

MINUTES OF THE ROLLESBY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

held on Monday 15th April 2024 at 6.30pm in the Village Hall, Rollesby.

Present: 18 Members of the Parish, Parish Councillor Simon Moore (chair), Parish Clerk Sarah Hunt (Clerk).

1. Apologies
Apologies were received from District Councillor Leslie Mogford and Parish Councillor Sheila Ridout, Revd Jo Wood.
2. The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting which took place on Monday 24th April 2022 were AGREED as a true and correct record and signed by the Chair.
3. Chairman's report.
4. To receive reports from Village Organisations.
 - 4.1 Happy Rollers
 - 4.2 Art Club
 - 4.3 St George's Church.
 - 4.4 W.I.
 - 4.5 Village Hall
 - 4.6 Woodland Trust
 - 4.7 Speedwatch

It was noted by the meeting that the 'pedestrians in road' sign was now erected in Court Road.

5. Police Report.
The data available online for residents to monitor local crimes reported is very limited as the figures are collated within a larger area. Rollesby remains a very low crime area although locally there are peaks over the Summer and on Bank Holidays. Speeding has been a local issue. The limits are not likely to be reduced and therefore cars are not speeding in that they are exceeding the speed limit, but are driving too fast for the road size or condition.
6. Any other business
None.

The meeting closed at 7.16pm

3. Chairman's Report

Good evening and welcome to the Annual Parish Meeting. What a year it's been in Rollesby!

Firstly, we started the year with an election for the councillor places. My thanks to the outgoing councillors, Rosemary Rudrum and Jodi Coote, and of course myself and Catherine were elected in as new councillors. Shortly after the May elections, Haydn Thirtle stood down, and Judith Long joined us. And more recently of course, Bruce Sturrock has stood down. I would like to thank all of those outgoing councillors for their years of service and input to the village.

We now have a new website for the Parish Council, please do go and take a look at it. This is still a work in progress and it is hoped to include information pages and links to other village organisations directly from the site – so a website for Rollesby, not just the Parish Council.

I'd like to thank all the volunteers of the village for the work they do keeping the village nice – litter picking, planting and weeding flower borders and tubs, and a special thank you for the kind donation of a new flag for the flag pole this year.

We're also very lucky to have a dedicated Community Speedwatch team, thank you for all you do. This will be complimented by a speed monitoring device later in the year.

And thank you to all of those who have been involved with the Community Woodland project – a real asset for the village. Add this to other things like the re-opening of the pub shortly, the return of the circus on 13th May, the Family Fun Day organised by the Woodland Committee in June, together with the planned Playing Field fundraising events, and I do think we have a lovely little community here when we all try and work together.

My thanks to all of my fellow councillors who have worked hard during the year, without them things like the forthcoming bus shelter, and the footpath renovations, wouldn't go ahead.

Finally, thank you to our hard working and dedicated Clerk Sarah for her expertise and helping keep us on track. I know it's no easy task, so thank you!

Simon Moore, Chairman
April 2024

4.1 Happy Rollers

Happy Rollers have had a very happy and successful year.

We meet on the second Tuesday of each month and have had excellent speakers or entertainers. We enjoyed three delicious lunches at Local hostelrys and had two fundraising sales and with the help of the coffee and chat the proceeds of a coffee morning.

Unfortunately, we have lost a few members due to death or moving to residential homes. But we are pleased to say that we have had new members and new helpers. All Rollesby residents or previous residents over 55 are welcome to attend.

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4.2 Rollesby Art Group

This well-established Art Group meets at Rollesby Village Hall on Thursday afternoons.

The village hall is an ideal venue as it is bright, clean and light and very comfortable for our purpose of painting.

We have restricted membership to ten artists all of whom are keen and attend very regularly. We currently have a waiting list.

We engage the services of a visiting tutor who attends on the last Thursday of each month.

Following the pandemic members bring their own beverage so we do not use the excellent facilities of the Village Hall Kitchen except for tap water for painting. We look forward to another creative year at Rollesby.

4.3 St. George's Church, Rollesby - Annual Parish Meeting Report 2024

St. George's Church is a Grade II* church which has served the people of Rollesby hundreds of years. Whilst it is mainly a 13th/14th century building, it was originally begun to be built in and around the time of the Norman Conquest however its foundations were built around 990. Its current incumbent is The Revd Jo Wood and has been in post since September 2021.

We have 32 people on the Electoral Roll. Around 20 people attend worship regularly.

In 2023 churches in the Flegg area became connected and started informally working together as the Flegg Parish Churches Team. St. George's is a part of the Flegg East part of the team which includes the churches in Filby, Mautby, Ormesby St. Margaret, Ormesby St. Michael, and Thrigby (which is currently closed).

St. George's holds service of Holy Communion on the first Sunday of the month, and services of Morning Prayer on second and fourth Sundays. There is no service on third services. We also have a Flegg Team Holy Communion Service every Thursday at 11am. St. George's held 6 funerals, either in church or at the crematorium, in 2023.

The church is open daily for private, quiet reflection.

The current churchwarden is Maria Swatman, who is also an Authorised Worship Assistant who leads services, as does our Licensed Lay Minister, Margaret Parish. Bonita Howard was also churchwarden during 2023.

In 2023 St. George's met 100% its annual Parish Share obligation to the Diocese of Norwich - which is a fixed amount a parish is asked to pay towards mission and ministry. St. George's was able to do this through the generous and sacrificial giving of its church members and through fundraising events throughout the year, such as –

New To You Sale, Easter Craft and Gift Fair, St. George's Patronal Festival Concert, Jigsaw race evening, Strawberry Ganza, Gift Day with Coffee Morning, Christmas Craft and Gift Fair, and Christmas Carol Concert.

St. George's has a wonderful and committed fundraising team, which includes partnering with other village groups, which keep services going and the light and heating on.

St. George's also supported other village events including the Rollesby Summer fete.

We'd like to record the death of our beloved patron, Richard Tacon. We also said goodbye to other St. George's saints who contributed to the life of the church over the years.

This year St. George's improved the church porch through its re-decoration and

refurbishment of its original noticeboard. We also received approval for the installation of a new noticeboard, given in memory of Richard Tacon. St. George's was granted retrospective planning permission for the permanent siting of the toilet block in the churchyard. There is ongoing remedial work on the new South Door.

During our Harvest Service we officially welcomed Charlie Tacon, our new patron, into his new role within the church.

Rollesby Primary School were welcomed into church for their annual Harvest and Christingle Services, and Revd Jo is regularly invited into school for seasonal assemblies and classroom visits to help with RE topic work. The local Open the Book Team (a team who deliver bible stories in school assemblies in a fun way) is in school almost each week of the school term.

We hope that all the village organisations can work together for the benefit of each other and the village to enable the beautiful village to thrive. We all need help, either financially or practically, to be able to do what we do. We are conscious that although dedicated, the majority of our church members are in the twilight of their years and aren't able to do what they used to.

Overall, 2023 was a steady year for St. George's and we pray the same for 2024, and that we can welcome more of our parishioners into our church buildings for worship and events.

Jo

The Revd Jo Wood

Team rector (designate), Flegg Parish Churches Team Ministry Incumbent for Flegg East group of churches.

4.4 W. I.

WI meets monthly apart from August on the 2nd Monday in the Village Hall.

The speakers are varied from building your own eco house to being a servant at Blickling Hall or raising money for projects in Cambodia. Then there is a quiz night, just for a change.

Parties are organised to celebrate Christmas and this year our 10th anniversary. Not to forget the Kings Coronation where the WI invited Rollesby residents to afternoon tea in the village hall.

Members have enjoyed outings from walking along Great Yarmouth seafront to raise money for the charity 'Women Walk the World' to 'Gliding Days' at Tibernam Airfield where Channel 5 were filming for a TV programme on Norfolk and Suffolk and 3 of us were on the television.

We participate in activities organised by our Federation HQ in Norwich, tying ourselves in knots learning macrame or getting lost in a treasure hunt around the historic site of Norwich.

Several members recently attended the Norfolk Federation AGM at the Theatre Royal where the guest speaker was Janet Street Porter, a fellow resident of Norfolk. While one member represented the area at the National AGM held in Liverpool where the resolution regarding cleaner rivers was discussed. This coming year we are planning to get our teeth into the next resolution – better dental care.

4.5 Village Hall

Rollsby Village Hall has been part of the community fabric since 1959, in 2021 it underwent significant modernisation, including the replacement of its asbestos roof, new electrics and decoration, improvements costing £55,000, this was to future proof the building for future generations.

The hall has seen an increase in usage with regular lets from many local group, including dance exercise groups, art groups, The happy rollers, WI, spiritualists, dog trainers, parties and receptions and as today, The Parish Council.

The Trustees have maintained financial prudence and control with sound reserves albeit this has been challenging with substantial increases in electricity costs, on occasions amounting to £640 for a single month.

The Trustees throughout the year have run a Coffee & Chat event every Wednesday for the Community running it as a Warm hub during the winter period, providing cakes, refreshments, jacket potatoes with a mix of filling, and creating opportunity for company, communication and Community wellbeing. This has been very well attended and well received, with 30+ regularly attending weekly. The Trustees also provided a small community book and jigsaw library which is well used and supplied.

As with any Community organisations it is the commitment of a few that makes all the difference, the Hall has seven committed Trustees and with the generosity of others who volunteer they will continue to endeavour to provide a facility that meets community need. Haydn Thirtle. Chairman.

4.6 Woodland Trust

An update was given to the meeting of progress to date.

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4.7 Speedwatch.

Having just completed a year since our first registration, we have overcome an unsteady start while we learnt how to collect and collate the necessary information required to ensure speeding drivers are processed legally.

Six months ago we gained another volunteer, increasing the number of volunteers to 7, which has improved our chances of meeting the minimum number of 3 volunteers required to stage a traffic monitoring patrol.

Because we have volunteers with school age children we are often unable to stage traffic monitoring patrols during the school holidays.

We have been staging monitoring patrols on average of two each week, each time we have reported around 6 speeding drivers.

We spend approximately 2.5 hours on each monitoring patrol which is not a lot of time so I would like to send a message out to residents who can spare a couple of hours each week to join us by contacting our Parish Clerk, Sarah Hunt, for a registration form.

During our patrols we are often spoken to by residents thanking us for our time and saying that they certainly noticed a slowing of traffic during the times we operate.

I am also looking forward to receiving two SAM2 speed awareness signs to be supplied by Great Yarmouth Borough Council and the reduction from 40mph to 30mph at the two village entry points on the A148 sometime over the forthcoming year.

These two road traffic improvements are sure to make a difference to the safety of those living in and visiting our village.

I want to take this opportunity to thank my fellow speed watch volunteers for their time and effort over the past year.

Allan Thompson
CSW Co-ordinator