



## WARNDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** held on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021  
at the Lyppard Hub, commenced 7.05 p.m.

### **Present:**

Cllrs. R Norfolk (Chair), A Cross, L Hodgson, S Hodgson, D Merriman, J Scrine and A Taylor

**In attendance:** S Howell (Clerk), T Talbott (newly appointed Clerk), 2 members of the public

**Apologies:** Cllr. D Carney, City Cllr. N Hassan and County / City Cllr. A Roberts

### 1. **The past year**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided a brief update of the past year's events.

As a Parish Council, we have continued to meet on a regular basis, albeit virtually during COVID-19 lockdown. We have now resumed face to face meetings as the legislation which allows Parish Councils to hold virtual meetings ended on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

The Parish Council has been unable to achieve everything it had planned or would have wanted for 2020/21, due to COVID-19 restrictions. However, we are proud of the following achievements:

- Review of Policies and procedures
- Installation of two new benches
- Support for the Foodbank Drive project led by Parish residents
- Grants awarded to three local schools towards free school meals initiatives during the Christmas holidays
- The hard work of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee has continued throughout and the Draft Neighbourhood Plan is out for consultation

### 2. **The Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr. Taylor presented his report (published on the website)

### 3. **Towns Fund / Future High Street**

Cllr. Scrine presented her report (published on the website)

### 4. **A plan for the Parish Council**

The Chair presented her report (published on the website)

5. **Annual report from County Councillor Andy Roberts**

The Chair presented Cllr. Roberts report in his absence (published on the website)

6. **Annual report from Ward Councillors – Cllr. Lucy Hodgson, Cllr. Stephen Hodgson, Cllr. Nida Hassan, Cllr. Andy Roberts**

Cllrs. L Hodgson and S Hodgson provided a verbal update:

- Each of the City Councillors has been given £2,000 to spend on covid-related matters
- The City can look forward to significant investment in the future due to securing approximately £50 million in funding from the High Street, Towns and Levelling Out Funds
- The South Worcestershire Development Plan review is ongoing and gaining pace
- The Cleaner and Greener initiative is ongoing
- Cllr. S Hodgson is the new Mayor for Worcester, the third Mayor from within Warndon Villages. His two nominated mayoral charities are Aspie (a self-help and motivation group for adults with Asperger's Syndrome) and the Stroke Association.

7. **To invite the public to raise any matters of interest**

Members of the public queried whether the Parish Council could be more visible within the community and more effective at engaging with residents. They were disappointed that the 'fun events' had ceased and would like to see them resume, for example - the Christmas lights competition, hanging basket competition and celebration parties such as the Queen's Jubilee.

Parish Councillors acknowledged that some of the events had ceased, either due to the same residents winning every year or through lack of interest. The Fun Run had been replaced with the Summer Fete so as to benefit more of our residents, but this was cancelled last year due to COVID-19 restrictions; the allotment competition continues. The Parish Council communicates via Facebook, our website and regular newsletters and is committed to being more involved and more representative; recent examples include - Neighbourhood Plan engagement with a working group predominately represented by residents, the Foodbank Drive led by residents with Parish Council support, and a developing network of volunteers who recently delivered the Neighbourhood Plan consultation document. We are planning an end of summer celebration 2021, subject to covid-19 restrictions being lifted, and will be seeking ideas for celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022.

The meeting closed at 7.48 p.m.

**Date of the next meeting - Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2022 (to be confirmed)**