

Minutes of The Annual Parish Meeting of Trimley St Martin Parish held via Zoom on 06 April 2021 at 7pm.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Rodwell and Anderson and from District Cllr Kerry who had submitted a report.

2. To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 24 April 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 April 2019 were approved as a true record.

3. Chairman's Report

The Chairman presented her report on the past year in the Parish. There was a focus on change ahead, with new developments and a new school building on the horizon. Despite lockdown quite a lot had been achieved: new picnic tables had been installed, footpath maps had been erected and volunteers in the parish had worked together to produce a series of local walks with maps which were made available on the website. A gazetteer produced by Elizabeth Rastrick, our village recorder, had been added and local resident, Robin Biddle, had contributed a set of nature notes.

The pedestrian refuge near the Memorial Hall had been installed and had been very well received by many residents. Volunteers had also contributed to supporting vulnerable residents during lockdown, others had continued in their tireless efforts to help keep the village clear of litter. The Parish Council had been particularly pleased to co-opt two new councillors.

4. Annual Reports from District and Ward Councillors

County Cllr Bird presented his report on the year. Despite the many difficulties posed by Covid 19 the County Council had coped well. Services had been maintained and Government support had allowed grants to be paid to those experiencing hardship. SCC Highways continued to experience pressure but improvements were underway and the Suffolk 2020 fund was enabling a variety of projects including the designation of up to 200 quiet lanes and the installation of 100 electric vehicle charging points.

The Clerk read a report from District Cllr Kerry which focussed on the work of the Housing Directorate; a copy of this had been made available on the Parish Council website.

5. Annual Reports from Local Community Organisations

Elizabeth Rastrick, the village recorder, presented her report on the past year recording the contrast between the lives and events she had recorded in 2019 and the sudden change that came about in 2020 when, instead of interviewing local people for her blog, she had instead solicited contributions

from around the village in which people explained their reaction to the crisis and the impact which it had had on their lives. Both years had some very special elements, key among which had been the victory of Trimley St Mary resident, Lisa Williams, who had won the golden spurtle in the world porridge making championship, and then, under lockdown, the astonishing collaboration between Felixstowe Harmonies Group and an internationally renowned, US based Sweet Adelines group called *PrimeTimes*. The result was an international version of Chandra Grover's composition: 'Across the Borders'.

Mrs Rastrick explained that she was always keen to receive news of happenings in the village – so often they turned up something noteworthy and unusual. A favourite image from this year was a case in point – the exceptional and hopefully never to be repeated Thorpe lane traffic jam.

The Chairman provided a report provided by Heather Rodwell on the position at the Memorial Hall. The Hall had been closed for much of the year, but the Committee had received a grant in order to enable them to meet their obligations. The Parish Council had arranged for the exterior of the building to be repainted and all was now fresh, neat and tidy and, of course, fully compliant with the Covid regulations ready for reopening when this became possible.

The Clerk read a report from Tanya Anderson on the Poor's Allotment Trust; a copy of this had been made available on the Parish Council website.

6. Public Forum

There were no comments made or issues raised by members of the public

7. Close

The meeting closed at 7.25 pm