

Minutes of The Annual Parish Meeting of Trimley St Martin Parish held on 3rd May 2022 at 6.30pm at Trimley St Martin Memorial Hall.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Owen and from District Cllrs Richardson and Kerry. Both Cllr Richardson and Cllr Kerry had submitted reports.

2. To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 April 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 April 2021 were approved as a true record.

3. Chairman's Report

The Chairman presented her report on the past year in the Parish. It started with the Chairman stating that it had been a difficult two years for many organisations and that it is hoped they have all returned and are now thriving again.

There was a focus on the changing face of the village, with the ongoing building works, and planned building works within the village.

A lot has been achieved this year: new welcome packs, footpath maps that are now displayed on two specially created noticeboards, new community noticeboard outside Memorial Hall. Anyone wishing to display on this board to bring information to Parish Council meeting or contact the Parish Clerk.

Chat benches have been installed supplied by Felixstowe Peninsula Community Partnership in two areas in the village. The new village sign on the junction of St Martins Green and the High Rd is now in situ and has been very well received by residents.

Queens Jubilee: In March the Jubilee Oak was planted on the green space off St Martins Green between Jubilee Close and Meadow Close. A few days later children from Trimley St Martin Primary School joined councillors and residents in a brief ceremony and marked the occasion by watering the newly planted tree. The celebration was very much enjoyed by all. The Parish Council are looking for a local resident to water the tree once a week.

The Photographic Exhibition is happening on the 3rd and 4th June at the Trimley St Martin Memorial Hall and preparations for this are underway.

A torch bearer is still being sought for the Festival of Suffolk rickshaw torch relay.

4. Annual Reports from District and Ward Councillors

County Cllr Bird presented his report on the year. Similarly to last year, despite a difficult year, the County Council had coped well. Still a pressure on Highways services and how best to manage these. The Highways Investment Fund has successfully achieved a number of initiatives such as improved school signage and cycle lane markings.

The Suffolk Fund which funds green improvements has meant that 43,400 streetlights in the county will be changed to LED lights by the end of the year.

The Clerks read summaries of the reports issued by District Cllr Kerry and District Cllr Richardson; a copy of the full reports are available on the Parish Council website.

5. Annual Reports from Local Community Organisations

Elizabeth Rastrick, the village recorder, presented her report on a rather 'flat' year due to Covid 19. She discussed the sad passing of two local recorders, Rosemary Gitcham – the previous Trimley St Martin recorder, and Len Lannigan – the Kirton recorder. Mrs Rastrick wished to express her appreciation of both Rosemary and Len in their support and she misses them both greatly.

Mrs Rastrick explained that many annual events could not go ahead, although there was a musical collaboration with the Felixstowe Choir and an American Female Barbershop Quartet called 'Across the Border' which is available to listen to on Youtube.

Mrs Rastrick explained that it had been a good start to the year so far and is busy with organising the photographic exhibition for Jubilee.

Heather Rodwell presented her report on the Trimley St Players. She explained it had been a difficult two years and both the Pantomime and the Summer Plays had to be cancelled for two years running, however, the members are upbeat and very much looking forward to welcoming everyone to their upcoming performance of 'Cash on Delivery' in June.

Heather Rodwell presented her report on the Trimley St Martin Memorial Hall. The Hall is now back up to full capacity and the accounts are looking healthy, a copy of which has been made available for the Parish Council.

Tanya Anderson presented her report on the Poor's Allotment Trust. They have made three significant donations to local schools. Currently half an allotment available but already have people on the waiting list to take this on as soon as possible.

Gill Haseman of the Bowls Club was sadly unable to attend the meeting but had asked the Clerk to mention that the Club would welcome anyone interested in playing bowls to visit on a Tuesday or Wednesday morning between 10.00am and Noon.

6. Public Forum

A member of the public welcomed the plans for the exhibition of local photographs and expressed the hope that it would be possible to repeat the exhibition at some suitable point in the future. There was also a discussion of the scope for improving the road infrastructure in the light of the forthcoming developments.

7. Close

The meeting closed at 7.30pm