

# BURNHAM THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

## **Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May May 2025 at 6.00 pm at The Nelson Memorial Hall, Burnham Thorpe**

Present:

Councillors: Mima Garland, Barbara Linsley, Sarah Greenall Clerk: Sarah Raven

Members of the Public: 4

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that Cllr M Garland be Chair.

### **1. Minutes of the last council meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024.**

Minutes were circulated before the meeting. The Minutes were AGREED to be signed as a true record with no amendments by the Chair, Cllr M Garland.

### **2. Chairman's Annual Report:**

None

### **3. Report from Borough Councillor:**

None

### **4. Report from County Councillor:**

None

### **5. Report from Playing Field Committee:**

The Burnham Thorpe Playing Field had a difficult year last year, with the grass cutting. It caused major difficulties with usage of the main field as it never fully got cut. There were difficulties accessing the bowling green area. Two vehicles – including the tractor that cut the field got stuck, and we had a serious mole issue that was difficult to deal with because of the long grass. This winter and spring, however wasn't so wet. We removed 31 moles from the playing field over winter and the tractor and cutting team have managed to cut regularly since cutting started in March. Last year we had new goal nets donated, and two of the benches renovated by a resident in memory of Tony Southerland. The community payback team will be helping with ongoing maintenance, cleaning and painting the remaining benches as well as some work to the play equipment. Due to difficulties with the waterlogged field, we will not go ahead with the wild flower planting on the bowling green as the preparation work was wasted when we were unable to access the area. The bowling green buildings should be removed this summer and the area will then be cleared. The Playing Field Committee wish to thank the Parish Council for their continued support with grass cutting.

### **6. Report from Nelson Memorial Hall:**

We continue to operate on a shoestring with minimal income, but are pleased to continue to provide a service to the village as a community space. Last year we had 2 weddings, the Haines charity bike ride, 5 all day private summer parties and 3 village fundraising events. We also supported the church by hosting both the harvest lunch and after service Trafalgar teas for the church Trafalgar service. Our hire income last year was £2,668 and our expenditure for basic running costs was £5,002. Our insurance costs last year was £969 and the electricity bill was £824. These two expenditures alone are over 60% of our actual hire income. Village fundraising and donations received came to just over £1500. In addition we received an additional £5000 donation towards new windows for the main hall. As with previous years, we continue to promote and encourage occasional summer all day usage, in order to keep heating costs to a minimum. Our regular bookings include yoga and table

tennis, as well as various village meetings. We have a team of volunteers who give much time helping with the everyday running of the hall as well as administration and fundraising activities. Fundraising has included bingo, Christmas wreath making and village social events. The hall has been fortunate to have the Community Payback team redecorate the toilets and hallway as well as take on gardening, ground clearance and odd jobs. This will substantially cut our overheads and I am sure you will all agree it looks much tidier now. A challenge in the last year has become unauthorised parking on the hall grounds. The hall has an arrangement with some villagers for parking, and has always been happy, if asked, to allow parking. However more recently, random parking has caused a major issue, with one hirer unable to set up tables in front of the hall for their planned use of outside space due to two random people leaving cars parked inconsiderately right in front of the hall. Our other challenges are the energy efficiency of the building, the continued upkeep of an ageing building, the changing needs of the community and wider population and the competition with other community buildings.

#### **7. Report from Church:**

The Vicar introduced himself as the new vicar to the parish. He thanked all the volunteers and community supporting the Church. The AGM of the Church was due to be held on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> May at the Church. He spoken about the loss of Mary Heather and that so many people attended her funeral. The Church is a remarkable asset to the village.

#### **8. Report from Tim Fisher River Fly Scheme:**

Attached.

#### **9. Questions and Statements from Parishioners:**

- WhatsApp Group - As there is a Burnham Thorpe WhatsApp Group the Agendas should be advertised on this.
- Millennium Piece – Discussion as to the plans for Millennium Piece in that notice will be given at the end of May to surrender the lease.
- Two Benches on Millennium Piece – These need to be moved and perhaps could be given to the Nelson Memorial Hall or Playing Field to use. Place on agenda for next meeting discussion.

Meeting Closed: 6.25pm

..... Chair

Dated: