



LAUGHTON PARISH THE ANNUAL MEETING 2021

Minutes of the Laughton Parish Annual Meeting held **Virtually on Wednesday 28th April at 7.00pm** on zoom.

There were 6 people in attendance including the Chair, Cllr Dart, Cllr Breeds, Councillors Crozier, Hallam, Poore and Young, Cllr Bennett representing East Sussex County Council and Cllr Watts representing Wealden District Council.

1. Welcome by the Chairman,

Cllr Dart welcomed all to the meeting and gave thanks and appreciation to councillors as well as the members of the public who have volunteered during this difficult year and also thanked the Clerk. Cllr Dart emphasised how different the last year has been and how everyone has had to change and adapt. Cllr Dart highlighted this will hopefully be the first and last Annual Parish Meeting by Zoom as it is hoped for meetings to return to face to face meetings as soon as lockdown has been lifted.

2. Apologies for absence

No apologies received

3. To accept the meeting notes from the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 15th May 2019.

All members agreed these minutes and they will be signed accordingly at the next available opportunity, abiding by the social distancing rules set out by the government.

4. Reports

The Chair's Report

The Chair thanked previous councillors for their contributions to the parish - Mr Mike Cook and Mrs A Weller - and welcomed new Councillor Austin Young. Cllr Watts and Cllr Bennett were congratulated for their continued support to the council. Cllr Dart continued to thank the local volunteers for their contributions to the village such as tree warden, the Christmas festivity group, the bookshop set up in the village hall during lockdown and the volunteers who manage the planters on the B2124. She thanked the team in the Village Shop who have continued to help residents who were

shielding and vulnerable in both lockdowns. The continued work of the community is important in making Laughton a lovely and vibrant place to live. The pandemic has shown how the village has come together and supported each other in times of need. The Chair continued to highlight the importance of the community and was delighted to announce the theatre group Lilley Lovett had received an award in recognition of their outstanding help for the children during the Covid pandemic. The Chair thanked Mrs Lilley for coming and would give the award as soon as possible abiding by social distancing rules.

The Chair reported the Christmas working party gave much needed lifted spirits during the second lockdown in the darker months.

The local village pub is to be reopened and the Parish Council has successfully registered it as an Asset of Community value.

The Clerk informed members Mrs West from Laughton Primary School was unable to attend. The Clerk received a report which will be placed with the minutes on the website.

A report from Cllr Bennett was previously circulated and placed on the website with the agenda. If you have any questions regarding the report, please email Cllr Bennett.

Reverend Smith gave a brief update of the church but his internet link was interrupted. Cllr Crozier continue on his behalf to inform members about the Good Neighbour Scheme which is being set up.

Cllr Crozier reported the Great British Litter pick is to be held nationwide at the end of May and if anyone would like to be involved, please contact her.

Cllr Watts thanked the Chair's for her speech which emphasised the community spirit and it is was good to see the villages pull together during the last year and be supportive of each other.

Cllr Crozier proposed a vote of thanks to Cllr Watts and Cllr Bennett for all they have done for the Council and the village over the past year. This was seconded by Cllr Breeds and unanimously agreed.

5. Public session

There were no public questions

Meeting closed at 19.23pm