



# Mutford PARISH COUNCIL

## **Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting**

held at Mutford Village Hall

on Monday 5th June 2023

Commencing at 7.00pm

### **1/23/APM Present**

Cllrs Martin Warnes (Chair), Richard Read, David Greenacre, Jenny Sheahan;  
Angela Colbridge (Clerk); SCC Cllr Cloke, ESC Cllr Rivett; Six residents.

### **2/23/APM Apologies for absence**

Cllr Glendinning

### **3/23/APM Minutes of the APM Monday 23rd May 2022**

It was agreed that the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 2022 were a true record.

**Proposed by H. Tonkin, Seconded by J. Sheahan**

### **4/23/APM Parish Council Accounts**

The Clerk provided a short summary of the accounts for 2022/2023, with a balance of  
£8,495.20 as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

### **5/23/APM Chair's Report**

The Chair, Cllr Warnes, gave a report on the business of the Council over the past year. Following the retirement of John Armstrong as Clerk for MPC, the role was filled by Angela Colbridge. Cllr Warnes gave thanks for the hard work of the Clerk. Prior to the elections in early May, some councillors decided to stand down; thus the Parish Council currently has two vacancies to fill. Details of these are publicised on the Parish Council website and in the current edition of *Mutford News*. It is hoped that we will soon have news that these vacancies have been filled and that the Parish once again has a full complement of Councillors. Cllr Warnes offered thanks to previous MPC Cllrs Tonkin and Robinson for their service to the Council over the years. Residents are able to be informed of village news and important information via the Parish Council Noticeboard situated in the grounds of the Village Hall. Following a request from a resident and subsequently securing a grant from Suffolk County Council, refurbishment work has now been carried out on the noticeboard to make it a more usable resource. There is also a Parish Council Website. In addition to this, *Mutford News* is delivered to every household in Mutford. We are grateful to Jenny Sheahan, for instigating *Mutford News*, almost five years ago, and editing and controlling its distribution since. Due to her imminent departure from the Village, Jenny has now handed over the reigns of editing *Mutford News* to David Benham. We are grateful to David for taking on this task, and wish him well, likewise to Jenny and her partner David in their new home.

It is comforting to report that Mutford remains a village with relatively low incidents of Crime. Speeding continues to occur in areas of the village and data from the Speed Indicator Device has been sent through to the Suffolk Police Community Engagement Officer who has since attended the village.

Signed Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Clerk \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

A number of planning applications have been dealt with by the council over the past 12 months. One of note is the proposed Anaerobic Digester Plant at Copeland Way, Ellough, which the council continues to keep a close eye on.

Over the past year, the playground has once again been maintained by Robin Mills on behalf of the Parish Council. Robin has recently decided to 'retire' from this role but has agreed to stay in place until someone new is found to carry out the required maintenance works. On behalf of MPC, We would like to thank Robin for all his hard work, not just over the past year, but throughout the time that he has been maintaining the playground to ensure it is an accessible amenity for all those who have enjoyed using it over the years.

#### **6/23/APM Village Hall Committee Report**

Roy Hurrell, Chair, outlined a series of events that had been organised by the Committee including The Scarecrow Hunt weekend (thanks were offered to all involved), a crazy whist night, a free coffee morning, a film night, a table top sale, a quiz night and the new King's Coronation event. Rabbits have been a problem on the field, holes have been filled in but it is an ongoing issue. The hall has been maintained to its usual standards and also the immediate area and patio outside. In conclusion it has been a good year with things getting back to normal following Covid with the regular hirers of the hall keeping it financially sound. The accounts are due to be completed and the village hall AGM is due to be held on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

#### **7/23/APM Mutford Welfare Trust**

David Greenacre, Chair, gave a short report: there are currently 34 allotments, which are occupied, and a larger plot which could be split into 3. There is also a parcel of land just as you go in which a local farmer looks after. The Trust currently has income of £307.30. All plots have a charge of £6 per year. Expenditure of £171.50 which was mostly spent on baskets of fruit/ bunch of flowers for people who were unwell, and book vouchers for young people going on to university.

#### **8/23/APM Residents questions and comments**

There were concerns that the proposal to remove some of the gorse at the top of the field, due to the issue with rabbit holes, would mean the removal of a valuable habitat for wildlife; there were ongoing concerns over incidents of speeding in the village and the desire for some visible police presence in the village as a deterrent for speeding vehicles.

**The meeting closed at 7.40pm.**

Signed Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Clerk \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_