

## **Uplyme Parish Council**

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# Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 7pm

Present: Chair: Cllr. C. James.

Officer: Zishan Adamson-Drage, Clerk to the Council / RFO

Members of the Public: 8

Press: 0

### APM23/1 Welcome

The Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr C. James, welcomed those who attended the meeting.

#### APM23/2 Approval of Minutes

Cllr. Andy Turner proposed that the 2022 minutes be accepted, seconded by Cllr. Colin Pratt. Approved.

#### APM23/3 Annual Report of the Parish Council by the Chairman of the Parish Council

The following Annual Report was received for the Municipal Year 2022 – 2023:

In considering the last 12 months there has been a steady, and in some cases, slow progress in the work done by the Parish Council but I could not let this report pass without mention of the death of Queen Elizabeth, which was a great loss to the whole country. I must also mention the sad death of Councillor Neil Pullinger who had, over many years, given great service to the Parish Council, which was only one of the aspects of village life with which he was involved. He will be greatly missed as we move forward.

With specific regard to the work of the Parish Council, we came in on budget which in these days is a not to be underestimated achievement and much credit for that must go to our clerk, Mrs Zishan Adamson-Drage. We have also been able to keep the precept for 2023 -2024 at the same level as we have now built up sufficient capital reserves.

During the year we have contracted Mr James Booth as lengthsman, a position which is now of great importance considering the financial constraints on District and County Council budgets which has led to more requirement for the Parish Council to undertake "self-help". In maintenance terms we have re-laid the surface in the play park and repaired some faulty equipment. We have recently tidied up the cemetery and removed the brambles. The Millennium Copse has been well maintained. We have entered into a new cooperative venture

Chairman: Cllr C James Vice Chairman: Cllr. A. Turner

Cllrs: P. Hackett, Mrs C. Wiscombe, P. Oakley, C. Pratt, B. Trundley, Mrs P. Frost

with Mrs Ethelstone's in relation to improvements and new planting for Stafford Mount and Cllr Pratt and I presented prizes to the pupils who had submitted some excellent ideas for the project. I am delighted that we are now getting more involvement with the school which has been long overdue.

We have purchased a further salt-spreader for winter use and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Cllr Turner and the volunteers who assist with both snow clearing and flood prevention. However, we do have to consider how, in future, we will be able to clear out the stone traps, drains and ditches which is necessary to prevent serious flooding as we have lost our volunteer, Mr Dave Ostler who had his own equipment and has moved out of the village. When we last obtained a commercial quotation to do the work, it was over £3000 a day, a sum which is unaffordable within our present budget.

Progress with the provision of affordable housing has been slower than I would have wished but I have great hopes that Lyme Regis Community Land Trust and a company called Leaperland will be making progress on two exception sites within the village during the coming year. One is at Venlake and the other on Crogg Lane.

We have continued to have quarterly highways meetings with Devon County Council, which our County Councillor attends and during the last year representatives of the Bestic Trust have also attended so that highway issues relating to the new school are not overlooked. Progress on safety improvement of the Crogg Lane area of Lyme Road have been slow but there may be some progress in the next year. We passed an audit to qualify for a pedestrian crossing in the village and I am hoping that a decision on such provision will be made in the near future. Sadly, we were turned down for a trial of a 20mph speed limit through the village. We have invited the Dorset County Councillor for Lyme Regis to our next meeting as we have interests in common. I am also hoping for better cooperation with Lyme Regis Town Council in future.

I would like to thank all the volunteers, both councillors and others who give such sterling support to the Parish and make it a better place to live and give a special mention to Wendy Gardner who organised to Platinum Jubilee party and the recent Coronation party and to Becky Turner who organises the Christmas lights. Finally, I would also like to thank our County Councillor, Ian Hall, for the unstinting support that he gives us and I hope that our new District Councillor, Susan Westerman will be able to give us the same level of support.

#### APM23/4 Parish Council's Audited Final Accounts ending 31st March 2022

The Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer presented the Audited Accounts, no queries were raised.

#### APM23/5 Reports from Groups and Clubs in the Parish

None were received.

#### APM23/6 Public Questions

None were raised.

The meeting closed at 7.19pm

Signed by Chairman:	
Date:	

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