

DRAYTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of Drayton's Annual Parish Meeting held on **Thursday 2nd May 2024**, 6:30pm at King George V Pavilion, Drayton High Road, Drayton, NR8 6AW.

Present: Drayton Parish Council Chairman, Cllr. G. Everett, presided over the meeting and the following Councillors were present; J. Anderson, C. Brown, J. Edwards-Smith, H. Kisby and S. White.

In attendance: Drayton Parish Council Assistant Clerk and RFO, Amy Pinkham and 3 members of the public.

Meeting Opened: 6:30pm

MINUTES

1. Welcome from the Chairman.

The Chairman welcomed members of the public.

2. To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 28th May 2023

The minutes were **AGREED** as an accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

3. To receive reports and aspirations from schools, groups and organisations within the Parish.

3.1. Drayton Parish Council (Appendix A)

The report from Cllr. G. Everett was received.

3.2. The Way Church

It was reported by Claire Gunn that the Church had been established for 7.5 years and had chosen to rebrand as The Way Church. The Church ran a Youth club on Friday nights for high school children but that children in Year 6 could attend in their last term to start integrating before the first term of High School. The Club had been running for a few years and they were looking to promote at the School and other areas to expand the community.

The Way Church expressed an interest in running a small fete and reaching out to the elderly or those living on their own who find it challenging to connect and meet people.

3.3. St Margarets Church

It was reported by Treasure, Sylvia Barwick, that Rev Marc would be on sabbatical for June, July and August and would be unavailable for any Church business. Clergy cover had been arranged for 1030 services throughout the period and that Sylvia would continue as the official contact for St. Margaret's Church. Coffee morning sessions take place on the 3rd Friday each month and were well attended. This session would be moved to Friday 21st June due to the Fete on 18th May.

It was noted that parking difficulties remained an issue due to the lack of parking availability in the centre of Drayton and that the Church were hoping to update the kitchen and replace windows pending available of funds.

3.4. Drayton Junior School

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Apologies were received from Headteacher, Alison Read. A note of thanks was received to those Parish Council members who took the time to meet with the School Council on Friday 26th April. The children enjoyed their visit and gained a lot from the question time. More opportunities like this, to link with community members, would be welcome. It was noted that Children's understanding of democracy and how to make a positive difference in society can be inspired by such collaboration.

3.5. The Bob Carter Centre (Appendix B)

The report from Cllr. J. Anderson was presented.

3.6. Village Hall Management Committee

It was reported by Cllr. C. Brown that the Village Hall Management Committee was still recovering from Covid but that regular users had returned as well as new users. Examples of successful events over the past year included; Coffee Mornings, Jumble Sales and Jigsaw and Book Sales, netting approximately £300-£400. The Committee aimed to host more social events on Saturday's throughout the next year including an upcoming event on 15th June with songs from the 40s-70's. It was noted that limited parking remained a problem and that the increase in utility charges continued to be challenging but with the income from rentals the Committee was managing.

4. District Councillor Report (Appendix C)

The report from Cllr. A. Crotch was presented.

5. To consider items for the agenda for discussion.

The following items were proposed for consideration at a meeting of Drayton Parish Council; Cllr. A. Crotch noted that "talking benches" could be introduced in the village to support mental health, allowing users to connect and talk with others.

Meeting Closed: 6:57pm

Drayton Parish Council Chairman's Report 2024

In May 2023 Drayton Parish Council (DPC) held an event at the the King George V playing field (KGV) to Celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III and the opening of the new play equipment.

The annual Christmas light switch on event was well attended again and DPC are very appreciative of the continual support from Drayton Junior School's Choir.

During the year improvements have been made at Green Lanes which is off Low Road and to the footpath across the Village Green triangle.

In partnership with Norfolk County Council, DPC will shortly receive a SAM2 speed camera which can be used at various locations to help discourage speeding in the Village.

Tony Lee who has lived in Drayton for many years was welcomed as a new Parish Councillor in February this year.

The future:

The Council is looking to improve the pavilion and facilities at the KGV site and there will be an open event in the coming months to look at options and to gain residents views.

Drayton's Neighbourhood Plan will expire in July 2026 and DPC is looking to review and renew the plan and again there will be opportunities for residents to provide their comments.

Finally, I would like to thank Sarah and Amy - DPC Clerk and Assistant Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer, Ray- DPC Maintenance Operative and all Councillors for their continuing work and support in helping to make improvements for residents in Drayton.

Graham Everett
Chairman, Drayton Parish Council

Bob Carter Memorial Trust

Report for year to 31 December 2023

This prove to be a year of transition following the appointment of Mr. Alan Karlson as manager in late 2022, the need to carryout major essential repairs, reflecting the building is over 45 years old and changes to more stringent Health and Safety Regulations. Unfortunately, this has resulted in significant losses sustained but we are now in a much stronger position to meet future challenges. Additionally, considerable time has been spent reviewing and updating policies as part of the modernisation of the operation.

The Centre itself is as popular as ever and we are seeking new opportunities. Our commitment to the community has meant that we continue working with Barclays Bank to provide a local banking service and this particular hub is proving to be their most popular in the county.

Finally, I offer my thanks to staff and fellow trustees for the support given in this difficult year.

Jeff Anderson

Chairman

May 2nd 2024

APPENDIX C

Drayton Parish Council

Drayton North District Councillors Annual Report for 2023-24

It would be true to say the last 12 months have been interesting. With a change of leadership at Broadland District Council (BDC) to the Rainbow Alliance you may have expected a lot of changes? The reality is that, in the main, there has been a continuation of policy. The move to the Horizon Centre, opposed by the Rainbow Alliance, has proven popular with staff and generated a huge financial saving for residents. The grants to upgrade the heating system have seen the installation of air source heat pumps, making the move even more beneficial, both financially and environmentally. The work started (under the previous administration) to purchase properties for temporary accommodation has been completed. The houses are now in use and will generate long term savings for you and better accommodation for our residents who become homeless. The Rainbow Alliance have argued that we left them in a poor position financially. This is difficult to believe. Very few councils inherited reserves of over £20m, a property worth circa £4m and no borrowing, and yet they still saw fit to increase Council Tax by the maximum amount this year.

Nutrient neutrality (NN) continues impacting upon future development in our area. BDC, working with other districts, have started selling credits to mitigate for NN through Norfolk Environmental Credits (NEC). Following a grant of £9.6m NEC will be seeking other opportunities to lease or buy land which can then be used to produce credits so that the building industry can get moving again. However, it is likely that many builders will still struggle to get projects moving over the next few years.

The Greater Norwich Local Plan has passed examination phase, been adopted by BDC, South Norfolk District Council and Norwich City Council, and subject to any legal challenges will be adopted on 10th May 2024. This will ensure there is a five year land supply across the Greater Norwich area until 2038.

I am particularly proud to say that the Food Innovation Centre continues to be a great success ensuring that not only does it provide a hub and wrap around support for local food businesses it continue to keep food production locally.

Norfolk County Council (NCC) are working towards a County Deal. The County Deal would give Norfolk a great opportunity to gain new powers and funding from central government. With over £600m secured over the next 30 years we will be able to make decisions in Norfolk for Norfolk. We can invest in transport, jobs and skills, adult education, housing and regeneration, focusing on the needs of local people. If NCC Councillors vote for the deal on 23rd July 2024 we will start receiving funding this year, allowing us to start projects. The election for the Directly Elected Leader (or Mayor) would take place in May 2025.