

Edgefield Parish Council  
Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting, held in the Village Hall, on  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2022, at 6.30 pm

Present: Mark Cook (Chairman)

Emma Cletheroe

Harry Morshuis

Suzanne Longe

Amanda Yacoubian (Clerk)

Parishioners x 3

Cllr Andrew Brown (District County Councillor)

**1. Chairman's welcome and apologies for absence**

MC welcomed everyone and apologies were accepted for Jackie Cole, Lin Pateman, Anne Harrop & Steffan Aquarone (County Councillor).

**2. Minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

**3. Matters arising**

None.

**4. Chairs Report**

It's the first proper meeting since 2019 and it is good to be back in the Village Hall. During this time we have a new Clerk, not much planning has been going on, the main issue has been the dog "Field of Fun" which has now gone to appeal. Grateful to Anne, Lin & Phil for all their work on the pond, we are aware the water level has fallen but it has been very dry. We have funds in the pond fund should anything need to be done. Speeding is an issue, we are very grateful to all the work Jeremy has done over the last few years (& his team). Following a report from Steffan things may be moving on the flooding that occurred last year, our Jubilee bench has arrived and we have our Greenings project to look forward. Thanks to Andrew & Steffan who have attended most of our meetings, thanks to all of my fellow Councillors and Amanda as our Clerk

**5. To note reports from village organisations**

Cottage Trust (John Seymour) – 2022 Report to Edgefield Annual Parish Meeting

In case anyone doesn't know where the properties are, they are the two bungalows on the other side of the road to the village hall and set back from the road. Left to the community in 1916 they were registered as a charity and administered by the Parish Council for many years. Eventually central government decided this type of property would be better operated by an independent trust. So, in January 1999 a new Charity Commission trust was created. There can be five trustees, two nominated by the Parish Council and three co-opted.

The last two years have seen changes to the properties, trustees and residents.

Sadly, the resident in number 1 cottage passed away but before advertising for a replacement we took advantage of the property being vacant to carry out some much needed work on the drains to both properties as well as some repairs, new kitchen, new boiler and damp proofing works to number 1. While all this was in progress a new shower was installed at no 2 to replace the bath.

To fund it all the Trust decided to take out a loan from the Almshouse Association. We are linked to the Almshouse Trust as it provides advice and guidance as well as interest free loans and occasional grants.

The work was all completed a few months ago and after advertising locally we welcomed a couple who have moved from Holt. Where possible we favour Edgefield people but if no one replies we are able to widen the search.

The current trustees are: Dawn Hulbert, Irene Allsop (Secretary), Dee Scoles (Treasurer), Mark Cook and John Seymour (Chair). We recently said goodbye to Angela Turner who has retired as a Trustee. Angela was almost one of the first trustees of the present trust along with Dawn and me. We are very grateful for all the work she has done for the trust and we will miss her input to the trust's activities. We also thank Dawn who has stepped back from her role as Treasurer for many years although she is staying with us as a trustee. We welcome Mark Cook who has just joined us replacing Suzanne Longe.

Next thing to think about is the roof!!

Jubilee Playing Field (Mark Cook) – Thankyou Mike Sillis who continues to cut the hedges and grass and thus avoiding any misuse & littering. We are continuing to have a regular donation from a local resident which covers the cost of the insurance.

Village Hall (Jim Frost) –

The Village Hall is now finally back up and running without restrictions following the disruption caused by Covid in 2020 and 2021. But the effects of the pandemic have proved once again that “every cloud has a silver lining” Unexpected and unnecessary largesse by the current government has seen a huge increase in the “plus” column of our balance sheet. Consequently we have been improving the facilities as much as possible. Recent acquisitions have been a table tennis table, second marquee and a huge new fridge. We are also covering the entire cost of broadband for the hall.

We have also started holding events again. Recently we held a very successful Bingo evening and are hosting a Jubilee picnic with live music, licensed bar and cream teas on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June between 2pm and 6pm, at which we hope to see as many villagers as possible.

Our FB page continues to attract followers and we would like everyone to encourage their friends to “like” our page. It is now our best advertising tool. We continue to advertise in the Parish Magazine so look out for future events in both mediums.

Parochial Church Council (Richard Peaver) –

Our parish church of St Peter & St Paul has had to cope with various problems over the past year, most of them due to difficulties caused by the pandemic. However, the Rector, Canon David Longe, has been able successfully to maintain regular Sunday services throughout the Matlaske Benefice, aided by the various Parochial Church Councils of the seven churches.

A hardworking band of volunteers has worked hard throughout the year to keep the old churchyard tidy. Maintenance work will be carried out in the near future on some of the trees, which are in need of attention.

Thanks to a grant from The National Lottery, the church has acquired a contactless cardreader for accepting donations. Funding also allowed for casters to be attached to the pews in order to allow for the nave area to be used for events requiring a large open space. The first of these was a very enjoyable children's activity morning which attracted a large number of participants. Following this success, a similar event is planned for half term.

The War Memorial Clock is proving difficult to regulate, the chimes not always ringing at the exactly the right time, but it continues to receive attention.

We are, as always, extremely grateful to the many parishioners, not all of them churchgoers, who work tirelessly to keep the parish church and the two cemeteries in good condition.

Richard Peaver  
Secretary, Edgefield Parochial Church Council

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 18.45pm.