

DRAFT MINUTES OF PARHAM ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

7pm on Tuesday 4th May 2021

Held online due to Covid-19 restrictions

1. Chair's welcome

Michael Gray, as Chair of the Parish Council, welcomed everyone. There were 5 residents present.

2. Apologies were received from Ward Councillor Maurice Cook.

3. The Minutes from the Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 7th July 2020 were noted as an accurate record of the meeting.

4. There were no matters arising.

5. Michael Gray reported on Parham Parish Council. Again, the biggest news from the year was the Covid-19 pandemic. 20-30 residents offer their services to our help scheme and only 2 households requested support. He noted that several people were carrying out their own support schemes for neighbours. He expressed his thanks to everyone who has provided local assistance during the pandemic.

The current big issue for the Parish Council is the application for a solar farm at Parham Airfield. This is currently being decided by East Suffolk Council's planning department. It was unfortunate that there was so little interest in the community open information evening about the scheme.

The Main Road housing development will be on hold until at least late May- June due to unforeseen problems with the site. *A neighbour added that it is now more likely to be July or August before works recommence.*

The chair thanked the Parish Clerk for her hard work over the past year during Covid-19 with Zoom meetings and preparations for the annual meetings and audit.

6. Sadly, the Village Recorder, Malcom MacNichol died earlier this year. As yet, a new Village Recorder has not been appointed. *ACTION Clerk to advertise the role.*

7. Parham Airfield Museum. A written report was provided and circulated online and on the website prior to the meeting. The museum celebrates its 40th anniversary this year. It plans to re-open in summer with new Covid-safe measures in place. Works to the new Exhibition Hall are near completion and they are looking forward to welcoming visitors again.

8. Corrance School Trust No report received by the date of the meeting.

9. Biodiversity Group Michael Gray reported that no meetings or activity had been carried out since the last annual meeting because of Covid- 19. The biodiversity will miss Daphne Culpan's botanical knowledge on their projects.

10. Parham Village Hall The chair provided a written report which was shared with Parish Councillors prior to the meeting. Covid-19 has forced the Village Hall to remain shut at present and it has been a difficult year for the village hall. There was little to report but the committee are working hard to put in place covid-safe measures for when they re-open, including the use of a disinfectant fogging machine. New hall users and committee members would be very much welcomed.

Copies of all written reports have been filed with these minutes.

11. One member of public asked if there would be any more public meetings about the solar Farm. The Chair replied that there had been very little interest in the Parish Council meetings which discussed the application or the community open evening and that there were no plans for any more public meetings about it.

12. Open Forum

No issues were raised for discussion at a future Parish Council meeting.

Michael Gray thanked everyone for coming and the meeting was closed at 7.20pm.