houses. Many of the meetings have been attended by County Councillor Jeremy Yabsley and recently retired District Councillor Eric Ley. The Council are grateful for their regular updates. There have been many discussions with them about the condition of the roads. The communication with the Highways Department about traffic speed through the village is ongoing.

The phone box is now owned by the Council and the refurbishment is underway. The cost of moving the box and disconnecting the electricity supply is prohibitively high and it will remain in its current position.

Ian Thanked Pat and Ian Bateman for producing the newsletter for several years which has been very much appreciated.

4. **St. George PCC.** Ian Bateman spoke on behalf of the Church.

St George Church is a daughter Church of Mary Magdelene, South Molton and has its own Church Council which meets every two months. It is headed by Rev. Michael Gradey. There are two wardens, Trudy Herniman and Ian Bateman who is also the treasurer. The other members are Pat Bateman, Lynne Miller, Lynn Flat and Steve and Jane Howe.

Services are held most Sundays and every is welcomed to the village hall for coffee afterwards.

The church has held 3 funerals last year and one this year.

Money is raised from donations, running a twice yearly market stall, plant sale, shared events with the village hall, the harvest BBQ or supper and a very successful concert in April. Last year £724 was donated from the Jubilee.

The church supports various charities like the British Legion and Farmers Community Network.

Pat and Ian Bateman have produced the newsletter for several years trying to appeal to everyone. Sadly due to Pat's health they will produce their last letter this month. Ian is hopeful that he has found a volunteer to take over.

Last year the church managed a surplus of £1350 despite a total outlay of £11, 377. The full financial report is available in the church porch.

Minor repair work has been carried out and the PCC are grateful to the Parish Council for payment of grass cutting in the churchyard. Some repairs are outstanding, in particular restoring the weather vane and checking the bells. Ian asked for volunteers of help. Mark Dean and Tom Sellick offered to help.

5. **Horticultural Society**-Trish Ford provided an update.

Last year's summer show was very successful. The first show post lockdowns. It was well supported. This year's show will be held on August 7th. Entry forms should be handed in at the village hall on Tuesday 3rd August. Everyone in the parishes are welcome to take part along with their families.

6. **Village Hall**-Ian Bateman provided an update.

The hall is nonprofit making and is a registered charity no. 267038, monitored by the Charity Commission.

There are 8 committee members and 5 Trustees. These are Adele Poole, Ian Bateman, Nan Maxwell, Steve Howe and Tracey Wright.

Last year the hall ran 2 quizzes, bingo, Mother's Day tea, Platinum Jubilee events. Beaford Arts Lucky Pigeons and Moscow Drug Club, Ferret racing and helped with fireworks/Halloween. The hall provides social amenities for the community including horticultural show, weekly book exchange and meeting place for the Parish Council and Church. Hire fees raised £1280.

The fifty club had 72 members last year and raised £340 for hall funds. The committee is grateful to the Parish Council for a grant of £500. Utilities cost £2200.

There has been little refurbishment this year. Maintenance is ongoing like boiler maintenance and grass cutting. Immediate maintenance on front gutters and soffits and leak above the bar is needed.

More refurbishment will happen when funds available and a fund raising treasure hunt & BBQ is planned for July 1st.

More volunteers of help would be very welcome.

7. **AOB**-There was a discussion about putting planters of flowers at the entrance to the village.

8. **The meeting was closed at 8.20pm.**

