MUNDFORD ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD REMOTELY BY ZOOM ON THURSDAY 1ST APRIL 2021

Present: Councillors J. Musgrove (Chairman) S. Eyres, D. Goodrham, K Weight, N Enderby, S. Welsh, S. Booth, S. Morris and Mrs S. King (Clerk to the Council). There were no members of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

County Cllr F. Eagle

2. To confirm and sign Minutes of Mundford Annual Parish Meeting held on 4th April 2019

It was proposed by Cllr D. Goodrham to accept the minutes this was seconded by Cllr N. Enderby and all 5 agreed who attended the meeting.

3. Chairman's Annual Report

The Chairman read out his annual report:

Welcome to this Zoom Annual Parish Meeting for 2021. This report covers two years as we had no Annual Parish Meeting in 2020 due to the situation that was arising with the pandemic. Hopefully the Road Map set out by the government will allow us to get back to face to face Parish Meetings. There were no elections of Parish Council Officers in 2020 as we were instructed by our National Association to extend the tenure of the Council by twelve months until May 2021.

We unfortunately lost one Councillor with the untimely death of Councillor John Marston. We also received news during this past year of the passing of another ex-Councillor John Burton. The Parish Council have dedicated one of the village benches to the memory of these two long standing Councillors. We have had one Councillor resignation during the period of Councillor Barry Ellis. We thank him for his time as Councillor and wish him well although we still have regular contact with him as the holder of a large amount of village archive.

We have two new Councillors Simon Booth and Sean Morris who we welcomed into the Parish Council during the period. We still have one vacancy for a Councillor if any member of the public wishes to put themselves forward for consideration.

Any items brought up by members of the public at this Annual Parish Meeting will be dealt with by the new Councillors at the first meeting on the 6th May 2021.

We have continued to support village organisations during the past two year with donations to the local clubs etc plus the village school towards there outside facilities. We also donated five laptops to help children being able to carry out learning from home during the lockdown.

Our Christmas Tree switch on continued to be a success in 2019 but due to the pandemic we had no switch on at Christmas 2020. We will hope to continue this year as previous with more stalls etc. We already have a tree donation for this year which is great news. Many thanks to the supporters in 2019 for their efforts and donations to various charities. Many thanks to the supporters who helped last Christmas with felling the donated tree and decorating it etc.

The Mundford Pride Award has been reinstated during the year and the first award made to Patsy and David Allen for their work in keeping their section of Pig Stye Lane planted up and weeded regularly. The Mundford Messenger continues to be much appreciated in the village. I would like to thank the team behind the production and delivery of the magazine for doing a great job.

The Mundford Book is still available if anyone wishes to purchase a copy form the Parish Office. Once again our village looks a picture with all its floral displays only possible through the hard work of Bruce McIsaacs our handyman and the friends in the village who turn out every year to plant more bulbs.

The allotments go from strength to strength. We have added four new allotments and work progresses to provide additional water tanks served from the roof of the old Scout Hut. (Now referred to as the Allotment Hut). The area along the side of the hut has been cleared and new trees for future use on the village green at Christmas

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have been planted. I would also like to thank our band of litter pickers who meet every six weeks when it has been possible. We hope to get back to a regular litter pick in the very near future.

The new footpath on the Swaffham Road was completed during the period and apart from hopefully resolving the large puddles that form in the road along its length has proved a worthwhile project. We have had some twenty street light extensions installed to improve the spread of light from the street lights along with two new columns and lights in Malsters Close and St Leonards.

The Parish Council notice board outside the village shop has been replaced with one manufactured from recycled materials.

We have purchased, through the Parish Partnership Scheme a SAM 2 illuminated speeding sign at a total cost of just over £4000. We have five locations on the main roads in and out of the village. The sign logs numbers of vehicles and there speeds. Schedules the total breaking the limit and the excess speed. This information is being logged on the Parish Computer and will eventually be issued to the County Speed Awareness Team in the hope that it might support having some reduction to the speed limits through the village.

We have during the period replaced the Parish Council laptop and printer as the old one was very much out of date.

A quick note about finances. We as a Parish Council try to be fair in all our support for local organisations whilst continuing with our responsibility to maintain street lighting, grass cutting etc. Our monthly finances and bank balances are displayed on the Parish Notice board outside the shop every month following the Parish Meetings. We received a Government Grant of £10,000 at the beginning of the first lockdown. This has been in part used for helping pay for the expenses for volunteers during the lockdown, food parcels where needed and the laptops provided for the school. The remainder will be used for items to support the village community.

I would just like to say thank you:

- to my Councillors for their support during the past two years
- to Samantha our Clerk who has had to adapt to working from home during the lockdown and who has been training hard for her Certificate in Local Council Administration exam and now passed.
- to Councillors Mike Nairn and Fabian Eagle for their continued support and attending our Parish Meetings on a regular basis.
- to everyone in the village who helps however small it is much appreciated.

May our village continue to prosper.	
Thank you all for joining us tonight.	
4. Open Forum	
N/A	
The meeting closed at 7.42 pm	
Signed	Date