

# WHITSBURY PARISH COUNCIL

## ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Assesmbly held at 7pm on 24th May 2021 in Whitsbury Village Hall**

### **1. Attendance Register, Apologies and Declarations of Interest**

Present. Cllr G Thompson (Chairman), Cllr H Sutton, Cllr G Dominey  
In attendance. Mrs C Thompson, Mr S Husher, Mr C Cobb-Smith, Mr E Hale (Clerk)  
Apologies. Cllr C Harper, HCC and NFDC Cllr E Heron

Declarations of Interest. None

### **2. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of 19th May 2019 were accepted as a true record and signed as such by the Chairman

### **3. Annual Report by Chairman**

First of all - thank you to those who serve the village on County, District and Parish Councils. Our County and District councillor, Edward Heron, has just been re-elected and has always been attentive to our needs and concerns. To my fellow councillors I say thank you for your service over the last year. Thank you also goes to the many members of our village who so generously give their time to enable our village to function so well. I would also like to thank our clerk Edward Hale for so ably keeping us on the straight and narrow. Lastly I would like to thank Chris and Whitsbury Farm & Stud for all they do, much of it below the radar, to keep our village safe and looking so beautiful

The last year has presented challenges that we all know about only too well. A group of villagers stepped forward - the Whitsbury helpers - to ensure no-one went without support. To them I say a special thank you. Meanwhile the value of having such an excellent pub in the heart of the village has been ably demonstrated by Paul's take away service

A few weeks ago Norwyn and Peter Manston moved away after countless years of service to the village - it is hard to imagine any social occasion in the village without Norwyn's unique contribution

We have received a report from Edward Heron on the activities of the County Council which I do not propose to read out but am happy to ask Steve Husher to place on the village website

Looking back over the last year, apart from our usual diet of planning applications and requests from parishioners, areas in which we have had some success or are still working on include - taking over and maintaining the council land at Woodside Close, getting WiFi installed in the Village hall, trialling the management of our verges to encourage wildlife, striving for better broadband coverage in the village, investigating improved mobile coverage, investigating ways of reducing traffic speeding in the village, the publication of seasonal newsletters and greater visibility and use of the village website.

Looking forward - I hope we CAN look forward to

- Our village show returning on Aug 7
- A resumption of other village social events
- Real progress on both broadband and mobile services to the village

- Updating our 2006 Village Plan

As ever we welcome approaches from any parishioners who might be able to give time to any of these activities.

#### **4. Annual Financial Statement by Clerk**

The Clerk summarised the Annual Accounts for 2020-21 as follows:

The total of both bank accounts had been £11,522.43 at the start of the year, and £11,675.27 at the end

This meant there had been an increase in the overall balance of £152.84

The total income had been £1,952.65 comprising the precept (£1,800) NFDC grant (£152) and interest (65p)

The total expenditure had been £1,799.81 comprising insurance (£218), HALC (£156.11), S Colborne (£800), website expenses (£185.70), Clerk payments (£220), and auditing of Accounts (£220)

The income less expenditure also gives a surplus of £152.84

The assembly closed at 7.20pm

Edward Hale 27.05.21