

SWANTON MORLEY PARISH COUNCIL

THE SWANTON MORLEY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING was held at Swanton Morley Village Hall, Manns Lane on Monday 15th April 2019 at 7.30pm and was attended by three parish councillors, District Councillor Mr Robert Richmond, 11 members of the public. Also in attendance was Mrs K. Pickard (Clerk to the Council).

The meeting was chaired by Mr R Atterwill, Chairman of Swanton Morley Parish Council

The Meeting started with a minutes silence to remember Mrs Mary Brown, a much loved former teacher at Swanton Morley School.

1. Apologies for Absences

Apologies were received from Rev. James Rosie, Mrs Austin, Mr Snowdon, Mrs Wood, Mrs Eames, Mrs Leary, Mr Rodrigues, Mrs O'Dowd, Mr O'Dowd and Norfolk Constabulary.

2. Chairman's Report – Mr Roger Atterwill, Chairman of Parish Council

The Chairman's report had been distributed to the village. This report focussed on:

- The update to the Team working in the Parish Office
- The successful installation of new equipment in the grounds of Swanton Morley Village Hall
- The Meadowview Estate memorial ceremony for the Light Dragoons
- The transfer of land ownership for the Davidson Park Green Open space.
- The update on the progress of Swanton Morley Festival being held in July 2019.
- An update on the Neighbourhood Plan and Mr Atterwill's visit to Parliament.
- He thanked the numerous volunteers for their help in the village.

3. To Agree Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held on 16th April 2018

Mr Westbury proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 16th April 2018, seconded by Mr Palmer and carried. The minutes were signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting by Mr Atterwill.

4. Matters arising from the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 16th April 2018.

None raised

5. Reports from Village Organisations

a) Friends of All Saints' Church

Mr Carrick advised that the fundraising is to raise money for the fabric of the Church. Over the past 12 months there has been numerous improvements made. This includes the kitchen, toilet and the clock. Mr Carrick advised that there are a number of upcoming events to support the church including the Quiz, Jazz Picnic and Fireworks night.

The annual general meeting is to be held on Tuesday 7th May at 7pm where there will be requests for support.

b) Report from All Saints' Church PCC received from Rev. James Rosie delivered by Mr Atterwill.

The church has had an active presence in Swanton Morley Primary School. Rev. Rosie regularly takes a collective worship. The School held their annual carol service in church which attracted many parents. Personnel and families at Robertson Barracks also use the church. Services were held for Remembrance Sunday at Christmas.

All Saints Church is part of the Dereham and District Team Ministry which includes churches and congregations in East Bilney, Beetley, Hoe, Dereham, Shipdham, Bradenham and Scarning. There were 11 weddings in the Church in the last year.

During 2019 All Saints Church will be taking part in the Swanton Morley Festival, holding a flower festival and concert.

The church welcomes any suggestions on how the church and community can work together.

c) Report from Little Swans Pre-School received by Lisa Sayer – delivered by Mr Atterwill.

Little Swans is continuing to grow with a current number of 40 Children on the register and several due to start in the coming term.

Opening hours have extended now from 8.30am until 3.30pm Monday to Friday to meet the needs of the families within the community.

Little Swans have invested in new equipment, staff training, resources and new toys to ensure all of the children have access to a wide and varied range. We continue to work closely with other local groups and have invited a range of visitors to talk to the children, These include Police, Dentists and QDG.

Little Swans have an annual outing to Bewilderwood planned for 22nd July with the help of fundraising. Little Swans have started a stay and play morning each Tuesday for parents and children to join in with age appropriate activities. This is to introduce children and parents to the setting to hopefully lead to children joining us in the future.

d) Report from Swanton Morley Horticultural Society – Report delivered by Mr Atterwill

The Swanton Morley Gardening Club meets in the village Hall on the last Monday of the month during the autumn and winter months, and during the summer months holds various events.

With the events and membership being so popular there is again a waiting list.

The Gardening Club enjoy a wide variety of speakers on all subjects connected with gardening and other related subjects. In the past year this has included Military in Swanton Morley, Walled Gardens and Farm Implements.

During Summer 2018 the club enjoyed several events. There was an outing in June to Dale Farm in Dereham which has been visited before. Gardening Club also held a coach trip to RHS Hyde Hall Gardens. In July there was the main fundraising event held in the large garden of Jean and Roger Austin. The afternoon was well supported by many members, families and friends and resulted in a good sum being raised towards speakers and events for the coming year.

Our main event for 2019 is the Annual Show to be held at Swanton Morley Village Hall in August.

The board inside the Village Hall is regularly kept up to date with reports from the meetings and events held through the year.

e) Report from Swanton Morley School – Report by Mr T. Snowdon delivered by Mr Atterwill.

Swanton Morley Primary School has welcomed a number of new pupils and families over the last 12 months and said goodbye to children whose families are redeployed to different areas of the world. The Primary school have also said goodbye to long standing members of staff who have moved on to new challenges or retirement.

Academically the school is performing very well. The 2018 Year 6 results were 20% above the national level this means that 20% more of the pupils were at the expected level (or above) for reading, writing and maths.

Swanton Morley Primary had a successful Ofsted report. This report is publicly available and showcases all of the work that goes into the school.

f) Report from the Angel Bowls Club – Report by Mr P. Hendley – Delivered by Mr Atterwill

It was reported that the Angel Bowls Club have had another successful year both on and off the green. Membership has remained stable although some members have now left. The commitment of the club to continue to play in the leagues as the previous year has been agreed.

The season ended on par with previous years with the club's position as mid table in both major league and runners up in the Mid Norfolk League.

The normal Club Spring cup event was won by Mr Colin Stone with Mr Barry Green winning the presidents cup.

The off-season social events in January continued with the very successful 'Burns night' event held in conjunction with the Angel Pub.

As the Bowls club go into 2019 they have attended the Leagues AGM and have a full fixture listing with the usual round of 'friendlies' to start the coming season.

g) Swanton Morley Surgery – Report by Mrs J. Wood, delivered by Mr Atterwill

The Partners and Staff of Elmham Surgery wish to pass on their thanks to all of its registered patients for their help in supporting their practice through another challenging year.

The partners have recruited extra doctors and nurses and have just completed a round of recruitment for extra admin support staff.

In addition to this there is now a team that covers Toftwood Medical practice.

Swanton Morley Surgery has had a challenging year financially. The contract is now £89 per patient per year and have economised as much as possible.

The decision to not have any clinicians available on a Wednesday and Friday afternoon has caused some upset however the decision was not taken lightly and there is still the ability to keep the practice open.

The Practice has also had valuable feedback from the PPG that the telephone system cuts out at Swanton Morley – this matter has been addressed with the provider and there are negotiations to improve the maintenance contract to resolve the issues.

h) Tuesday Club – Report received by Judy Leary – delivered by Mr Atterwill

The Tuesday Club have just celebrated their 6th Birthday this month. It started with 5 people and now there is 20 on average.

Tuesday Club is a group of Village Folk who meet up to have a coffee and some cake. Money is donated into a pot in order to donate to local charities. In 2019 The Tuesday club will be holding a big fundraising event for the Priscilla Bacon Hospice Appeal. There will be tea/coffee/cake available and of course the bar including a raffle. As soon as a date is finalised this will be made public.

i) Link Up Magazine – Report read by Mrs D. Palmer

Mrs Palmer reported that the Link up Magazine covers the parishes of Swanton Morley, Hoe, Beetley and East Bilney. Local interests & reports from groups make up the publication. Many local volunteers work very hard on the Link Up and thanks have been extended for this.

Most recently Link Up bid farewell with huge thanks to the long standing editor Ann Pyle welcoming Laurie Brooks into the post.

j) Youth Café - Report read by Mr G. Palmer

The Youth Cafe has now been running for 9 years by the North Breckland Youth for Christ and a group of volunteers, fortnightly during term time. It provides young people from year 6 onwards a place to socialise and provides games and activities. There are now 20 per session in attendance. Debbie and Daniel the two volunteers who run the scheme have bonded extremely well.

k) Report from the Barrett's Charity –Report by Mr J. Carrick

Mr Carrick reported that the charity was set up in 1488, with the proceeds of rent from village land helping to maintain the church and support the persons in need in the village. On the horizon is the possibility of the cable from the North Sea windfarm project passing through Barretts Charity Land. The Trustees would need to consider the timeline for this with a possible donation from the contractor. The Charity seems to be continuing very well and the Trustees are always happy to hear of people in need in the Village.

l) Report from Smalls Charity

None received.

m) Report from Daisys Mite

None received.

o) Report from QDG

None received

p) Report from Cricket Club

None received

q) Report from Short Mat Bowls

None received

6. To Receive Report on the Swanton Morley Neighbourhood Plan

Mr Atterwill gave an update that over the last 12 months things have been progressing with the plan. It was reported that the 6-week Public Consultation ended on Friday 8th March. Mr Atterwill will request the copies of the comments made however these will not be released until the examiner approves this request. Mr Atterwill read out an email that had been received at 4.55pm today from Breckland Council advising that the examination had been put on hold temporarily due to a contractual issue between Breckland Council and the Examiner. Mr Atterwill is to contact the Neighbourhood Planning Officer at Breckland Council and request a full update on this and an expected date when the examination will be completed.

The examination needs to happen to review 7 policies which have been revised following meetings between representatives of Swanton Morley Parish Council and Breckland Council. Mr Atterwill advised that it could be late summer before the referendum is held.

Mr Westbury has requested clarification from District Councillor, Robert Richmond as to who or when it was decided for the Neighbourhood planning service to be passed to Capita. Mr Richmond to find out and report back to the Parish Council

7) To receive Report on the Swanton Morley Festival 2019.

Mr Atterwill gave an overview of the Festival and delivered a list of events that are happening. It was requested that the Festival competitions still need more entries and also emphasised that the Festival committee need more volunteers on some of the events in order to run this effectively.

A list of the venues where the events are taking place was read out and along with the options of sponsorship are available on the Festival Facebook page and website.

Mr Atterwill reiterated how much hard work has so far gone into putting this together for the community and to please spread the word to make this a success.

The next Festival meeting is being held on 24th April 2019.

8) Report on the Management of Swanton Morley Village Hall

The Clerk reported that this year has been another very productive year for Swanton Morley Village Hall. We have made some large investments in the building to provide an outside cabin, new electric blinds in the main hall and new flooring in the bar area and foyer. All of these have made a significant improvement to the building and the facilities. Following all of these works we still had a closing balance of £8793.69 in the bank at the end of the financial year.

The hall also saw the return of the ever popular Tractor Rally in June last year and is booked in again for the weekend of 15th/16th June 2019. Red Run Dog Agility will be back on the weekend of the 18th/19th May 2019. Please drop in and see the very talented dogs (and owners). Raffle tickets will on sale raising money for MacMillan Cancer Support. Fireworks Night in November 2018 was a roaring success and welcomed the opening of our new outdoor cabin to serve soft drinks. Fireworks are again booked in for Saturday 2nd November raising money for local village groups. We welcome any local groups who want to be involved in this event. Please let us know if you would like to get involved and we can put you in contact with the organiser.

Swanton Morley Village Hall has also seen a change in the Staffing structure in the office. Mrs Kelly Pickard was the Administrative Assistant for two years but has now taken on the role of Parish Clerk opening up the vacancy to the newest addition to the team Mrs Maddi Heinrich. Maddi is working extremely hard to develop relationships with our hirers and assist with the running of the building. When you contact us regarding the Village Hall you will receive a very warm welcome.

We have also seen a change with the Cleaning of the building. Mr & Mrs Rawthorn who worked very hard to maintain the cleanliness of the building for over 6 years retired in 2018, opening up the vacancy to Mrs Zoe Flint.

We have also put in place a permanent Bar Manager Keri Whitmore to oversee and manage the private functions.

Our Caretaker Mr Barry Overman continues to maintain the building and oversee any work that needs to be done to improve the facilities.

I think all will agree that Swanton Morley Village Hall really is the hub of the Village and this report shows how successfully utilised it is.

9) Parishioners' Questions

A question was raised with regards to the Breckland Lotto for Swanton Morley Village Hall Trust. The clerk reported that this has been set up and advertised and so far the income has been £50 with increasing amounts now the Spring flyers are being distributed.

Mr Hyde also raised a question regarding the Tax Base decrease.

Mr Atterwill reported that this is possibly due to the reduction in dwellings within the Barracks. It is still higher than in previous years for example in 2012/2013 the figure was 669 and in 2018/2019 the figure was 719.

Going forward with the possibility of new development and an increase in residential dwellings this will result in the tax base increasing.

10). Date of Next Meeting

The next Annual Parish meeting will be held on Monday 27th April 2020 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.26pm

_____ (Chairman) _____ Date