

Quendon & Rickling Parish Council

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held on
Wednesday 8th May 2019 at 7.00 pm
In the Men's Club room in Quendon & Rickling Village Hall

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING of QUENDON AND RICKLING PARISH

Minutes

Those present:

Brandon Chapman(Chairman) - BC
Sally Kitcat – SK
Tony Jones – TJ
Ele Stoneham – ES
Ted Crow – TC
Katherine Nuthall – KN

1 member of the public

Keith Williams (Parish Clerk)

1. Chairman's report

The year began with the Parish Council being two councillors short due to two resignations from long serving members of the council. We considered the ongoing situation and I agreed to stand in as Chair with Sally Kitcat as Vice Chair. I am pleased to say that we met our obligations and responsibilities by co-opting and accepting offers of help from a number of people as the situation required.

The area which constantly creates a steady amount of attention is that of building plans and their approval. The Parish Council takes steps to ensure a balanced view, always taking note of comments from all parties concerned and subsequently establishing if such planning applications are consistent with the emerging Neighbourhood Plan.

The Neighbourhood Plan is coming to fruition after several years working alongside Newport PC and it is expected that residents of the parish will be able to vote on its acceptance in the Autumn. This is an important document, as it has a legal backing and will provide us with a template from which the village will be able to determine its future. Even in its draft state, it is proving to be of value as we assess various aspects of the village.

Over the past 12 months we have undertaken a number of initiatives and projects which have included: Securing the lease for the Football Ground, providing additional lighting at Coney Acre and making numerous requests and demands to the Highways Authority to maintain our footpaths and pavements. This is in addition to overseeing the ongoing activities such as grass cutting, street-light maintenance and other jobs that hopefully keep our parish neat and tidy.

Parking and speeding are also areas which cause some consternation. The ever increasing number of vehicles within or passing through our village can greatly affect our rural environment either by careless parking or racing along our roads at inappropriate or dangerous speeds. The Parish Council has, for quite some time, been attempting to address these issues, in the short term by our speed-watch team but also looking at options to address the various problems that exist.

The issue of providing Superfast Broadband to the village seems to have been with us for some time. Over the past few months we have seen disruption to our verges as fibre optic cables have been laid by one supplier. Meanwhile other parts of the parish do seem to have some upgrades. Currently we are unsure of the plans of the various service providers but will continue to seek updates from those involved and notify you of any progress or development.

Although this is a summary report of the last year, it is important that the Parish Council continues to look to the future. As the new Parish Council takes office, I hope they feel that they have a stable platform upon which to sustain, or even enhance our lovely surroundings.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who contributes to the running of our parish. It is impossible to name them all, but there are a number of individuals and groups who make Quendon & Rickling what it is; long may that continue. My thanks also go to our District Councillors, Neil Hargreaves and Antony Gerard and our County Councillor, Ray Gooding, all of whom support us both within and outside our meetings. It would be remiss of me not to mention and thank our clerk Keith Williams who tries to keep us on the straight and narrow, and to my fellow Councillors. They all work hard and have shown great dedication in what they do. It has been a pleasure working with them

Brandon Chapman

May 2019

2. Apologies for absence

None

3. Questions from the floor

None

4. Close of meeting

There being no further matters, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 19.12.