

ABBERTON AND LANGENHOE PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – 3rd April 2023

A meeting of the Council took place on Monday 3rd April 2023 at 7pm, at the Village Hall, Edward Marke Drive, Langenhoe

Cllrs Present Simon Dougherty – Chair
 Alan Frost – Vice Chair
 John Knight
 James Lambert
 Rod Lenart
 Malcolm Mattack
 Margaret Palmer-Slatton
 Steve Wormell

Also, in attendance – ECC Cllr Bentley, CCC Cllr Jowers, Racheal Rosevear – The Hideout Youth Club, 5 members of public and Clerk

001/23	Apologies for absence Cllr Andrews and CCC Cllrs Davidson and Moore	
002/23	<p>Chairman's Report 2022/23</p> <p>Cllr Dougherty reported that he had taken over as Chair in 2022 from Cllr Wormell who had been Chair for the previous 12 years. At the elections held in May 2022, Cllrs Lambert and Lenart had joined the Parish Council. In October 2022, Doug Kibblewhite had resigned from the Council after 9.5 years and Cllr Knight was subsequently co-opted. All Cllrs had carried out their allotted responsibilities diligently throughout the year and all the policies and processes had been reviewed. Activities organised throughout the year included; events to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, Remembrance Day, Village Christmas events and a recent litter pick. Cllr Dougherty had represented the Council at CALC and EALC meetings (along with Cllr Frost). Cllr Dougherty thanked Cllr Frost and Mrs Frost for their excellent displays on Abberton Green throughout the year. He was particularly pleased that the seat on the triangle had now been refurbished and that the Pétanque Court, provided by the Council has proved so popular. Cllrs Lambert and Knight had undertaken training courses and as usual a lot of support had been received from the ECC and CCC Cllrs, for which they were thanked. Cllr Dougherty expressed his thanks to all the Council for their contributions throughout the year and was proud to lead such an active council. He thanked the Village Hall Ctte for all they do for the village and the also the staff and management of the Community Shop. The Parish newsletter is well received</p>	

	<p>and he thanked Cllr Palmer-Slatton for editing this and Cllr Andrews for administrating the Facebook page, which is also very popular and useful. Cllr Dougherty was grateful to all the volunteers who regular give up their time on behalf of the community.</p>	
003/23	<p>Annual Reports from ECC and CCC Cllrs Both Cllr Bentley and Cllr Jowers would make their reports during the Council meeting to follow. Cllr Bentley thanked the Councillors for their diligence throughout the year and was pleased that he could assist where possible.</p>	
004/23	<p>Report from Chair – Abberton and Langenhoe Community Association Cllr Frost remains the Chair of the Community Association. He gave a brief outline of how the Village Hall came to be built 28 years ago. In the last year the kitchen has been refurbished and outside lights have been installed and the foyer lights have been replaced. Following the enforced closure for Covid in 2020, bookings were now starting to pick up and he reminded the meeting that discounts were given to local residents who wished to book the hall. Regular events include; the weekly Meeting Place, which had just celebrated its 5th birthday, yoga classes, Clubarise, carpet bowls, Ladies Circle, relaxation therapy, toddlers’ group and The Hideaway Youth Club. The Community Association hold a social evening on the first Friday of each month, where food and drink is available as well as various activities and he particularly thanked Keith and Rosemary Turrell for their support with these evenings. Other events organised during the year included; easter bunny rabbit hunt, quiz nights, events for the Queen’s Jubilee, events to raise funds for Macmillan Charity, Alzheimer’s Charity and for Ukraine, Village Xmas events including the popular visit from Father Xmas and the recent litter pick. Cllr Frost thanked all the Management Team for their hard work.</p>	
005/23	<p>Report from Chair – Lion Corner Community Shop Cllr Dougherty gave a brief outline of how the shop became established. The shop has become a welcoming community hub for the village and provides voluntary work opportunities for village residents of all ages and capabilities. More than 50 volunteers have been recruited and trained and work experience has been offered to pupils from Langenhoe Community Primary School and older pupils undertaking Duke of Edinburgh Award activities. The shop sells a wide selection of local products and stocks a large range of chilled and frozen products. Newspapers can be ordered for daily collection and the Post Office provides a counter service every Friday. In October 2022, the shop won the ‘Employment and Training Category’ award at the Plunkett Community Awards and was selected as one of the finalists in the national Plunkett Rural</p>	

	Community Business Awards 'Volunteering' category. The shop is making a small profit which is ploughed back into the shop, but Cllr Dougherty stressed the shops' survival and success depends on customers using their village shop and the goodwill of volunteers.	
006/23	Report from Abberton and Langenhoe Youth Club Racheal Rosevear set up the club in October 2022 and so far, 4 meetings have been held. The sessions are now attracting 30+ children and if this continues to increase it may be necessary to introduce a booking system. The sessions include arts and crafts and sport activities and a Code of Conduct for the users has just been introduced. Several more volunteers have come forward to help out during the meetings and it is planned to hold some outdoor sport activities during the summer. Mrs Rosevear thanked the Parish Council for its support.	
007/23	Public questions None	

The meeting closed at 7.20pm and was followed by the Full Council meeting