

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF ATHERSTONE PARISH (2020)

Date of meeting Wednesday February 17th 2021 at 6.30 p.m.

Place of Meeting VIA Zoom

Present

Cllr Denise Clews
Cllr Sara Bishop
Cllr Ray Jarvis
Cllr Carl Gurney
Cllr Mark Jordan
Cllr David Wright
Odette Ghent
Sally Oldham

Chairman: Cllr Denise Clews

Clerk: Sally Oldham

Cllr Denise Clews opened the meeting by welcoming all the attendees.

1) TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF 22nd MAY 2019.

The minutes were approved. There were no matters arising.

2/ PRESENTATION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL'S ANNUAL REPORT.

Cllr Denise Clews presented the Annual Report of the Town Council outlining the work and responsibilities of Atherstone Town Council.

3/ ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Bishop expressed surprise concerning the way that the Parish Meeting had been called and questioned whether sufficient notice had been given. It was not easy to find on the website and not everyone is able to get out to see the noticeboard. Cllr Bishop was concerned that it was not living up to the Code of Practice and openness.

Cllr Bishop noted that a member of the public had emailed in to say that had they had more notice they would have tried to attend. The Town Council February Newsletter made no mention of the Annual Parish Meeting.

Cllr David Wright wished it to be recorded in the minutes that the Clerk had received an advisory note from WALC and that the Clerk had given correct notice and it is a legal meeting.

Cllr Bishop responded that if we know people are discouraged from going out at the present time the notice published on the market square is not sufficient and better use should be made of the website.

Cllr Denise Clews said the same members of the public who usually attend all the meetings in person are not online and would not have any way of using a website to find out. Cllr Denise Clews re-iterated the WALC advice and the

Clerk read out an email from John Crossling of WALC received on 17th February 2021:

“Your resident is not correct. The notice is three clear days - ie not the day it is posted and not the day of the meeting; but also it must not include Sundays in the calculation. On this basis your meeting has been legally called”.

The meeting closed at 6.40pm

Date of next meeting Wednesday April 28th 2021 at 6.30pm via Zoom.