

Abthorpe Village Annual Meeting

Thursday 30th May 2024 at 7pm

at The Old School, Abthorpe.

MINUTES

Attendees. Chairman Berry, Councillors Greenhalgh, Jones, Zachar, Stevens, Noble, Parish Clerk. 25 residents attended

1. Chairman's welcome and apologies
Apologies were received from Ward Councillor Bambridge
2. Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on May 2023 [here](#)
The minutes were agreed and signed
3. To note any matters arising from the minutes

Village Annual Meeting		
Action No.	Description	Action
May 004 001	New signage and speed limit at the Crossroads	Clerk to follow up on where we are with this
May 004 002	Local Plan	Clerk to add our response on the Parish Council Website
May 004 003	Air Quality - Towcester development	What are the plans to address the impact to the air quality further
May 005	Brackley Lane resurfacing	Thanks to Ward Councilor Bambridge for getting this resolved
May 006	Northamptonshire Talking	Please contact the Clerk if you would like to be included within the email distribution
May 8.3 001	Main Street flooding	Clerk to log with fix my street
May 8.3 002	Footpath issues	Residents to log with fix my street and copy David Robbins in on dave.robbins@abthorpe.net
May 8.3 003	Footpath right of way	Chairman Berry to share the map
AOB	Best Kept Village	Add to Freedom of the Village Board

4. Parish Council - Chairman's Annual Report [here](#)
 - Clerk to follow up with crossroads regarding new signage and speed limit reduction
 - WNC issued a Local Plan questionnaire. Can we see the response? - The Local Plan responses have been added to the Parish Council Website. In summary, they asked where do you see the vision of the village in 15 years time. We responded with steady growth within confines, encourage opportunities but doubt there will be, we raised the issue with parking and charging of electrical car charging
 - We would like to see them consider smaller villages to work as a community with similar issues etc and will help us get more solutions for example.
5. Ward Councillor Dermot Bambridge [Here](#)
 - Air quality, what notice is being taken of Towcester air quality, its bad already and will get worse with all the planning buildings such as DHL etc
 - Pass on our thanks to Ward Councilor Bambridge for the resurfacing of Brackley Lane after many years of having issues
6. Police Report [here](#)

- Northamptonshire Talking, this is part of Neighbourhood Watch, if anyone would like to receive the emails please contact the Parish Clerk

7. Parish Council Financial Statement for year end 23/24

Cash in Bank

At the year end the Treasury Account was £3619.18 and the Business Account was £2421.14. Total cash in the bank £6040.32. The low balance is due to donating £4750.00 to the St John The Baptist renovation cost for new chairs

Balances	21/22	22 /23	23 /24
Treasury Account	3,609.91	£848.80	£3,619.18
Business Account	5885.06	£3,394.87	£2,421.14
	9,494.97	£4,243.67	£6,040.32

Income

Our income was £11547.61. The precept for Financial Year 2024/25 has stayed the same at £5400.00. Other income - VAT Refund £1786.90 and Renisola (Solar Farm) £4301.54

Income				
Precept	£4,000.00	£4,000.00	£5,400.00	
Renesola	£3,376.15	£3,860.77	£4,301.54	Solar Farm
VAT	£638.21	£243.65	£1,786.90	
Interest	£1.54	£9.21	£26.27	
Repay Donation School Hall VE Event	£400.00	£200.00	-	
Jubilee mug sales		£320.00	-	
Drain payment in error repaid	£573.60		-	
EON overcharge		£12.64	£32.90	
Total	£8,989.50	£8,646.27	£11,547.61	

Expenditure

We spent £7885.75

Treasury Account Expenditure	21/22	22/23	23 /24	
E-On Street light supply / N Power	£383.22	£506.82	£0.00	Changed supplier
E-on Street light maintenance	£49.76	£62.40	£172.80	
Insurance	£385.21	£430.02	£434.45	
Hire of hall for meetings	£150.00	£190.00	£0.00	No invoice sent this year
Village newsletter	£409.30	£309.90	£279.20	
Defibrillator / Speed Signs	£10.76	£134.64	£0.00	
Training	-	£45.60	£57.60	
NCALC plus VAT reclaim	£437.70	£571.02	£533.72	
Petty cash	£48.00	-	-	
Mower Petrol	£26.18	£55.67	£69.55	
Section 137 donations	£100.00	£75.00	£4,750.00	Church refurb, chairs
Computer Virus Protection	£28.79	£39.99	-	
Flowers for 100th Birthday		£29.50	-	
Refreshments for annual meeting		£27.83	-	
Mugs for Jubilee		£557.28	-	
Tree planting for Jubilee		£9.77	-	
Misc	£64.29	£15.99	£30.99	Print cartridge, leaflets
Mower road insurance	£152.32		-	
ICO registration	£35.00	£35.00	£35.00	Data Protection Officer
TADD payments	£50.00	£100.00	-	
Old school Donation	-	£1,200.00	-	Jubilee Weekend
New Speed sign and batteries	£573.60	£0.00	-	

Christmas Tree Event	£23.63	£127.58	£134.31	
Repair to notice board		£11.55	-	
Neighbourhood watch Donation	£20.00	£25.00	-	
Pressure washer for road sign			£89.99	
YU Energy electrical usage			£963.09	
Weed killer and pump			£52.55	
Flowers for village gates			£47.50	
Mower service			£235.00	
Subtotal	£2,093.21	£4,560.56	£7,885.75	

8. Organisation Reports

8.1 PCC [Here](#)

8.2 The Old School Committee [Here](#)

8.3 Parish Path Warden [here](#)

- Copy David Robbins into any reports to Fix My Street for foot path issue, his email is in the report above so he can follow up
- Main Street flooding - Clerk to follow up with Fix My Street
- A resident raised an issue with the land at Withymore Lane near Brackley Lane which will be discussed under AOB
- Footpath right of way information - Chairman Berry to share
- Stiles are overgrown how do I raise these - please report on Fix my Street

8.4 Tove Valley Broadband [here](#)

- Eric talked about receiving his MBE, we would like to thank Eric and the team for the fantastic work they have given our village, Thank You very much

8.5 Leeson Trust [here](#)

9. Freedom of the Village Board

Councillor Greenhalgh discussed the new Freedom of the Village Board that will be displayed in the Old School. The board was recycled from the Cricket Club

AOB

- **CCTV** - Could the Parish Council consider having CCTV installed into the village. Chairman Berry said that we are currently investigating this, including regulations around it
- **Best Kept Village** - A few years ago, the village won the best kept village award. Can it be added to the Freedom of the Village Board. Yes we will investigate
- **Withymore Lane** - we have found out that there is a planning application for extension of the current site. We understand that waste is currently going into the local brook. Electric has been installed. What are the rights of access to get to the field? It is a footpath and part bridle way.
- Issues around what planning can take place of the building and changes from agriculture use, we can discuss with the planners when they have been to review the area. Access and development that has gone on to the current building. That's where we are currently with the Parish Council. You can as residents comment on any planning application. The lawful development certificate is being used for storage and distribution. Breach of planning needs to be looked at when the planning officer visits next week.
- A resident raised that the owner is living in it, why hasn't it been resolved. Waste going into ditch which my cattle feed from and concerns that my cattle may be poisoned

- The council are trying to find out what routes we can follow and which direction as a council we can go and will keep the village updated on this.
- The environment agency would be interested. Orchids are in the fields
- Application is now in the public space on the WNC planning. Residents can add their views on. It will be on the agenda for the next council meeting on 25th June and will be discussed

10. Close

Signed