

THE 2022 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING WAS HELD ON

23rd MAY IN THE VILLAGE HALL

AT 7.00 p.m.

Present: Councillors, R Housley, P List, M Booth, S Fuller, A Lawrence, M Hicks (SCC), K Guthrie (MSDC), representatives of village organisations and a few parishioners.

The minutes of the Annual Parish meeting 2021 were agreed by all, signed and dated.

Reports were read to the assembled villagers of Bedingfield.

Bedingfield Parish Council

Report by Ray Housley (Chairman)

St Mary's Church

Report by Mrs Jean Housley.

Bedingfield Land Charity

Report by P List

Village Hall Report

Report by R Housley

Bedingfield Bowls Club

Report by James Glasse and read by the chairman.

County Council

Report by Cllr Hicks, the full report is on Bedingfield website.

SCC Ukrainian team are working well alongside districts and boroughs. There is a steady flow of refugees coming into Suffolk. Two recycling centres are being revamped to lower the height of the bins. Stowmarket does not have enough space to do this.

Mid-Suffolk District Council

Report by Cllr Kathie Guthrie, the report is on Bedingfield website.

Footpaths

Report by V Booth and read by M Booth.

Public participation

Concern was raised regarding planning permission at The Old Station Yard, Kenton Road which had not started yet.

Copies of all the reports are at the end of the minutes and paper copies are filed with the minutes.

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT FOR 2022

The Pandemic has restricted some of our usual activities in the past year but it is hoped that we are now getting back to some sense of normality although we should not be complacent. The Parish Council has continued to maintain a close watch on all aspects of Village life and whilst there has not been a requirement for any formal intervention, individual Councillors have maintained a close relationship with residents in their area. Yet again the Council could not function without the continued support and guidance from our Parish Clerk, Mrs Pauline Debenham who has held the post for more years than it would be polite to declare, and we are extremely grateful for her work.

Face to face Parish Council Meetings have continued through the past year and we have maintained a close relationship with our Mid-Suffolk District Councillor, Mrs Kathie Guthrie and County Councillor, Mr Matthew Hicks. We continue to represent your views to them on issues of concern when presented to us and residents are of course free to contact them directly. Due to circumstances beyond his control Cllr David Ferguson has had to resign from the Council and following a formal notification process Cllr Ashley Lawrence has been co-opted onto the Council pending local elections in May next year.

Residents are urged to play their part in reporting highways issues such as potholes to the County Council on the CC website where all reported issues can be seen. Some of our roads need urgent repair and resurfacing but this is a County wide problem and as ever is matter of finance.

Planning applications submitted by Bedingfield residents, and other applications of local interest, are scrutinized by the Parish Council when received from Mid Suffolk District Council and comments made where appropriate. Notices are posted adjacent to properties concerned for individual residents to make comments.

The 2 defibrillators and VAS deployed in the Village are maintained by the Council and the Village Emergency Telephone System (VETS) continues to provide a valuable asset for residents in an emergency. Plans are in place to update the training for existing VETS volunteers and anyone else who is willing to assist. There has not been a requirement to deploy either of the defibrillators. The speed indicator (VAS) is regularly deployed at the 4 points throughout the Village and it is hoped that this is having some impact on reducing the overall speed of vehicles. The police also continue to deploy their speed check teams but they have so many locations to cover in the County that we do not get them as often as we would like. Efforts continue to have The Street listed as a regular checkpoint.

We have sadly lost a number of residents in the last year and our condolences are extended to all their families and friends. To those currently in ill health we wish them well and a speedy recovery. Also a very warm welcome to those residents who have moved to our lovely Village in the past year

The Council continues to support The Village Newsletter in conjunction with St Mary's Church and items for publication, including advertisements, are always welcomed by the Editor (Please !!!!).

Once again this year the PRECEPT has been kept to an absolute minimum to cover our known expenses, including maintenance items for the Defibrillators and VAS and a small reserve is maintained for use when required. The Council receive many requests for donations to a variety of charities and these are noted in the minutes of Council meetings for individual residents to choose to donate if they wish.

The Parish Council is responsible for the maintenance of the 102 year old Clock located in the Church which has to be wound manually twice a week via an old wooden ladder. A recent visit was undertaken by the Company that originally made and fitted the clock to ascertain the costs of fitting an electric winding mechanism and we await the estimate. The Listed War Memorial is also a Parish Council responsibility. We are also supporting the Queen's Jubilee Event at the Village Hall on 4th June this year.

Mrs Vanessa Booth continues as our Footpath Warden and updates the Council on any issues of concern. Regrettably there are still issues with dog mess not being picked up on certain footpaths. Parish Councillors continue to pick up roadside rubbish on a regular basis, mainly dropped by passing vehicles and any help from residents with this issue is always welcomed

And finally, your Parish Council is elected to represent all residents and maintains an approachable and supportive brief. Please engage with your Councillors and The Clerk and ensure they are aware of your views on any issue of concern. Whilst we may not have the immediate answer or be able to solve the issue we will always signpost where necessary. We are living in difficult times and if you or anyone you know of is facing hardship in any way, please let us know and do not suffer in silence.



R J HOUSLEY
Chair

23rd May 2022

BEDINGFIELD ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2022

Report on behalf of St Marys Church Bedingfield.

The church is now fully open daily for visitors from 10am to 4pm and with no restrictions to entry to the churchyard.

Regular services remain at twice monthly on 1st and 3rd Sunday in the month. Any change to this arrangement is advertised in the village newsletter and church noticeboard.

Our congregation is very small, but numbers are steady. We have had several services supported by the choir of Eye parish church, for which we are very grateful. We also had a concert by the group Hexachordia on the theme of Shakespeare's music, which was well attended and very enjoyable.

Fundraising, so far, has kept the ever-increasing bills paid but there is still much to do to keep the building in good order and the church open for future generations.

This year we have had one of the windows in the nave repaired and emptied the base of the tower of some old and unusable equipment.

Thanks, have to go to the increasing band of folk who keep the churchyard tidy, but also to those who maintain the church building, clean away the ever-present heaps of bat droppings, and provide flowers to decorate the church.

This year we will be holding our annual flower festival on July 23/24 with the theme of "A walk in the country". There will be the usual stalls including, tombola, cakes, plants previously loved goods and the ever-popular BBQ.

This is our major fundraiser in the year, and we hope for good support from the village and beyondand good weather!

Jean Housley

Churchwarden

BEDINGFIELD LAND CHARITIES

Report for the year ending 31/12/2021

The Trustees remain unchanged and they are Mr.Derek Scott (Chairman), Mrs.Jean Waddell, Mrs.Glenda Goddard, Mr.Steve Jacques and Mr.Peter List.

We are pleased to report that everything has gone well, the land has been farmed to a high standard and the rents were all paid on time.

The Trustees are concerned about the future of agriculture and the possible changes we may see in the future also the outcome of the Ukraine conflict and what this might do for farming. We will keep this under review and deal with accordingly.

Our income over the past year was £1949.42.

We were very pleased to again support Occold School with a donation to help expand their Therapy room.

The Annual return has been sent to the Charity Commission.

We would remind Parishioners if they know of anyone in the Village who needs support from the Charity to contact any of the Trustees.

BEDINGFIELD VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE
REPORT FOR ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2022

The Village Hall has had a reasonable year despite the restrictions caused by the Pandemic. A small income was generated from the hire of the Hall for meetings and donations from the Land Charity and some local residents has helped to cover general expenses. The main increase in costs has been electricity and insurance. Grants were generously given by Suffolk County Council and Mid-Suffolk District Council to cover the additional costs of renewing the car park, following a Government Regeneration Grant, and also other ongoing maintenance issues inside the Hall. I am sure you will agree that the new car park is a great asset and kept in pristine order by Mr Peter List.

At the end of the last Financial Year our bank balance was £921.77 which will ensure we are able to cover our outgoings for this year. However we must continue to raise funds from hiring out the Hall to ensure we stay viable. Charitable and non-profit making events will always be considered for reduced or zero cost hire subject to electricity usage.

We have recently become registered with Community Action Suffolk who have provided us with a folder containing many historical documents relating to the transfer of the Hall from being the Village School and it is hoped some of these may be available to view at the Jubilee event on 4th June. We have also joined a "YourHall" website run by CAS which will give wider publicity to our hall.

Many thanks to the Committee, our accounts Auditor and everyone who supports the Hall both financially and socially. It is a great asset to the Village and must be maintained for future generations.



R J HOUSLEY

Chair

for Village Hall Committee

23rd May 2022

bedingfield bowls club

James Glasse <j.glasse746@btinternet.com>

Thu 19/05/2022 11:41

To: bedingfieldparishclerk@hotmail.co.uk <bedingfieldparishclerk@hotmail.co.uk>

I have contacted Philip Leeder, captain of the above club, who says that there is to be a meeting shortly to consider the club's position, but at this time there are only seven playing members and he thinks that they will have no alternative, sadly, but to close the club down. Apologies but I'm afraid I won't be able to attend the annual parish meeting. Jimmy Glasse.

Sent from my iPad

Footpath report May 2022

In general the footpaths are in much the same state as they have been over the last few years. When the weather is wet there are areas which get waterlogged such as the Hall Lane ends of Big Lane and Little Lane, although the rubble has improved the entrance to Big Lane. In the Spring and Summer several areas of the paths get overgrown, particularly the Park Road entrance to the path to Southolt and the Bucks Green end of the path from the Old Red Lion. Big Lane has improved in this respect, possibly due to the increase in horse traffic. Occasionally some of the paths are mown, by the County Council, and this plus attention from parishioners (thank you Peter and Sam) keeps the paths passable most of the time.