

MESSINGHAM ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2024

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 20th May 2024 at 7pm in Messingham Community Hub.

PRESENT: Chairman of the Parish Council – Cllr. N Poole

Clerk to the Parish Council – Tracey Black

11 members of the public (8 of whom are serving Parish Councillors).

1. INTRODUCTION & WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from; A Tasker.

3. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held on 24th April 2023.

The draft minutes were circulated to those present and a copy had been placed on the website. The minutes were agreed to be a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

No matters were raised from the minutes of the previous meeting.

5. PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

• **COUNCILLORS**

Cllr. S Shaw was elected onto the Parish Council at the May elections.

Cllr. SA Cowley was co-opted onto the Parish Council to fill a vacancy at the June meeting.

• **IN BLOOM**

The Parish Council continued to sponsor the 'Best Kept Front Garden' competition in the village and the 'Best Kept Allotments' competition. Prizes of garden centre vouchers had been presented to the winners at the annual village Horticultural Show held in September.

The Parish Council purchased 5 x 25kg bags of daffodil bulbs and continued with the planting that had taken place around the village the previous year.

A Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Garden is in the process of being planted in front of the Community Hub achieved by a NLC Community Grant for Sustainable Planting.

• **GRASS CUTTING**

The grass cutting of the Highway verges in Messingham and Public footpaths in both Messingham and Holme along with the grass cutting in East Butterwick and Manton continued to be managed by the Parish Council on the NLC devolved cutting scheme. Grants / reimbursements had been received from NLC for all of this work. The scheme allows the Parish Council to have more control and provides flexibility to react to seasonal growth.

• **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

There had been a good attendance at the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday when 28 wreaths were laid by village organisations.

The Parish Council was extremely grateful, to have received a new Remembrance structure at the War Memorial in 2023. The construction displays the wreaths and includes a lone soldier at

SIGNATURE:

DATE:

each corner. The new structure was kindly fabricated and donated by Peter O'Sullivan, a Messingham resident, and his company Grayton Engineering.
It is proposed to create an information board of those named on the War Memorial to place in the nearby telephone kiosk during the time of Remembrance.

- ALLOTMENTS

48 plots are currently rented with several new and established plots available for rent.

A mulberry tree had been added to the community orchard on the allotment site.

- CHRISTMAS COMPETITION

There were many decorated properties and shops in Messingham and Holme at Christmas time. Certificates and shields had been presented to the winners of the best Residential, Commercial and Street display competitions.

- HORTICULTURAL SHOW

The Parish Council had organised the Horticultural Show which took place on 2nd September 2023.

Profits of £195.15 had been donated to Scunthorpe Hospice.

- COMMUNITY HUB

Library facilities continue to be available in the Community Hub for two sessions a week. These are provided by volunteers and the library is managed by NLC library services. There is a well-attended craft group which meet during the Wednesday afternoon library session.

Drinks and cakes provided by the WI ladies are available whilst the library is open.

The Hub is available to hire for meetings; group activities; workshops; events etc.

- HOLME MEADOW RECREATION FIELD

Planning permission has been granted for a new building to replace the existing storage container to accommodate changing facilities, toilets and storage.

Tenders have been received and the Parish Council is awaiting the outcome of grant applications.

- ANNUAL PRECEPT

2023/24 - The Precept for 2023/24 was £71,000 against a budget of £91,485 with the shortfall being met from Accumulated Reserves.

Donations to local organisations totalled £7,513.

2024/25 - The Precept for 2024/25 is £71,000 against a budget of £79,742 with the shortfall to be met from Accumulated Reserves.

There has been no increase for Messingham residents for the second consecutive year to the Parish Council precept on the NLC Council Tax bills for 2024/25.

Grants to local organisations for 2024/25 are predicted to amount to £6,803.

6. VILLAGE ORGANISATION REPORTS

MESSINGHAM HORSE & FOAL SHOW

Sally-Anne Cowling (MHFS Chair) reported that Messingham Show will be held on Saturday 8th June 2024. The layout of the show is currently under consideration to avoid the wet areas of the field. The Show in 2023 had been successful helped by the good weather. The 2024 show will be down sized to reduce the risk of a repeat of the financial loss in 2022 when attendance was low due to the wet weather on the day of the show.

The Parish Council was thanked for the grant given towards the cost of providing activities and facilities at Messingham Show.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Ian Till (Churchwarden) reported that links continue to develop with neighbouring churches following the recent re-organisation of the diocesan.

The Church continues to explore ways of using the church for a wider range of activities and events. The recent 'Creativity Celebration' hosted by the church, attracted well over 250 visitors to view the work of over 30 local individuals and groups. In April there had been a successful Sunday musical concert with afternoon tea.

The Brownies and Guides had visited the Church and enjoyed finding out about the world of bells and bell ringing through various age-appropriate activities.

Following the extensive roofing and drainage related work the PCC had continued to explore grant availability for the further work which is required. After a difficult period for accessing grant funding of the level required, new possibilities were emerging.

Maintenance of the 'open' churchyard presents an on-going financial and work load challenge, with the significant costs being met through local fund raising. The work of volunteers who contribute to the upkeep of the churchyard in any way is greatly appreciated.

MESSINGHAM MEMORIAL PLAYING FIELD ASSOCIATION & CRICKET CLUB

Stuart Langford (MMPFA Chair) reported that the field was in an excellent condition following a lot of hard work and effort including the control of chafer grub. The Parish Council was thanked for the grant towards grass care equipment.

The pavilion had been re-decorated and carpet and chairs had been replaced with a grant from the Parish Council. There had been a recent increase of spectators at cricket matches.

Additional cricket sessions held on a Friday evening to attract 8–9-year-olds.

MESSINGHAM BOWLS CLUB

Andrew Clark (Bowls Secretary) reported that work had commenced on the project to replace the timber edge of the bowling green. The Parish Council was thanked for the grant towards the timber.

Membership had increased at the club when membership of many clubs is on the decline.

MESSINGHAM JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

Sean Maloney (MJFC Secretary) gave a report on the current strength of the football club. The club now has up to 204 players with 14 teams in the local league and approx. 40 officials. Five age groups have more than one team.

A successful mini tournament of U6, U7 and U8's was held on 19th May 2024 with 24 teams participating. The club had received many compliments.

Thanks were given to the Parish Council for the grant provided towards the good quality gazebo, which had been put to use at the tournament.

MESSINGHAM WOMENS INSTITUTE

Jill Fenwick (WI Chairman) reported a slight decline in membership due to some longstanding members no longer being able to attend.

Events during the previous year included a Harvest supper; a 'cruise' with afternoon tea on the River Trent; monthly meetings with speakers/food; participation in the National WI annual resolution 'Dental Health Matters'; fundraising at Messingham Show and at the Community Hub on Wednesday afternoons – the Parish Council was thanked for this.

The Chairman thanked all the representatives for attending the meeting and for the positive activity taking place in the village.

7. ITEMS OF BUSINESS FROM PARISHIONERS – no matters were raised.

8. PARISH COUNCIL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2023.

A financial statement showing Receipts & Payments and the Bank Reconciliation as at 31 March 2024 had been circulated to those present prior to commencement of the meeting.
There were no questions raised.

9. CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

The meeting closed at 19:40.