Minutes of the Lutton Annual Parish Meeting

Held on 24th May 2021 at 7pm in Lutton Village Hall. Minutes taken by Chris Cowdery.

Chairman: Carrie Walsh. Parish Council: Mike Smurthwaite, Chris Cowdery. Clerk: Joyce Evans. And 9 parishioners.

Mrs. Walsh was nominated as Chairman for this meeting, and she welcomed everybody.

1. Roads and Verges. Nothing to report.

2. Big Lunch

This was mentioned on the village Whatsapp group. It is normally held in June. The most similar event that has been held in Lutton recently was the Diamond Jubilee lunch. It was felt that such an event would be better held in 2022 when the Covid restrictions have passed. An organising group would be required, commencing early 2022.

3. Village Hall Plans.

Mike Smurthwaite was representing the Village Hall committee. He spoke later on during the Parish Council session.

However, it is recorded that there is significant enthusiasm for the restarting of coffee mornings and pub nights.

4. Playing Field by the Village Hall.

Chris gave a short summary of the history of the playing field, and the restrictions that are placed upon it as part of our tenancy. Chris noted that our tenancy runs out in early 2022, and that it was likely that the tenancy would be renewed as-is, but possibly with a side-letter giving some change of terms.

It was felt that the field was an asset to the village.

5. Lutton Relief in Need Charity.

Mr. Matthew Lane, Chairman of the Charity spoke on their behalf. He outlined the purpose of the charity and gave some examples of the good works such as the donation of just over £2600 to support re-roofing of the village hall. He mentioned who the Trustees are, and the Clerk Mrs. Codman. He also mentioned the gifts provided to all of the elderly parishioners who lived on their own during the Covid Lockdown.

He explained the land holdings of the Charity. Mr. Lane finished by noting that the Charity was reliant on being told of people whom the charity might support to allow them to offer them said support.

It was suggested that a summary of the Charity could be placed in the Benefice Magazine 'Branches'

Chris mentioned that the Charity could make use of the Parish Council website.

Jill Eaton suggested that information about the Charity, and other useful village information could be placed in an A4 folder at the village hall.

6. Footpaths

There are 10 Rights of Way comprising 5 Bridleways and 5 Footpaths in the parish. Various people have responsibility for maintenance, some the farmer, some the County Council.

Chris has maps showing where the rights of way run, please ask him for a copy. There are some maintenance problems around the parish - please bring them to the attention of the Parish Council.

The old County Council had a Rights of Way Improvement Plan for 2020-2030. It is unclear if this will be adopted by the new Unitary Authority.

Matthew Lane spoke and outlined the farmers perspective, which was that it is preferable for people to stick to the rights of way, and that the Ordnance Survey map is by far the best way to ascertain the correct route.

Mike Smurthwaite noted that Warmington Parish publish a list of walks within their parish, and that perhaps we should consider doing the same.

7. Other items

Reports of blocked drains were received for the drains outside Luddington House / Papley End Bungalow, one outside Brook Farm, and one outside The Forge.

There was suggestion that Milton Estate are going to improve the drainage from the field behind Papley End Bungalow and divert the water that runs across the road into a ditch.

Sylvia Head requested a water butt in the churchyard.