

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Monday 22nd.May, 2017

AGENDA

1. Election of Chairperson:

Councillor Walker was proposed:

Proposed: Coun. Simmonds Seconded: Coun. Richardson Unanimous

2.Declaration of Acceptance of the Chair:

Councillor Walker accepted the post of chairperson.

3.Members present:

Councillors Lamb, Richardson, Walker, Simmonds

4. Apologies for Absence:

Councillor Ward

5. Election of Vice Chairperson:

Councillor Richardson was proposed:

Proposed: Coun. Simmonds Seconded: Coun. Walker Unanimous

6. Declaration of acceptance of the Vice Chairperson:

Councillor Richardson accepted the post of vice chairperson.

7. Chairperson's Annual Report:

The council remains a low precept/low spending one even though this limits what it can achieve. While there may be some merit in being frugal, eventually the risk is you not only stagnate but become irrelevant. The council does not "own" many features in the parish so this partly explains the small financial operation it follows. We certainly need to look at our precept which has been frozen for several years and resulted in the council having to dip into its reserves last year.

The council's strength is its ability to represent the community and its legal standing does allow doors to be opened though a firm foot is required to keep it that way. An example of this is the work on the Rural Neighbourhood Plan. Other good work is support for community groups including help with developing the Community Centre and repairing the "fence" around the village green.

A severe concern is the largest ward, South Fens, remains under represented with two of the four seats available vacant.

8. Date of the next Annual General meeting:

Monday, 21st. May, 2018 at 6.30p.m. in the Community Centre.