

WRINGTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Held on 11 May 2022 in the Memorial Hall, Silver Street, Wrington, BS40 5QE

The Parish Council Chair, Cllr Neve, chaired the meeting which opened at 7.00pm. Approximately 21 residents and Parish Council members were in attendance.

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Maxine Gilman (Village Agent), and Sarah Stammers (Senior Social Prescriber for Mendip Vale Medical Group).

Maxine Gilman explained the role of the Village Agents and how they help people, particularly those who are lonely and/or isolated, access advice and support services for independent living. Sarah Stammers outlined what social prescribing can offer and how it can help people gain more control over their wellbeing by supporting them to make changes to improve how they feel in a way that suits them.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Steinbach, Cllr Samuel, Cllr Treweek and Richard Thorn.

3. Minutes of the Parish Meeting held 21 April 2021

These were noted and adopted as a true record.

4. Chairman's report and financial statement for the year 2021/22

The Chair drew residents' attention to the report from the Wrington Parish Charities, copies of which were available on the chairs. He explained the Newsletter, copies of which were also available on the chairs, outlined what the Council had done over the last year. He also highlighted some of the challenges the parish currently faces including:

- Work to counter the proposed airport expansion continues. Much time was spent on preparing for the Inquiry on the airport's appeal against NSC's refusal of their expansion plans. Unfortunately, the Inquiry found in favour of the Airport but, on a positive note, Bristol Airport Action Network (BAAN) has been given permission to appeal the Planning Inspector's decision in the High Court.
- The proposed development at Butts Batch is also going to appeal and more information will be available shortly.
- The proposed development at Gatcombe Farm has been approved by NSC.
- The situation regarding the loss of the local bus service is a real concern.
- The Neighbourhood Plan is currently on hold until NSC's Local Plan has been finalised. This is because the Neighbourhood Plan will need to refer to the Local Plan.

The Chair drew the meeting's attention to the Financial Report, contained in the Newsletter, and said if there were any queries on this (or on any other matters) residents should contact the Council office in the usual way.

Finally, he said COVID had been a huge challenge to the working of the Council but he was glad that the Council could now return to face-to-face meetings such as this. Finally, he thanked David Marsh for his report on Wrington Charities.

5. Update from the Rewilding Wrington group

Lucy Empson explained that Rewilding Wrington are a group of residents (supported by the Parish Council), who have transformed many of the village's grass verges into beautiful spaces full of native wildflowers, bees and butterflies. The aim of the project is to change the appearance and biodiversity of several areas in the village by adding seeds and perennial flowering plants. She gave an overview of the success of the project so far and, also, how it was hoped to extend the scheme in the future.

The Chair thanked Lucy Empson for her report.

6. Questions to the Council

The Chair invited questions and the meeting discussed the issues relating to the local bus service with District Cllr Steve Hogg explaining he was hoping for a replacement service of some sort later in the year.

The Chair thanked those present for attending the meeting and with there being no other business the meeting was closed at 8.00pm.

**Cllr Taylor
Acting Chair**