

MINUTES OF THE NORTH MARSTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

TUESDAY 20TH MAY AT 7.30 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL.

PRESENT: Cllrs Symonds (Chairman), Martin, Williams, Gomm, Finnemore, and Gillett and Sue Mordue (Clerk). 5 member of the public also attended.

1. Apologies – none

2. The Parish Councils Report:

Cllr Rob Symonds gave a report for the Parish Council as follows:

“Contact has continued with AVDC, BCC, and established with VAHT although still awaiting the resurfacing of the car park on Portway.

Speeding continues to be a major problem. As there have not been any fatalities or major accidents it is not viewed by other authorities as a concern. Cllr Gomm has been pushing for Police assistance at the NAGs meetings and will continue to do this. Police are very lax against making speeding prosecutions.

Pitchcott Road/ Carters Lane junction continues to be on the agenda with accidents listed to BCC and AVDC Councillors. We are still no further with this one and there will be a major accident there one day.

Poors Piece and Clocklands: The Trustees were asked to step down as they had not fulfilled their duties over the last 2 years. The Parish Council took it in hand and 3 Councillors volunteered to be new Trustees with Cynthia Hall and Rev Andy Bell continuing. Meetings are held every 3 months and Neil Tuckett has since joined with one vacancy remaining. The first aim was to get a new agreement with a new tenant which has been achieved. The field is now being maintained as nothing had been done for a long time including a hedge laying competition to be held there in November.

Sports Field: Lots of activity going on here with hedging and ditching done and clearance of vegetation. Next will be the levelling of the field and drainage and the Working Party has raised over £110k so far.

Magazine: This is in a very disappointing state. It should be a vibrant document with information for villagers and stories and news. It has been discussed at 2 meetings although no concrete moves have been made yet, although this is now nearing as so many people have complained and some have cancelled their subscription. Feel the Church should have an influence on this and it will be discussed in the future.

Questionnaire was sent out for comment concerning a village shop. This is being pursued by Cllr Finnemore and discussed at Parish Council Meetings although no working party has been set up yet.

Street Lighting: The Parish Council concluded that there were not many people moving around the village between the hours of 12.00am and 5.30am and so took the decision to reduce our carbon footprint by turning them off at this time. It would have been helpful if the change in street lighting hours had been out in the magazine at the appropriate time, however there have only been a couple of complaints as the majority are in favour.

Bus Shelter: There is now a new shelter in Portway which is being well used. The Parish Council aims to have one on the Granborough Road next year.

Mowing: We have new contractors this year Lynch Garden Services who have been doing an excellent job. They have however been having problems with bottles and litter being

thrown all over the hall field. There are already plenty of bins at this site so urge people to use them.

Smiths Caravan Site: The Clerk had been working with AVDC David Bloomfield and had met with the girls. They wanted to return the site to grass verge and visit it if they wanted and had agreed to clear the site which they had started to do. However it has now been set on fire and the Police are now investigating the arson. As a result the girls now do not want to go back to the site as they are fearful and a relation is encouraging them to register the land as they have had adverse possession of it for over 12 years. The Clerk had spoken with AVDC legal department who advised that unless ownership could be proved otherwise then this is feasible.

Granborough Road Pavement had been put down by BCC with a contribution made by the Parish towards this; and the Pavement around the Village Hall had been redone with the assistance of Lottery Funding.“

3. This was followed by questions and discussion and Cllr Symonds thanked all those for attending.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm