

Edgefield Parish Council
Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting, held in the Village Hall, on
Monday 15th May 2023, at 6.30 pm

Present: Mark Cook (Chairman)

Emma Cletheroe

Suzanne Longe

Lin Pateman

Amanda Yacoubian (Clerk)

Parishioners x 3, Cllr Steffan Aquarone

1. Chairman's welcome and apologies for absence

MC welcomed everyone and apologies were accepted for Jackie Cole, Anne Harrop, Cllr Andrew Brown

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 16th May 2022

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

3. Matters arising

None.

4. Chairs Report 2022/23

I can report we have had a solid year for the parish council, during which we organised 2 successful events for the village. We had a very good turnout for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacon event, which was held in the church car park, and proved a good and safe space for our beacon. Last weekend we held an event to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles at the village hall and we raised our coronation flag. I'm very grateful to The Friends of Edgefield for providing the flag pole and I feel it has enhanced the green and given a focal point.

I am very disappointed that some 12 months on, we still haven't received the section 106 money for the Jubilee bench but we will keep pursuing this.

Planning

It was disappointing that the planning committee at NNDC didn't take on board our views of the proposed sewerage system at The Pigs. I feel that particular application could be a problem in the future.

There has been a re application for the dog field at Sands Loke, and I believe this could also be contentious.

Speeding

This remains an ongoing issue, and we are very thankful to the speedwatch group for all their efforts particularly Jeremy. I attend the SNAP meetings in Holt and it seems speeding remains a problem for almost every village. I will continue to liaise with our beat manager and remain committed to keep working on this issue.

Pond

Thanks to Anne and the volunteers for keeping the pond in good order. I would also like to thank the village hall committee for helping in funding of connecting guttering to the pond which helps to top it up, and for Phil and the work he did on that, and indeed keeping the green in fine order.

I should mention the Greening Project . Despite the best efforts of the parish council we are not much further forward on this, mainly due to the district council. We will continue in dialogue with them and we plan to have further discussion with them about this.

I am pleased to report that financially we remain in good health, and managed to stay below our budgeted expenditure this year. I was however sorry to have to raise the precept to cover costs of the forthcoming year.

And finally I would like to thank my fellow councillors for all their efforts and I also thank Amanda our clerk.

5. To note reports from village organisations

Village Hall Committee (Jim Frost)

2022/23 has been a relatively quiet year in terms of events and improvements to the hall. We did not hold Edgefest this year as we felt it was too close to the Queen's Jubilee weekend and so in its place we provided cream teas on the village green on 4th June and despite the rather inclement weather a good number of people joined us. In the autumn we held another quiz night, which once again proved very popular, as did our annual Christmas evening, which for the first time since 2019 reverted back to our format of a sit down meal and silly games for all.

The only major improvement to the fabric of the hall has been a new UPVC fire door to replace the rotten wooden door.

We recently hosted a Fun Bingo evening which sold out and was a great success and Edgefest 6 will take place on Saturday 15th July, and will include 2 acts and a hog roast. Around 60 tickets have already been ordered for this!

For the coming 200 Club season (23/24) the committee has determined that the cost of a ticket will rise from £6 p.a. to £10 p.a. and the prize money will double to £50, £30 and £20 for the three prizes.

The committee has also decided to raise the price of hiring the hall to cover increased costs of running the building. We will now be charging £10 per hour instead of £8, for people from outside the village and £8 instead of £6 for residents of Edgefield. Both of these price rises are the first in over 12 years and we are proud of the fact we have managed to keep them as low for so long.

Tuesday Club – has been discontinued

Fuel Fund

There is a lack of response to being able to provide funds to people in spite of our best efforts. If someone can demonstrate a need for funds then the Fund would then consider any application as long as it is within the Parish, not necessarily just for the purchase of fuel. It was suggested that a leaflet would be a good idea to be able to hand to people who may be able to benefit from the fund, it was also suggested to increase the xmas donation to Parishioners

Cottage Trust (John Seymour)

Edgefield Cottage Trust

The Trust is responsible for two cottages on the other side of the main road from the village hall.

The current structure of the trust was created in 1999 when the government decided to remove responsibility from Parish Councils.

The original trust was formed in 1916.

The PC can nominate two trustees and three trustees are co-opted.

We recently welcomed Mark Cook as a nominated trustee. The other nominated trustee is Dawn Hulbert and the three co-opted trustees are Irene Allsop, Dee Scoles and myself.

The trust is a member of the Almshouse Association. The benefits are an inexpensive insurance scheme, interest free loans and an advice service.

The accommodation is open to elderly residents from Edgefield and if, when a vacancy occurs, no one qualifies, the trustees can look further to the surrounding parishes.

One of the cottages is occupied by an Edgefield person and the other cottage has a couple are from Holt living in it.

A significant amount of work was recently carried out to the drains at both cottages to improve the flow but other than that we are don't have a great deal to do other than the usual repairs and renewals to keep old properties in good order.

We have a good relationship with our residents and after our visit just last week everything appears to be going well.

Many thanks for listening.

John Seymour

Jubilee Playing Field (Mark Cook)

The parish council would like to thank the tenant who pays regularly and Gary Sillis for cutting the hedges

Friends of Edgefield – no report

Parochial Church Council (Richard Peaver)

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) for the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, Edgefield, has the responsibility for co-operating with the Rural Dean and the Rector of the Matlaske Benefice, The Reverend Canon David Longe. This co-operation involves promoting the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical, in the parish. The PCC also has responsibility for the maintenance of the church fabric (including the tower of the old church), church lands and funds.

Services have returned more or less to normal following the pandemic. A new initiative in the past year has been the introduction of regular children's events in the church, involving crafts, activities, games, singing, etc. These have proved popular with children of all ages and we look forward to continuing this programme.

Annual Parish Meeting – 15th May 2023

The past year saw two major State events: the death of the late Queen and, most recently, the King's Coronation. Both were marked in appropriate ways.

As always, much maintenance was carried out in the churchyard in the autumn by a hardworking band of volunteers. A number of costly repairs will have to be carried out to the fabric of the building in the near future, and at the same time it will be necessary to try once again to prevent birds from gaining entry to the tower in the old churchyard.

Future fundraising activities include the biennial Open Gardens next weekend, a Craft Fair in the autumn and a return visit by the female vocal ensemble The Samphires in October.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 18.47pm.