

MINUTES OF ALDBOROUGH AND THURGARTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING  
held on MONDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024 at 7.30PM

1. APOLOGIES - Saul Penfold (County Councillor), Wendy Murphy (Parish Clerk) Apologies were also received (though not required) from the Rev. Andrew Whitehead, Peter Wordingham and Kent Laws (Cricketer's on the Green).
2. MINUTES of the last Annual Meeting - of 2023 Annual Parish Meeting (after amendment – date corrected to 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023 and to clarify this was not a Parish Council Meeting) were agreed by those present at last year's meeting and signed by the Chairman (David Hooker).
3. MATTERS ARISING – none were raised.
4. REPORTS - Chairman's Report (attached) – In reference to the Trees Policy and Report by Tree Surgeon, a parishioner raised concerns about a tree outside his own property which could potentially affect overhead cables. David H agreed to come to his property and look at the tree with the parishioner.
5. Saul Penfold – County Councillor did not send a report.
6. John Toye District Councillor reiterated his comments from the previous meeting (Annual Parish Council Meeting) recognizing that within Aldborough & Thurgarton parish volunteers do a really good job, ensuring that village activities thrive eg. Village Care, Community Centre and Parish Council.
7. REPORTS FROM CLUBS/SOCIETIES/BUSINESS'

Church Council – Jamie Mumford

The good news is that our Church is over 1000 years old and in remarkably good repair. The churchyard which is looked after by volunteers is a wonderful haven for wildlife and this year the wildflowers have been appreciated by many. However, the Church Room which was built in 1912 and is now over 110 years old is in a poor state of repair as confirmed by a recent Survey (82 pages) which is available for parishioners to read (contact Jamie Mumford). These repairs will be way above the resources available and has forced the Church Council to think about the future of this building. It is not only the cost of repairs but a need for a management team/group who are willing to take on this building. This site and building are held in trust by diocese but until now no documents have been found concerning the donation of the land. If anyone knows of such documents or has any information about their possible whereabouts, please contact Jamie. Plan B (failure to establish a management group/raise funds) will mean disposal of the site, this would be sad and lots of parishioners have memories connected to this building but it was never designed to last!

A parishioner asked if it could be repurposed for some other use? Jamie will explore this but feels that restrictions on it's use may be one of the issues that would need to be looked at – 'has to be used for the purposes of the Church'.

A parishioner asked if it could be rented out – again the building would need major repairs to enable 'certain quality of the building' to be ensured.

Currently, this building is not economically viable (very few bookings) when it was erected it had a real purpose as a meeting place. Nowadays we have the Community Centre and the Chapel both within the village.

CONTACT JAMIE or SUE MUMFORD by the end of this month if you believe you can put together a small group of people to take over the Church Room management.

#### Village Care – Jane Maguire

Village care continues to offer regular Village lunches and transport (thanks to Nita Good for organizing transport). Other activities are continually going on behind the scenes e.g. picking up and delivering prescriptions. Village Lunch (whilst missing Jean Halliday's involvement at the moment) is continuing albeit with different people helping – thanks to Tina, Ricki and the School (cooks) and all the volunteers who help put this on. The Village lunch will break for August this year (as does the Chapel) and will resume in September – we will keep everyone who attends updated.

Outing – there is an outing to Bolwick Hall Open Garden for NGS on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June – transport provided by Village Care, just a small entrance fee of £6 – this also supports Aldborough Primary School who are responsible for the refreshments.

Future of Village Care – this has been discussed at both the AGMs of Village Care and the Community Centre. Both charities share the same aims and the Charities Commission welcomes the amalgamation of smaller charities. The transition to complete the integration of these 2 charities will take approx. 1 year and during this period finances will remain separated. The reasons behind these changes are retirement of the current treasurer after many years! The stepping down of the current Chair (4.5 years!) and no-one able to take those roles on.

Village Care and the Community Centre have worked together to create 'The Hub' and this has been a really successful partnership – it has given confidence that joining these 2 charities would ensure a stable future.

#### Aldborough Cricket Club – Mark Thair

Last season the weather was horrific but in spite of lots of cancelled matches, Aldborough Cricket Club won the league and are now in Division 3 which does mean more travelling. The Club has won 2 of it's 3 matches this season so a great start. The Club has a full fixture list for Wednesday nights and matches planned for Sundays – most recent success at Overstrand.

The Club has a developing relationship with the Community Centre and they are very grateful for that allowing changing facilities and refreshments for visiting teams and players.

The Club is collaborating with the Parish Council to sort out the goalmouth – this will be expensive. The hope is that the Club will develop closer connections with the village and there is encouragement to come and enjoy watching matches. There will be a fixtures booklet (with advertising) available shortly. Later in the season a Chairman and Captain's game. Also a planned mixed gender match (a regular event for several years) on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July (any ladies interested in joining in please contact Mark/Tina).

The main sponsor is Masala Twist (Cromer) who are generous sponsors. They are holding a quiz at their new business – White Horse PH (Cromer) on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>

May, please go if you can to support them and the Cricket Club. The Club will also continue to put on quizzes in the C. C. please come and enjoy the evening with us. David Hooker is Committee member to ensure the Vice-Presidents are updated with information about events and fixtures.

#### Aldborough Surgery – Alex Lorryman (Practice Manager)

Recruitment – new nurse/practitioner Julie Sterry.

A second medical secretary has been employed, due to increased workload in the practice.

Still continue to offer 6 month registrar placements – Dr. Natalie Bayton will be there until September.

580 Covid vaccinations were taken up for the over 75 and those with compromised health.

A question from a parishioner regarding patients waiting for Open Surgery appointments – when its raining no shelter, would the Surgery consider introducing some? Alex encouraged patients to remember that Open Surgery offers appointments from 8.30 until 10.00. Only on very rare occasions have any patients been turned away so there shouldn't be a need to arrive very early and wait in poor weather. The idea of a shelter had been explored in the past but cost was prohibitive. David Hooker reminded that Alborough Surgery are the only Surgery continuing to offer 'Open Surgery' in the region so we are very fortunate – nothings perfect!

Car park – this is available for use at weekends when the Surgery is closed.

#### Aldborough Community Centre – Dee Jupp

Community Centre AGM was in March – usage of the Centre has increased giving a small surplus (financial) every year, they have reasonable reserves too.

New blinds have been fitted. The Resource Room is available for hire with internet (boosted signal) printer, laminator and large round table for meetings etc.

Car Park – Community Centre want the car park to be used to help manage village parking generally. Message is getting out – local Rambler's Assoc. are now contacting the C.Centre to ask to use it and make a donation for it's use which is really appreciated.

Community Centre is encouraging services to come to Aldborough – recent visits by Vision Norfolk, Community Police, Hear Norfolk who will be visiting again on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June – Their vehicle parks outside and offers free maintenance checks for hearing aids and advises about links to the 'hearing loop' – between 10.00am and 12 noon.

#### Aldborough Allotments – Claire Knight

All plots are taken – some new members just joined us. Very wet throughout last winter. The AGM is on Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm in the Church Rooms.

#### Aldborough Players – Jane Maguire

Great Pantomime – Toad and just recently ended 'Murder on the Nile' . The players appreciate the support from the Village. Players on stage for recent production age ranged from 19 years to 78 years, so very inclusive!

8. PUBLIC QUESTIONS etc

A parishioner raised the concern about increasing second homes in Aldborough. Do the Parish Council know how many there are? The view was there are 12 around the Green. Is there anything to encourage houses to be main residences – difficult in communities around this coast where there can be as many as 80% second homes in some places. It has an impact on communities. John Toye recognized it is a concern for many in tourist destinations – there's a balance to be had between tourism and communities surviving. No statute for 'tourist tax' in spite of what you hear and read about. NNDC are trying to purchase properties as they can find and afford them to offer 'temporary housing' for people who are evicted from their rental property which can help prevent them going into 'bed and breakfast'. Unfortunately landlords sometimes make the decision to change to 'holiday let' which is more remunerative for them but can devastate a family who have no other rental options available. (No fault evictions will be abolished in the Renters Reform Bill but is not yet in law.)

The Annual Parish Meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Attendance – approx. 40 parishioners