

Great and Little Plumstead

P a r i s h C o u n c i l

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 13th May 2024 at Great Plumstead Village Hall at 6.30pm

PRESENT: Mr J Wiley (Chairman) Mr A Cawdron
 Mr R Heath Mrs J Jones
 Mr D Johnson Mr R Claxton
 Mr S Vincent Mrs L Carty
 Mr G Edwards Mr R Rice
 Mrs T Scott (Clerk)

AGENDA

1. TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Knowles and Bullen

2. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

3. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15th MAY 2023

Minutes of the Great & Little Plumstead Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 15th May 2023 at Great Plumstead Village Hall at 6.30 pm were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

4. TO REPORT MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA: FOR INFORMATION ONLY

None

5. TO RECEIVE THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

We sadly suddenly lost Councillor David Johnson this year. David was a huge part of our community and our Parish Council and his loss is felt by everyone. We thank David for all his hardwork over the years. The Parish Council is discussing how his memory can be commemorated within the parish.

Over the last year the following has happened:

- Great Plumstead Recreational Ground – The Parish Council are very close to entering into a contract for the replacement of the current Bowls and Scout buildings, together with a new changing room building. This project will be a

huge asset to the parish with the improvement of the facilities for the use of all.

- White gates – Together with Highways, white gate have now been installed on Green Lane, Thorpe End, Plumstead Road, Thorpe End (either end of the village), Salhouse Road, Little Plumstead. There is still one set to be installed on the Brick Kiln end of Salhouse Road Little Plumstead.
- Padgate, Thorpe End – The Parish Council were able to use CIL which was generated from the Halsbury Development on Salhouse Road, Sprowston to replace the majority of the play equipment at Padgate which was starting to show signs of disrepair.
- SAM2 – From the Highways Fund which was passed to the Parish Council from the Hamilton Close development the Parish Council were able to purchase a second SAM2 sign for rotation around the parish to help with speeding issues.
- Sandhole Lane – Sadly over the years a large amount of green waste, together with some larger items, had been dumped on Sandhole Lane, Little Plumstead. The Parish Council cleared the site this year to help expand the size of the field for all the public.
- Rosebery Field in Great Plumstead – Has now been landscaped and re-sown with grass. Trees have been planted and the area is open for public use.

The Chairman thanked the Clerk for her work over the last year, together with Councillor Ian Mackie for his ongoing support to the parish.

The Chairman confirmed that the Parish Council currently has 2 vacancies and welcomed anyone who is interested in a role.

6. REPORTS

- a. Great Plumstead Village Hall Management Committee – Bookings for the year have been spasmodic but with a number of regular hirers. The increases in the costs of the utilities has impacted again on the profit for the hall. Opening balance – £18,846.29. Closing balance - £15,106.71
- b. Great Plumstead Village Hall Trust
- c. Great Plumstead Fuel Allotment Charity – Not received at the time of the meeting.
- d. Little Plumstead Village Hall Management Committee – The Hall is currently being run single handedly, if anyone would like to volunteer to help please get in touch. Regular hall bookings remain at a good level though the hall has recently lost a long term regular hirer. There has been some improvement in casual bookings over the last 18 months. Significant electricity works have been undertaken to upgrade the emergency lighting and the hall now has mains powered smoke detection in all rooms. Opening balance - £57,740.91. Closing balance - £59,682.42.
- e. Thorpe End Village Hall Association – A new booking system has been launched. They have gained a number of new regular hirers, together with adding extra food vans. The use of hall has increased over the last year. The wild flower development has continued and this year they have planted a variety of trees and supported wildlife with bird and bat boxes. Electric hand

dryers have been installed together with updating the signage. Opening balance - £64,866. Closing balance - £65,575.

- f. Little Plumstead Town Land Charity and Hobart's Charity – 24 applications in 2023 which included 38 people, which is a reduction of 4 from 2022. The trustees agreed to increase the amount given to joint and single applicants at £90. Opening balance - £6141.24. Closing balance - £6575.27
- g. Tree Warden – The Parish Council does not have a tree warden at this time so no report was received.
- h. Walled Garden Community Shop/Café – They give paid employment to 11 staff. The greenhouse and garden room has been a brilliant addition to the facilities and has increased the self-sufficiency and enhance the offerings to the community. The revamp of the café has allowed them to be more efficient by significantly upgrading the service area. They have enhanced their collaborative activities with the local school. They have made a small operating profit of £16,000 on an annual turnover of just under £400,000.

The Chairman thanked all the volunteers for their hard work and enthusiasm.

7. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Clerk presented the accounts for the year ending 31 MARCH 2024

These had been circulated and were discussed in detail. The Chairman thanked the Clerk for preparing the accounts. The earmarked funds would be added to the next Balance Sheet.

8. PUBLIC OPPORTUNITY FOR QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCILLORS

None