

NORTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Tuesday 30th May 2023 at 7.00pm

Present: Chairman – Kim Russell
9 members of the public
Parish Clerk/RFO Emma Fontaine

Welcome from Norton Parish Council Chairman

The Chairman, Kim Russell, welcomed everyone to the Annual Parish Meeting.

Approval of 2022 Notes

The notes of the 2022 meeting were approved.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the 2022 meeting.

Parish Council Annual Report – Chairman’s Statement

I would like to thank all the Councillors that have supported the council throughout the last 12 months. This also includes the Clerk who has just completed her second audit with flying colours and continues to provide the council with vital assistance which enables us to carry out our roles.

The first thing of note last year was the completion of buying the Village Hall. This took a lot longer than expected and it will still take us a longer to get the Hall into a fit state to enable us to rent the facility out. It is hoped to start a Village Hall group in the near future and a meeting to move this forward was well attended.

The new development of affordable housing at Gouldens View was finally completed and the first residents moved in on 28th November. There is still a hold up with West Northants Council before the shared ownership houses can be occupied, but hopefully this will be sorted out soon. A piece of land, which will be an additional area to the present play area will be transferred to the Council shortly. It is proposed that this will be left for general play and events and will not be provided with any play equipment except possibly some goal posts and benches.

The Chairman and Clerk attended a meeting promoting community transport buses and were pleased when the company agreed to run a bus service from the village. This is combined with Welton and provides buses usually twice a week to various locations including Daventry, Northampton, Banbury and Rushden Lakes.

The Council are in talks with Barratt Homes re the development of 3,400 houses to the West of the village. It has been agreed that traffic calming will be put in place at the start of the development and the council have put in a request for s106 monies in mitigation of the proximity of the development.

We still haven’t managed to re-open the play area, Jack’s Patch. It has been impossible to find replacements for the rotten retaining logs and these have now been removed and the ground sloped. It is hoped to weed kill, put down weed suppressing membrane and lay the play bark within the next couple of weeks.

Reports To The Meeting

The Chairman shared reports received and read out reports in respect of: the West Northants Councillors, the Police, Neighbourhood Watch, the Speed Watch Volunteers, Jack’s Patch, the Allotments and the Church.

Parishioners were thanked for taking part in Norton activities and for supporting their community.

Parishioners’ Open Forum

A Parishioner thanked the Chairman and Clerk of the Parish Council for their work on the purchase of the Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.20pm.