**MINUTES FOR BLO NORTON AGMAT BLO NORTON VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY 17TH MAY 2022 AT 7 PM FOLLOWED BY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

1. Minutes of previous meeting AGM held on 18th May 2021 were approved

2. Parish Councils Chairpersons report

David Mills read his report, last year was very different due to Covid. The village has not had a shop or post office for many years. Scattered village with no facilities apart from Church and Village Hall. Church is struggling to get people to attend. Problems getting Councillors and we are required to have 5 Parish Councillors. Sam2 speed sign has been put on the street and last meeting we published the data. Goes from 5mph to 60mph. 2 instances of people doing 60 mph. 130 doing 45 mph. More information is available on the Chairpersons report on the website. Road is used as a rat run for traffic from Hopton direction to Diss. Defibrillator has been put on the village hall wall in the last year. Flooding in Church Lane going on for many years which hopefully has been resolved by new residents at Hilltop Farm and the hard work they have done on the ditch. There has been considerable criticism of County Broadband on “Nextdoor”. The latest information is that it should be installed by the end of the year.

Reports were invited from the following

3. Report from Councillor Marion Chapman Allen – paper copy available and on PC Website

4. Report from NCC Councillor Stephen Askew – report will be put on the website

Mr Askew noted that he has had very little contact with the PC in the past year, Parish Partnership scheme is available re trods, or Sam2 signs. Can get some funding if an approved scheme. Mr Askew has a personal budget which he can use for highway schemes. Local car charging points is something he can contribute to from his personal budget.

5. Report re John Dyer Charity – currently with Kenninghall PC who are liaising with Barclays

Michael Bristow died suddenly and he had been a Parish councillor for many years. John Dyer Charity was joint charity with Kenninghall and Michael was the only Trustee in Blo Norton. Every year BNPC got 1/3rd of £500 to distribute to anyone in the village who applied for assistance usually school children. When Michael died considered transferring the Trust to Parish Council. Alison Holman Chair of Kenninghall PC suggested we join forces and Kenninghall will administer the charity. The Chair and Clerk met with Alison and she agreed to deal with Barclays with whom Michael was only signatory. To date Alison is still trying to get the account sorted out with Barclays.

6. Report re Village Hall – no report received

7. Report from LOHP

Shirley Grainger read the report prepared by Ellie Beach

8. Report re the War Memorial

The Parish Council now has responsibility for maintenance of the War Memorial funds which have been handed over from the original Committee which was formed to look after the War Memorial. The main cost is periodical cleaning, which last done in June 2021.

9. Report from John Dixon re the Blo Norton History Group

This will be put on the website when received.

10. Report from PCC

Petal read the report. Impact of covid were numbers and funds. Discussion about joining with East Harling making up 8 /10 parishes. Simon Richardson priest in Charge of the Benefice. Work is required on the church. There is a grant for 1 years monitoring but this may be extended to 2 years. Further work has been done and a grant has been successful for a notice board. Difficult to keep the churchyard tidy and rely entirely on volunteers. Now 2 services each month. First Dawn service has been held. Diss Art Society is in second year of recording the church to be recorded in a book, one of which will be held by the Church and another to the diocese and one to London. PCC would like to support anyone who supports the church in any way. To thank Richard Lloyd keeping land by the church tidy. Full report will be on the website.

11. Report from iFarm

First year clearing rubbish and now doing some landscaping, starting community gardens one of which will be disability friendly, planting hedge round community gardens and have a grant for water management and excavating a pond. Engaging with environment agency for licence for groundwork for water management. We now have refuse collection and visits from Rating officer to assess for Business rates. It is only a field nothing of rateable value for the present. Also received £10k grant for National Lottery for Community Client Action. PC supported iFarm for this. Means have funds for community workshops. Recently presented to Hopton and Knettishall PC to see if they want to join in. White Horse is now open have a 12 month tenancy with option to purchase. Have 9 months to raise the money to buy the pub, supported by the Plunkett Foundation and Community Ownership fund which opens again in June for Match Funding. Meet up Mondays for Coffee and cake and Air Cadets interested in holding Duke of Edinburgh award at iFarm. Full report will be put on website.

Jubilee Tea 3rd June at 3.30 at the village hall

All residents should have received information about the Tea and it is hoped many of the villagers will attend. Request was made to David Mills the Chairman of the PC to judge the crowns. There will be a small flower festival.

Annual meeting closed at 20.10.

 **Parish Council Agenda to be held after the Annual Parish Meeting**

12. Attendance: Julie Crossley Clerk, David Mills, Chairman, Shirley Grainger Vice Chairman, Julia Curtis

 Apologies from Hannele Tanskanen, Marion Chapman Allen

 Members of public 1

13. Parish Council Vacancy and co-option of Mr Clifford Oliver

14. Approval of Minutes of PC meeting of 18th January 2022 approved

15. No declarations of interest

16. Chairperson and Vice Chairperson remain as Mr David Mills and Shirley Grainger as too few councillors present to nominate and second

**Matters arising**

The Clerk to email Joolz and Colin Lloyd regarding the tree planting and grant.

Discussed Surveyors Land owned by a charitable organisation. BNPC had a half acre plot to look after and Mrs Smith and her husband rented the land from the PC and paid £55 pa. Now being used by farmers who have put pheasant feeders on it and David Mills will speak to them and give them details about payment.

**Financial**

17 Approval of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return internally audited and Approval was given for payment of

I) Zurich Parish Council Insurance £439.91

ii) Clerk Salary (July 2022) £192.00 Receipt 06.04.22 Precept £2835.00

iii) HMRC (July 2022) £48.00

iv) NALC subscription £139.60

**Planning Applications**

3PL/2022/0034/LB 3 Fairfields **APPROVED**

3PL/2021/1697/F Demolition of agricultural buildings and erection of 2 dwellings **APPROVED**

3PL/2022/0286/HOU Jasmine Cottage **APPROVED**

3PL/2022/0306/0 Erection of detached house **APPROVED** 3PL/2022/0174/F Demolition and replacement of agricultural barns **APPROVED**

**Meeting finished at 20.45**

**Next meeting 19th July 2021**