

HISTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of meeting held Tuesday 9th May 2023, Community Room, Recreation Ground

Present: Denis Payne (Chairman)

Note takers: Chelsea O'Brien; Theresa King

Histon Residents: 11

Impington Residents: 8

Non Electors: 4

1 **WELCOME & INTRODUCTION BY CHAIRMAN**

The Parish meetings were held concurrently. Denis Payne, Chairman of Histon & Impington Parish Council welcomed all to the 128th Annual Parish Meeting of Histon Parish

2 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Three Histon residents and one Impington resident presented apologies for the meeting

3 **MINUTES OF THE 127th ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 9th May 2022**

Omission in minutes to point 4, to include former Councillor Pene Nudds, Chair signed the minutes as an accurate record of the meeting

4 **CHAIRMANS ANNUAL REPORT**

Chairman verbally reported on:

- Elections 2022 and first Impington Poll since 1987
- Restructuring of Committees
- Changes in communication and engagement with the community, including a record of over 500 responses to a village consultation
- Established working relationship with HI Hub to expand communication
- Parish Council support to Histon & Impington Green Spaces
- Queen's Platinum Jubilee events hosted by Friends of Histon & Impington Community
- Making history by announcing the accession of King Charles III on The Green
- Closing thank you to Councillors including District and County level, staff team, HI Hub and the village Facebook groups
- Denis confirmed this would be his last Parish meeting as Chair as he will be standing down from the position at the AGM 15th May 2023, but will remain as a Councillor for the remaining 3 years of his term

A full copy of the Chairmans report can be downloaded from www.hisimp-pc.gov.uk or is available from the Parish Office.

5 **PRESENTATION OF PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS 2022-23**

Paper provided to all showing interim end of year accounts. Full report is available to download from www.hisimp-pc.gov.uk or available from the Parish Office. A supporting item will also be published in the June edition of the Hisimp News.

6 **Guest Speakers:**

Vernon Dudley, Neil Davies – Friends of Histon & Impington Community

Vernon, Chair of Friends of Histon & Impington Community, shared with all how the charity was formed, merging Histon & Impington Community and Friends of Histon & Impington Recreation in January 2020 to improve the general wellbeing of residents. The Charity consists of 12 volunteer trustees and a Charity Manager.

Neil, Charity Manager outlined:

- Dedicated Wellbeing Team consisting of seven part time roles: Mental Wellbeing Worker, Dementia Worker, Older Peoples Worker, Holiday at Home and Day Centre Coordinator, Community Play Therapist, Parental Wellbeing Worker, End of Life Support including bereavement group
- Covers a variety of sporting activities aimed at all ages and abilities, including: walking football, walking rugby, table tennis, Pilates, Tai Chi, Active Start and Multi Skills club aimed at pre school and reception to year 2
- Suite of support available and current high levels of needs due to NHS pressures is likely to result in further fundraising requirements and request to Parish Council and other grant bodies
- Success of Holiday at Home scheme with 150 members, bi-monthly activities, and planned trip to Hunstanton
- Mental Wellbeing Champion working closely with Impington Village College and notes aspirations to expand to outside of school environment
- Working closely with SCDC in order to lease with Kay Hitch Way Community Room for activities, with facilities still being available to residents
- Positive experience with integrated care system is resulting in more referrals from GPs for services and closer links with Firs House
- Current running of £55k per year and under pressure in terms of workers only being part-time
- Aspirations to increase funding to develop the Charity further, noting the Parish Council funds 100% of the Youth Provision

Sarah Thompson, Service Manager – Age UK

Outlined the role of the Village Warden and the need to continue to support this community role

- 20 Wardens within the scheme, Histon & Impington is the third oldest
- 22/23 was a difficult year, long term impact of COVID and cost of living crisis resulted in high levels of anxiety, reduced mobility and lack of confidence
- Warden scheme includes: access to local information, daily phone calls, two visits a week but this can be adjusted to meet individual needs, shopping, prescription pick up, bereavement support, hot meal delivery, special requests (including fish and chip deliveries)
- Christmas presents donated by Histon & Impington Town Charity
- Links to the Older Peoples Worker and regular communication
- Offers a light touch support but with pressures within the NHS more pressure has been recently noted
- 19 people currently signed up, there is capacity so referrals are welcome
- Since Firs House have moved to an online service for appointments, a spike in support required has been noted with more of the Warden's time being spent on the phone
- Initial 2 weeks are free, then £10 per week for an individual, £12 per week for a couple
- Thank you to Parish Council for continued support

Question: Does the Firs House have a Public Participation Group, they are a useful resource to troubleshoot issues. Denis Payne confirmed they do and that he is an active member and is happy to help feed back information

Max Parish, Chair – Histon & Impington Town Charity

Max presented the work of Histon & Impington Town Charity on a slideshow, detailing:

- Formerly Histon Poor's Land Charity, with a remit to support "the settled resident poor" with a preference to Widows and those having large families born in Histon (not Impington)
- Dating back to 1649, slides detailed the history of land ownership
- Consolidation of the land in 1806 to what we now know as Cottenham Road Allotments totally 3.67 acres
- At one time there were 80 people receiving the gift of coal from the Charity, this included labouring cottage holders with a preference where there had been illness or large families in poverty. Widows always received the full allowance.

- Coal became difficult to obtain during the war years, the annual gift of coal was changed to money, recipients were then limited to Widows born in Histon
- Gift of over £30k was left to the Charity in a will
- 2004 a request was made to the Charity Commission to change the remit to “The relief of persons resident in the area of benefit who are in need, hardship or distress”
- Trustees changed to two appointed by Histon Parish Council, 1 appointed by Impington Parish Council, two appointed by Histon Parochial Church and one appointed by Impington Parochial Church
- 2022 income was £5,089, funds held £99,800
- Trustees are responsible for: Managing the land currently used for allotment, investments, distributing income, running a Charity. All done for free for the community
- Max noting the importance of the role of the Parish Council, urged them to nominate Trustees to ensure the objectives of the Charity can continue to be met

Question: How much income does the Charity received from the allotments annually and is there a demand for plots?

£1,700 per annum, rents were increased due to the installation of the water supply on the site. There is a demand for plots, Charity is considering reducing plot sizes as large plots are challenging for beginners

Chair thanked all our guest speakers

7 OPEN FORUM

Chair outlined questions raised from last years meeting and how the Parish Council has addressed the concerns over the last year

- High general reserve closing balance 21-22 - addressed by not increasing the precept for 22-23 and 23-24, Parish Council will be using reserves to fund projects and increases in running costs
- Park Primary – working closely with County Council to look at options to install double yellow lines
- 20mph – Parish Council organised a consultation with over 500 responses received and have supported two applications for 20mph in the villages to County Council
- High Street – double yellow lines installed following a consultation with residents and nearby businesses
- Civil Parking enforcement expected 2024 – South Cambs District Council project
- Pat Fleet Memorial – location has been identified for a bench and work is progressing
- Public Art – Parish Council would encourage residents to get in touch with ideas, sculpture trail was promoted during lockdown, there is also a Public Art trail with 25 pieces of public art within the villages
- Cambs Archive – are looking for records of the Jubilee, Accession etc. Anything you may feel of interest please either drop off at the Parish Office or email to clerk@hisimp-pc.gov.uk
- Community Parking Warden will have difficulty enforcing when lining needs refreshing, Chair confirmed review is underway of all parking constraints to ensure role will be a success when implemented in 2024. Work at County level has already begun

There being no further matters raised, meeting was closed at 8.31 pm