NORTH FERRIBY PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 15 APRIL 2019

PRESENT: Councillors Hookem (Chairman), Abraham, Burney, Hyland and Swindin **ALSO PRESENT:** Clerk Jo Haslope and 1 member of the public

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING – **RESOLVED** –That the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 28 April 2018 be confirmed as a correct record.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I have pleasure in presenting the annual Chairman's Report for 2018/2019.

Once again I would like to start by thanking all the Parish Councillors for their hard work and commitment over the past year, not only for giving their time and expertise to the Council as a whole, but also for their additional work on the various Committees. I would also like to thank our Clerk, Jo Haslope, for all her continuing invaluable support and hard work.

Parish Precept and Finance - As before I would like to start with news of the Parish Precept, and of course we are always extremely conscious that the money raised from the Parish Precept is 'your money' and endeavour to get the best value we can at all times. However, due to ever increasing costs, it has unfortunately become necessary to raise the precept for the forthcoming year by 4%, meaning for example, those in a Band D property will pay £44.71 per year, an increase of £1.74. This allows us to continue to maintain our village amenities, such as the Playing Fields and the Riverside Walkway.

Playing Fields/Play Park - On the subject of village amenities, as many of you will be aware, this year we have overseen improvements to the Play Park, introducing new equipment which can be used by children with physical disabilities and introducing a new entrance path and gate, the feedback from which I am pleased to say has been very positive.

Planning - A large proportion of our time this year has been taken up with planning issues regarding the multiple separate planning applications for various waste related operations for Gibson Lane, Melton. North Ferriby Parish Council, in conjunction with our Ward Councillors and Welton Parish Council, has worked tirelessly to bring these applications to the notice of residents and have fought hard to insist that the potential cumulative impact of all these applications be investigated. Unfortunately at the time of writing, despite over 800 objections, permission has now been given for an anaerobic digestion plant to be located there, although I am pleased to report that an application to increase working hours at the Transwaste site has been refused.

Should you be troubled by noise or unpleasant odours emanating from anywhere in the locality, then please don't keep your concerns to yourself, but report them to either East Riding Council on 01482 393939 for noises, or report odours to the Environment Agency on 0800 807060. These 'complaints' are then logged which allows a bigger picture to be drawn that can start to highlight any potential problems.

With regard to residential planning issues, the Parish Council does occasionally still get complaints about planning applications that they were unaware of, or planning applications that have been granted/refused which in their opinion is the wrong decision. I would therefore take this opportunity to remind residents that planning applications are no longer notified directly to neighbouring properties, applications are only advertised by way of notices in the vicinity of the proposed development, attached for example, to nearby lampposts. However, you are able to receive email notification of any applications made in the area by signing up to Public Access on the East Riding of Yorkshire Council website and we encourage you to do so.

Current local planning applications can also be found listed on the Agendas for the Parish Council's Planning Committee Meetings, which are published on our Notice Boards, but it should be borne in mind that whilst the Parish Council is consulted on these matters, it is the East Riding of Yorkshire Council who has the final say.

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Anti-Social Behaviour - Unfortunately, over the past year there appears to have been an increase in anti-social behaviour in the Village, ranging from irresponsible dog owners who continue to ignore the simple need to pick up after their dogs to the mindless theft of the Notice Board from the Riverside Walkway. Whilst such matters may seem trivial to some, it does impact on the quality of life in the village and there is always a cost to putting things right. If you do see any such anti-social behaviour, please do report it. This can be either by ringing the Police on their non-emergency number of 101, or by completing the East Riding's form on their website under 'anti-social behaviour'.

Discarding litter is another anti-social problem, but here we are lucky enough to have a number of volunteer litter pickers who give their free time to clear up after those less community minded, and so a very big thank you goes out to them all, it is most appreciated.

Flooding - Residents will be aware of problems of recurrent flooding around Brickyard Cottages and under the Railway Bridge and of the two major incidents during the year when water rose at an alarming rate flooding the properties once again, causing much distress and anguish to the occupiers. Thankfully after a full investigation and meetings with Yorkshire Water, the reasons for this flooding were finally identified, rectified and Yorkshire Water has taken full responsibility for these occurrences, compensating those affected. Hopefully this will mean that flooding in this area will now become a thing of the past.

Open Gardens - On a happier note, the Ferriby Open Gardens and Scarecrow Festival, held on 1 July, proved once again to be a very popular annual Village event, raising much needed funds for North Ferriby School. This year's Festival is to be held on Sunday 30 June, and if you would like details of how to take part in this year's event, please get in touch with The Friends of North Ferriby School.

Twinning Association - During May, you may have noticed a number of French visitors in the village. This is because on May 9th the North Ferriby Twinning Association welcomed their largest ever party of visitors from Le Pellerin here to Ferriby for four days. During that time they visited a number of local attractions, and whilst the teenagers visited Wolfreton School to meet and exchange email addresses with those interested in learning French, the younger children visited North Ferriby Primary school to experience life in an English school. This year Members of the Twinning Association have been invited over to Le Pellerin to renew their friendships, and hopefully we will still be able to invite our 'twins' back to visit us once again the following year!

Merchant Navy Day - Since the year 2000, Merchant Navy Day has been held on 3 September, and is commemorated over the nearest weekend, honouring the brave men and women who kept our 'island nation' afloat during both World Wars, and also celebrates our dependence on modern day merchant seafarers who are responsible for 95% of the UK's imports. Once again North Ferriby commemorated this day by raising the Red Ensign on the Riverside Walkway where it can clearly be seen by passing shipping, and another at the War Memorial.

As Merchant Navy Day will fall on a Tuesday in 2019, it is hoped that this year flags will fly for the whole week at over 1,000 locations across the UK bringing more prominence to the commemoration.

Remembrance Sunday - November 11th 2018 commemorated 100 years since the end of World War 1, and what seemed like the whole of North Ferriby came together to mark this solemn occasion. During the months leading up to November, thousands of poppies were created by local people, co-ordinated by the Knit & Natter group, to decorate All Saints Church, and an ingenious display was created using the bottom of empty plastic bottles which was placed at the War Memorial, along with stones which had been painted with poppies. In addition, the bus shelter was also repainted to create a memorial to the men from North Ferriby who did not return. Many thanks to all those who participated in these events – too many to mention individually here, and I would hate to miss anybody out, so just a heartfelt thanks to all concerned.

Many people from all over the area came to see and admire the impressive poppy display in and around the Church in the lead up to Remembrance Sunday, which included a number of transparent silhouettes placed in the pews to represent those who had not returned, and donations were left totalling a magnificent £546.48. This was then shared equally between the Church, Hull for Heroes and the Royal British Legion.

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At 6.00 am on Remembrance Day itself, a piper played the very moving lament Battle's O'er at the War Memorial. The piper may have thought he would be playing to himself at that time on a dark and dreary November morning, but I counted over 60 people who had turned out to join him in paying their respects to those who had paid the ultimate sacrifice. A very emotional occasion indeed.

The annual Remembrance Parade was extremely well supported and All Saints Church had 'standing room only'. Those who couldn't fit in the Church walked across to the Village Hall where the service from the Cenotaph was being shown on the big screen along with the Villagers at War Exhibition.

The day finished with the lighting of the beacon on the Riverside Walkway, which again was very well attended, following which Ringing out for Peace was heard from the Church bells and light refreshments were available from the Village Hall.

Lighting of the Christmas Tree - At the beginning of December, Christmas festivities got under way with the traditional lighting of the Christmas Tree which was as usual erected at the War Memorial. Once again we were entertained by the uplifting and enthusiastic singing by pupils of our Primary School, following of which the lights were switched on, this year by Simon Hall, a pupil who had been chosen for his commitment to the school, the choir in particular and for his help behind the scenes

Carols by the Lychgate - The final Wednesday before Christmas once again saw the very popular Carols by the Lychgate accompanied by the Church Band and Riverside Quintet. The occasion was well attended and enjoyed by all those present, with refreshments of mulled wine, soft drinks and mince pies served afterwards, getting everyone in the festive spirit.

North Ferriby Football - Residents will be aware that North Ferriby United has had a very turbulent year with the sad winding up of the club in March 2019. However, I am pleased to report that North Ferriby will not be without a football team representing them for the new season, and a new club, simply called 'North Ferriby Football Club' has been formed and will start to play at our football ground. I am sure they will welcome your support.

Looking Forward - Looking forward to the coming year, The Tour de Yorkshire will be passing through North Ferriby on 2 May, down Woodgates Lane, along the High Street and then back up Swanland Hill, and plans are already underway to decorate their route with flags and bicycles painted in the Tour's colours of blue and yellow. The theme for this day of the race is Heritage, and we will have a replica of the Ferriby Boat on display in Coronation Gardens for all to see, as of course the race is being televised. The cyclists are expected to arrive around 3.10pm and we hope you can join in and support the occasion. In any event, it should be borne in mind that there will of course be road closures along the entire route for a period before and after this time to allow the riders and support vehicles to pass through in safety.

The forthcoming year will also see a new website and email address for our Parish Council details of which you will find printed in the village Newsletter. I would therefore like to thank Graham Latter for all his work over the years on the old website and for his continuing work on our Newsletter.

With regard to the Parish Council itself, we have a number of Councillors who for various reasons will not be standing for re-election this year, namely Margaret Hyland, Michael Payne, Chris Swindin and Chris Taylor who between them have given countless hours of invaluable service over the years, and I would like to thank each and every one of them for their contributions, and wish them all well for the future. This means of course that we now have vacancies on the Parish Council and so if anyone is interested in becoming a new Councillor, please contact our Clerk for more details.

North Ferriby Parish Council 15 April 2019

Remember your Councillors are here for you, please don't be afraid to contact them.

Belinda Hookem (Chairman)

Signed by the Chairman Date.