

Butlers Marston

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Notes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on **Tuesday 4th May 2021** from **7:30pm to 8pm** via **Zoom video conferencing**

Present: Cllr Corpe, Cllr Forsyth, District Cllr Mills, Clerk, 1 parishioner.

1. Welcome and apologies – Apologies were received from Cllr Mitchell-Hilton.
2. Report from Parish Council Chairman – The Chairman has now resigned from the Parish Council but had written the following report for this meeting:

The Parish Council is 50 years old this year! I have been reading through the old meeting minutes - what a lot of changes there have been in that time – the pub closed, the shop and Post Office closed, the school closed. Lots of things haven't changed – we see the same items on the agenda – mowing, planning, speeding, parking, the bus shelter and so on. But this must have been the strangest year yet, with all our meetings held remotely – at least they have been a bit warmer than in the Church, but it is not as easy to share information when you can't get together. However, I was able to attend the July meeting even though I was in the Isles of Scilly!

We did not even manage to have the Annual Parish Meeting in 2020 due to all the restrictions, but we will be having one this year, albeit on Zoom, on 4th May. Details to follow and we hope you can join us – it is a Village meeting, not a PC meeting. Over the last 12 months, we have tried to improve communications between the Parish Council and villagers, adding information to the Village Facebook page and by launching a page for all the PC news; also via the Village website, the noticeboard and this Newsletter, (thank you to the PCC), and of course, everyone is welcome to join the PC meetings.

We have had some changes in the people involved - Di Burman resigned following her move to Wellesbourne and Hugh Forsyth was co-opted to replace her. Dick Leaper resigned as Clerk after 20 years of sterling work and we now have Kirsty Buttle, another very experienced Clerk. The Bus Shelter (built by Derek and Capper (John) Campion in 1989) has been re-roofed and will now be a dry repository for all the books people have kindly donated. Thanks to Su Leaper for offering to keep the books from overflowing down the road! We should soon have two new bus stops, one on each side of the road, making using the bus a safer option than it has been in the past.

As always, the PC is strapped for cash and you will have noticed on your Council Tax bill that the precept has gone up by around 77%. As it was a very low starting-point, it should be less than £2 a week in total but we do need to build up the reserves a little, as although we can cover the usual expenses, we cannot afford unexpected events or the new responsibilities

we have picked up, such as tree-surveying. Indeed, without a generous donation, the Bus Shelter would not have been re-roofed.

If you have anything you wish to raise with the Parish Council please write to the Parish Council Clerk, Kirsty Buttle, 74 Beaulieu Close, Banbury, OX16 4FQ or you can email Kirsty on butlersmarstonparishclerk@outlook.com . Full minutes of the meetings are now available on the village website www.butlersmarstonvillage.co.uk.

I hope you all had a Happy Easter.

Joanne Young

3. Reports from other village organisations – None.
4. Any other issues parishioners wish to discuss – None.

Meeting closed @ 7:40pm