



CATTERALL ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

HELD VIRTUALLY ON
TUESDAY 6th APRIL, 2021
AT 7.00PM

Present:

Councillors; *I. Brayshaw, Chairman,
J. Finch, Vice Chairman,
Mrs. S. Bulman
S. Kirkman,
Mrs. J. Makenzie,
K. O'Hanlon,
D. Sharples,
Gillian Benson, Clerk to the Parish Council,
County and Wyre Councillor Shaun Turner*

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were sent from Cllr. Mrs. E. Webster.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interest were made.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved; That the minutes of the last meeting, held on 2nd April, 2019, having been circulated, were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record. Please note due to the Covid pandemic there was no Annual Parish Meeting last year.

4. REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN

Welcome to the 2021 Annual Parish meeting.

This year has seen things being done quite differently as we have dealt with the impacts of the pandemic and as a Parish council we have adapted in not only our working environments but in how our meetings are carried out

Can I personally thank each and every one of you for the hard work and commitment you have given over the last twelve months. I would especially like to thank Gillian for her hard work and commitment she has continued to do this year.

We have seen some changes over the last twelve months we have had Tim re-join us and 'retire' for the second time! to be replaced by Paul who has been doing some remarkable work in the Parish in which I hope you will join me in thanking him also for his hard work.

Can I also thank Jan for the continued hard work she has been doing in getting us recognition for the Queen Elizabeth II field.

Can I also record my thanks to the Bloomers for their continued commitment through the difficulties of last year and we all look forward to seeing this year a little differently.

Planning continues to move on a pace with new applications and we are beginning to see an influx of new residents occupying these properties. With the obvious lock down, that we are hopefully coming out of slowly, we have seen very little nuisance or damage being caused and as we begin to open up more people will start to get more use of our fantastic recreational areas. The village hall is in the early stages of a revival and hopefully more advantage of that facility will be taken up.

As we open up this year, I hope that we can look forward to our annual traditions starting up again, we have the circus hopefully returning and planning towards the return of the children's festivals that bring the villagers out together, if not fully this year but next year hopefully. We have the new flag pole in place so we can celebrate any public celebrations in a traditional way.

Once again thank you all very much for your support and I look forward to being able to support you and the Parish for the coming year.

Thank you, Ian Brayshaw

The report was accepted by members.

5. REPORT FROM THE RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER **Year Ending 31st March, 2021**

Catterall Parish Council carried forward £67,850.93.

Receipts £100,335.14

Payments £76,934.83

Giving a balance of £91,251.24 to carry forward to 2021 - 2022

When setting the precept the Parish Council took into consideration, not only budget recommendations, but the impact Covid 19 has made on our residents income and only increased the precept by 0.04%.

Projects on the Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field, for which grants were successful, are completed and no grants applications have been submitted. The Parish Lengthsman contract with Kirkland Parish Council was mutually ended meaning this income ceased from June, but Lancashire County Council doubled their Parish Lengthsman scheme payments for Public Rights of Way maintenance. The Parish Council did not receive any donations and Catterall in Bloom activities were reduced. These actions impacted to decrease receipts by £42,000 in 2020 – 2021. However; with spending last year there was an increase in the VAT claim of £10,000.

Staff costs have dropped slightly with the Parish Lengthsman reduction in hours, a new Lengthsman was employed this year, who worked alongside the previous one, balancing the wages. Advertising and training costs increased with this new appointment. Insurance and subscriptions remain similar this year, but audit costs were less due to a reduction in balances. A new CCTV system and Speed Indicator Device have been purchased and costs on the Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field have dramatically dropped as present improvements are completed. Donations were made to the Royal British Legion and Garstang Christmas Lights.

The Covid pandemic has resulted in maintenance of duties rather than new possibilities, but hopefully we can look forward to a brighter future.

Gillian Benson, Responsible Financial Officer

The report was accepted by members.

6. MATTERS RAISED BY RESIDENTS

No matters were raised

7. ANNUAL REPORTS

Lancashire County Councillor Shaun Turner

The Councillor was asked to raise, two gullies on Garstang Road; near Catterall Gates Lane, which flood across the road. Cllr. Turner is to investigate the possible opening of the re-use shop at Garstang Recycling Centre.

Report of Wyre Area Lancashire Association of Local Councils Representative

The Wyre Area Committee did not meet in the early part of the year as a result of the pandemic but got to grips with virtual meetings, holding its first such meeting in October.

Inevitably there are those who cannot access such meetings but attendance has not been dissimilar to that at physical meetings.

At the October meeting we received a very informative update on the Covid situation from County Councillor Shaun Turner, Cabinet for Health and Wellbeing at Lancashire County Council. Cllr Turner has been heavily involved in the management of the pandemic through his role with public health and the meeting thanked him for all his hard work on behalf of the residents of Lancashire. Claire James, Director of Resources at Wyre Council, gave a detailed presentation on the work Wyre had been doing to support businesses through distributing grants and how they had worked to maintain services throughout the pandemic.

Cllr Turner gave a further update at the March meeting and reported a very much more positive position. The March meeting also received an update on the Garstang Market Town Working Group which has been working to help shoppers feel safe shopping in Garstang but also working on a strategic approach to regeneration for Garstang and surrounding areas.

Report of the Catterall Village Hall Representative

The Village Hall has been closed for the large part of last year as a result of the pandemic with only the children's dance class operating. In February the majority of the committee resigned; these members had been involved over 10 years and the new committee wishes to thank them for all they did. Seven new committee members were recruited; including S. Kirkman, chairman, K. O'Hanlon, Vice Chairman, J. Finch, secretary.

A significant amount of electrical work has been completed and the air conditioning serviced. Covid safe measures are in place ready for opening the hall.

The Government's roadmap gives an opening date of 17th May. However, a Post Office outreach is to visit the hall two mornings a week from mid-April, as they are deemed an essential service.

Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field

The final piece of work paid for by the grant from Lancashire Environmental Fund was finally carried out this year once lockdown ended and the final grant claim made. This now concludes all the work contained in the original Masterplan agreed in 2015. All the work has been well received by both residents and visitors and the parish council continues to receive very positive feedback.

In recognition of the work that has taken place over the last few years the parish council agreed to apply for the Green Flag award which is managed by Keep Britain Tidy. The Green Flag Award Scheme recognises and rewards well managed parks and green spaces, setting the benchmark standard for the management of recreational outdoor spaces in the UK and around the world.

In order to enter the parish council had to put together a Management Plan and were supported in this by Wyre Council's Open Spaces team. The application was made in January 2021 and the judging should take place in May or June.

Cllr Jan Finch

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.15p.m.

Date

Chairman

DRAFT