**MINUTES OF BLO NORTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING AT BLO NORTON VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY 16TH MAY 2023 AT 7 P.M. FOLLOWED BY PARISH COUNCIL AGM**

**Attended by Parish Councillors, NCC Councillor, District Councillor and 7 members of the public.**

1. The Minutes of AGM and Village Meeting held on 17th May 2022 were approved
2. Parish Council Chairpersons report
David Mills read his report. 2022 had still been a difficult year due to continuing covid problems but this was gradually improving. We are lucky to live in Blo’ Norton. Last year the Village Hall had been struggling but was now revitalised with a stronger committee and improvement plans. The parish councillors who had joined the PC since the last Annual Meeting introduced themselves to the meeting

Reports were invited from the following;
3. District Councillor Marion Chapman Allen

 Report was read out to the meeting and the Clerk will put on the website

1. NCC Councillor Stephen Askew

Stephen Askew advised that he had received a message about a highways problem outside Duck Barn in The Street and that he would monitor the situation. He confirmed that any problems of this nature could be copied to him for action and advice.
Mobile library was scaling back its operation but Blo’ Norton was not listed but participants would be advised if the service is affected.
Verge cutting is now reduced to once a year with extra cutting in dangerous road situations and would be completed soon as the contract had commenced in the area last week.
2. Report re John Dyer Charity

The account with Barclays has now been finalised and Kenninghall PC will refund the £100 paid from the Charity to BN resident. The Clerk will find out the available balance.

1. Report from Village Hall Committee

Chairman reported that the rejuvenated committee now had 6 members and plans were in place for insulation and other changes to the building to make savings in heating etc. Village Hall committee are grateful for financial support from the PC which is being put to good use. Future events are planned to make the Village Hall the hub of the village. Events etc are published on the facebook page and many held in conjunction with the Church.

It was noted that the Blo Norton Parish Council website has some rather out of date items and organisations need to be able to update their information. Check with Parish Clerk to see how this can be updated and whether any training/help is available from the National Association of Local Councils.
2. Report from LOHP

Ellie Beach, Conservation Manager, read out her report which will be put on the website.
3. Report from the History Group

John Dixon, Chairman, read out his report which will be put on the website.
4. Report from PCC

Petal Haskins gave a report. At present there is no church warden. St. Andrews Church has amalgamated with East Harling and is now in a group of 10 churches with only Rev. Simon to take services. A new curate will be appointed in July to assist. Monthly services take place along with other special occasions. Structural work is required on the South Wall awaiting structural engineering advice. A special fund will be set up to fund this and grant applications will need to be made and help is required for this. The 5 year electrical inspection has resulted in work costing £2500 and also work has been carried out to repair 2 gulleys on the North Wall. Some internal hangings have been sent to the conservator to be repaired. Diss Art Society are cataloguing the contents of the church to be recorded in a book, copies of which will be kept by the church and the V & A Museum. Coffee mornings held once a month and thanks to the Village Hall for allowing them to be held there in the colder months. A Vintage Tractor event will be held on June 25th next to Thelnetham Windmill courtesy of the Davey family. Thanks were made to R. Lloyd and G Smith for keeping the grass both outside and inside churchyard in good order. Thanks to the PC for their support of the Coronation Brunch which had been very successful. Donations collected on the day would go towards a tree planting and plaque commemorating the Coronation.
5. Report from iFarm
No attendance

Agenda for Parish Council AGM

1. Co-option of Parish Councillor – Shirley Grainger
2. Attendance and Apologies
Apologies had been received from the Parish Clerk.
3. Approval of the minutes of PC Meeting of 21st March 2023
4. Any Declarations of interest - None
5. Nomination for Chairman David Mills proposed by Robin Barclay seconded by Cliff Oliver
6. Nomination for Vice Chairman Shirley Grainger proposed by David Mills seconded by Robin Barclay

Matters arising

1. The Parish Council approved the Annual Governance Statement and Certificate of Exemption signed as Parish Council agreed to certify themselves as exempt from a limited assurance review under Section 9 of the Local Audit (smaller authorities) Regulation 2015. The Statement was internally audited by Colin Biggs.
2. Finance

Norton security on laptop £29.99 (payable to Clerk) NALC Membership inc IT support £186.21
121 invoice for dealing with email
 issue £19.99 (payable to Clerk Receipt BDC Precept £2835.00

Balance at Barclays as of 28th April 2023 £15,371.92

Meeting finished at 20.15

Next meeting 18th July 2023