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Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 24th March 2022 at 7pm at Kippax Methodist Church Hall

Present: Councillor M. Eyre, Councillor M. Biscoomb (Acting Clerk), Councillor J. Biscoomb, Councillor J. Purcell, Councillor J. Simpson, Councillor J. Almond, Councillor A. Parker, Councillor H. Foley, Councillor A. Hudspith and Councillor V. Land (Kippax Parish Council), Councillor M. Harland and Councillor J. Lewis (Leeds City Council), Sgt Lee Nicholson (Outer East Leeds, WYP)

35 members of the public (including representatives from the organisations below)

Exhibitors: Kippax ASC, U3A, Kippax WI, Kippax Art Group, Kippax in Bloom, Growing Zone, RSPB, Kippax Commemorative Group, Kippax Dramatic Society, Kippax Amateur Operatics Society (KAOS), Knit and Natter, Police, Garforth NET, Incredible Edible

1. Welcome and Introduction

Chairman, Councillor M. Eyre welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the Ward Councillors, PS Lee Nicholson, exhibitors and members of the public for attending the meeting.

Police Sergeant Lee Nicholson introduced himself as the new Lead Sergeant for Outer East Leeds, based at Garforth and reminded people how to contact him and his team:

- outereast@westyorkshire.police.uk
- Garforth Neighbourhood Policing Team - 0113 2322027
- lee.nicholson@westyorkshire.police.uk

2. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 27th April 2021

It was resolved to approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 27th April 2021 as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Councillor M. Eyre reminded attendees that all minutes and agendas can be viewed on the Parish Council website.

3. Chairman's Report

Councillor M. Eyre provided an update on the activities of the Parish Council in the last year. This included:

- An update on the end of virtual meetings and a return to in-person meetings, with a reminder that committee meetings are usually held in Valley Ridge Community Centre and full council meetings in Kippax Methodist Church Hall.
- The co-option of Councillor H. Richardson
- DBS checks for all councillors who support at community events as well as regular training for councillors
- A reminder that the council offers grants and all information is available on the website. The council issued several grants in the last year including to Kippax Welfare, Kippax Cricket Club, Kippax in Bloom, Kippax Band, Growing Zone and Brigshaw Lane Bowling Club
- The council's objections to Kippax moving into the Selby Constituency and the actions taken in response to the Sandgate Terrace planning application
- The council's proposal to purchase Kippax Central and the subsequent consultation where the majority agreed to a precept increase to support the purchase of the building. The offer was unfortunately subsequently withdrawn by the council following a detailed condition report and valuation.
- Installation of two defibrillators with three more being installed imminently at Gibson Lane Surgery, Kippax Hall Surgery and the bus stop at the bottom of Butt Hill, all of which will be accessible 24/7
- The Christmas Lights Switch on event and the discussions on whether to have fireworks or lazer shows for this year's event

Councillor M. Eyre also shared updates on upcoming projects including:

- Kippax Leisure Centre is set to reopen fully on 19th April following extensive maintenance work
- The Parish Council's plans to develop Kippax Common to include a children's playground, pathways and benches. Further consultations will take place in the coming months
- Upcoming Jubilee celebrations which include a Beacon Lighting, Picnic in the Park and Scarecrow Festival (more details will be available on the website and Facebook)
- Information that the Barnsdale Solar Park project, which received planning permission, is delayed for six months due to delays on equipment. Councillor M. Eyre is the representative for the council at regular update meetings held by Banks Renewables. Councillor G. Harwick is the representative for the council on the Grants and Funding Committee for Banks Renewables who provide grants for local community groups
- The council is exploring other options to increase community provision including potential to enhance Gibson Lane Community Centre

All information and decisions made by the council can be found via the minutes on the Parish Council website.

4. Public Participation

- a) A question was asked regarding the council's plans to include young people and children in the consultation plans for the Kippax Common Project. Councillor M. Biscomb (Chair of Youth and Leisure Committee) reported that a survey has already been undertaken with high school students and there is a plan to consult directly with primary schools and high schools again and local youth groups when the drawings and site maps are available.

This will be discussed at the next Youth and Leisure Committee meeting which is held on the first Tuesday of every month.

- b) A question was asked about how the community can support any Ukrainian refugees that settle in our community, with various groups expressing their desire to collaborate. Councillor M. Harland advised that Migration Yorkshire was the organisation responsible for coordinating the programme for our area and reported on the overwhelming support that has been seen across the city for the Ukrainian appeal. Councillor J. Purcell also updated that Brigshaw High School had been overwhelmed with donations that were being transported to areas of need in the coming weeks.

Councillor M. Harland agreed to keep the Parish Council up to date with plans related to Kippax and it was agreed to set up a working task group for interested parties to coordinate efforts as information and updates is received.

Other activities including the Ukrainian flags on the High Street, the bunting and knitted postbox decorations and plans for the local high school to begin Ukrainian language classes were also noted.

- c) A question was asked to PS Lee Nicholson regarding dangerous parking around the local schools and whether resources could be dedicated to improving the situation. PS Lee Nicholson asked for specific schools and reports to be communicated with him so that he could allocate resource to patrols and an educate and enforce programme. He acknowledged that this is a national problem and it requires collaboration to address.
- d) A question was asked regarding the council's plans to purchase Kippax Central and whether analysis was undertaken regarding availability of other spaces in the community. Councillor M. Biscomb reported that analysis had been undertaken and that during peak times, some local venues were at total capacity and having to turn down booking requests. Other organisations present also voiced their concerns that they are struggling to find spaces to operate from. It was also noted that different activities required different venue types and room sizes, and the initial plans for Kippax Central included a permanent community cafe and youth/games space, of which there isn't an alternative suitable venue in the village.

Councillor M. Biscomb agreed to collate a list of venues in the community with details on capacity, cost and availability where possible to display on the Parish Council website.

- e) It was reported that the Poppy hasn't been lit for over five weeks. Councillor M. Eyre updated that he has reported the issue two weeks ago to several people at Leeds City Council and had yet to receive a response. Councillor M. Harland agreed to follow up on the issue with the relevant department.
- f) Representatives from St Mary's Church reported that the church clock isn't working and has been sent away for specialist repair and maintenance, they expect to have it back up and running in the next 4-5 weeks. It was noted that a new flag pole was also being installed.
- g) A question was asked regarding whose responsibility it was to maintain the church yard. It was noted that the flowers were good but there are concerns around the integrity of the walls, the condition of some of the trees and the frequency of the grass cutting. Representatives from St Mary's Church reported that it is the responsibility of the PCC, but all works have to be completed by Leeds City Council.

The PCC is in regular contact with LCC and are satisfied with their work but acknowledge that they are one of many church yards that LCC look after and there is more work to be done. The PCC is intending to develop a management plan for the church yard to address the concerns and protect the church yard.