

DRAFT MINUTES

of the

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

of the Parish of Yatton

held on 26th April 2021 remotely using

<https://zoom.us/j/589050719>

Join by phone (audio only!) Dial 0203 481 5237 or 0203 481 5240 then enter 589050719# when prompted.

Meeting opened 7.00 p.m.

Meeting closed 8.58 p.m.

Present: Councillor Jonathan Edwards (Chairman of Yatton Parish Council, in the Chair), Parish Councillors - Wendy Griggs (and District Councillor), Graham Humphreys, Chris Jackson, Robert Jenner, Peter Lomas, Jessie McArdle, Caroline Sheard, Bryan Thomas and Roger Wood.

Niccy Hook (Yatton Youth Club), David Ford (Yatton Music Society), Victoria Hocquard (MS Therapy Centre), District Councillor Steve Bridger, Mavis Monahan (Speedwatch), Tony & Faith Moulin, Bob & Win Lowman and Richard Croucher representing YACWAG, Ian Cantoni (Great Western Air Ambulance), Ian & Sarah Watts (Claverham Cricket Club), Alison Storm (Yatton United Charities) and 2 residents of the parish of Yatton.

Also in attendance: Clerk Aleana Baird and Parish Council Gardener & part-time grounds staff Megan Thurgur.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Jill Riddle (Yatton History Society) and Pete Selvey (Yeo Valley Lions).

Reports had been received from Great Western Ambulance Service, Yeo Valley Lions and Yatton Music Society.

2. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 25th March 2019.

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 25th March 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3. Chairman's Report – Overview of the Parish Council Year 2019-20 & inclusive to March 2021.

Chairman Jonathan Edwards welcomed everyone to the meeting explaining that no Annual Parish Meeting was held last year due to the Coronavirus National Lockdown commencing on the day it was due to take place. He highlighted all the wonderful work that had taken place since the start of the pandemic in Yatton including Romajo's Community Meals and the setting

up of the foodbank in the Youth Club. He gave a presentation which highlighted key events and work the Parish Council has been involved in over the past two years.

He outlined the changes within the Council including the sad loss of former District/Parish Councillor Jill Iles who passed away 6th April 2020. He thanked former Councillors Ian Payne, Martin Hooper and James Macqueen for their service to the Council and highlighted that new Councillors Steve Phippen and Rachel Batchelor had joined the Council after the May 2019 elections. Councillor Jessie McArdle had joined in January 2021 leaving four Councillor vacancies still open. He introduced all the Council staff and thanked them for all their work in particular throughout the pandemic in keeping the office functioning throughout and for all the work on the open spaces which have been exceptionally busy since the first lockdown in March 2020. He thanked former Parish Liaison Officer John Wilkinson for North Somerset Council for all his work during his time with Yatton.

The projects and work he presented on encompassed, planning including the 'making' of the Yatton Neighbourhood Plan, CIL and S106 funds, awarding grants, new speed activated sign and the impact lockdown had on traffic figures in the Parish, the new burial ground project, new play equipment at Hangstones and Rock Road. He gave details of the reinstated bus service from Yatton to Clevedon that has been pressed for by the Parish Council and which District Councillor Steve Bridger pursued on everyone's behalf with North Somerset Council Officers and the bus company. The High Street Improvements in Yatton were currently under consultation and were the culmination of four year's work with the Parish Council, District Councillors and North Somerset Council. They were a very positive outcome from the S106 contributions from the Bloor development at North End.

He also covered progress with the Climate Emergency work, Hangstones Pavilion alterations, the new Parish Council website, increased dog bins, new Arnolds Way allotments, completion of the new school and extra care facility on Chestnut Park, the new Community Orchard in partnership with YACWAG and the Yeo Valley Lions, two new solar powered street lights and the new village entrance signs to and from Claverham on the corner of Stowey Park and Claverham Road and on the Moor Road entrance to the village.

Parish gardener and part time grounds person Megan Thurgur gave an update on the continued improvements on the open spaces with particular projects at the Orchard (off Glebelands), new hedge work, new trees planted at Rock Road and Hangstones, a new wild flower meadow planted at Hangstones and the War Memorial garden.

The Chairman thanked all the organisations in the Parish, Councillors and staff for their hard work in the many activities that had been pursued in the past two years.

4. Presentations from local organisations.

All organisations who have received a grant from Yatton Parish Council are invited to give a short 3 minute presentation on how the funds have benefited residents in the parish.

YACWAG – A very successful Stowey Reserve Open Day in May 2019 including rhyme dipping and bird box activities was very well attended. Since then there have been new flowers appearing on the reserve in particular yellow Loosestrife and Meadow Rue. This has seen the

return of the fascinating Yellow Loosestrife bee which extracts oil from the flower to line its nest. Everyone was delighted to see its successful return to the Reserve.

Yatton Music Society – The society was now 40 years old and continued to offer live concerts and recitals by national professional musicians and local musicians in St Mary's church. It believes in providing quality music for all tastes and the range of music is designed to appeal to the widest possible audience. David Ford gave an overview of the music offered highlighting the success of a number of young local musicians in entering professional careers. The Coronavirus pandemic had considerable impact in reducing Society funds by 20%. During the past year when concerts have not been permitted, they had been able to produce a new website and had purchased a new baby grand piano on a 50/50 basis with St Mary's church following the old one being beyond repair. The Society look forward to a return to holding concerts from the autumn 2021 but it will remain to be seen the audience response in attendance numbers. A celebration of their 40th anniversary was planned with a series of special concerts by outstanding professional musicians. He thanked the Parish Council for all their support.

Yatton United Charities – Clerk to the Trustees Alison Storm spoke about the history of the Charity which includes the John Lane Educational Charity. It dates back to the 18th and 19th centuries and derives income of £2,700 from the renting of land which had been bequeathed to the charity in a number of wills. It must retain £1,000 of that income in reserve for any maintenance of the land. It gives small grants to the people of Yatton, Claverham and Cleeve and not for profit organisations who are need of financial support due to their own limited funds. They had approached local businesses and organisations to enable them to raise more funds to increase the number of people they can help and thanked the Parish Council for their support.

Great Western Air Ambulance Charity – Ian Cantoni invited Councillors to visit the air base if they wished and explained that only 1% of the work they do is attending accidents and air lifting patients to hospital. The work includes bringing hospital level care to patients, a trauma advice line, assisting with hospital capacity levels and patient transfers. He thanked the Parish Council very much for the grant and had provided a formal report that have more information about the charity.

West of England MS Therapy Centre – Victoria Hocquard thanked the Parish Council very much for all the help and support they had given and gave an overview of the work the centre does. They help people with not only multiple sclerosis but other conditions including cancer, ME, sports injuries, stroke, autism and Parkinson's. They had to close during the pandemic national lockdowns but had been able to still provide counselling and exercise support on-line.

Claverham Cricket Club – Chairperson Sarah Watts gave an overview of the successes of the Club in the past two years. They now had two senior teams and a development team transitioning to adult cricket, four junior age group teams and a girls team. They were taking part in 2 ECB national programmes for primary school children and an U19's T20 competition. They had received recognition by the Somerset Cricket Board as a leading club for increasing female participation and were involved with a Mental Health in Sport pilot scheme with two members qualified as Mental Health Ambassadors. The club had seen increased expenditure on roof repairs, new chill cellar, kit and PPE and the artificial surface required work. There was concern about the future availability of an acre of leased land used by the club.

Yatton Youth Club - Niccy Hook the youth worker at the Club described the impact of the pandemic, what they have been able to offer children and the changes they have made to adapt to the issues it has presented. The Club had been at its busiest with 150 children per week and the new kitchen providing a youth led community café and the chance for older members to train in catering skills. Since the pandemic the outreach service which was very successful in engaging with dis-engaged children in the parish had seen an increase in anti-social behaviour and they had worked with the Police and PCSO's in working to try address this. They were able to open the café outside and socially distance and would be going to 30 people from May 17th onwards. The foodbank project had been very successful with the youth club starting as a hub to store then supply the food bank in Clevedon. It has now evolved to an independent food bank supporting people in the area. They had worked closely with the Yeo Valley Lions on this. She thanked the Parish Council for their continued support.

Strawberry Line Management Committee - Chairman Jonathan Edwards was the Parish Council's representative on the Committee and gave an update on the path which had seen further improvements in the past two years including new shared space signage to encourage cyclists to treat pedestrians with more consideration. The collapse of the embankment between Sandford and Winscombe had been repaired and the path resurfaced. New information and advertising panels had been installed at Sandford with other planned including at Yatton. The new section of path from Arnolds Way to the end of the Bloor estate was open and a link to Duck Lane was being progressed which when done would provide a direct link to Kingston Seymore. The grant assisted with year on year improvements to the line.

Written Reports Received.

Yeo Valley Lions.
Yatton Music Society.
Great Western Air Ambulance Charity.

5. Volunteer of the Year

The Chair read the nominations for Volunteer of the Year:

Bob & Win Lowman - YACWAG
Keith Taylor – The West of England MS Therapy Centre.
Niccy Hook – Yatton Youth Club Food Bank and Alzheimer's Coffee morning volunteer.
Jon Watts – Claverham Cricket Club
Sarah Watts – Claverham Cricket Club
Jason Clarke – Yatton Rugby Club.

The Chairman thanked everyone who had been nominated for their work and announced that the winner was Sarah Watts. As winner a cheque for £50 was awarded to Claverham Cricket Club and Sarah was presented with a commemorative clock and certificate in recognition of her contribution as a volunteer.

6. Comments & questions from the floor.

A resident questioned if the Parish Council were considering fitting solar panels to Hangstones Pavilion. Councillor Robert Jenner responded by acknowledging it was a good suggestion and the Parish Council may consider this in the future subject to funding.

A resident congratulated the Parish Council on the steps that had been taken to manage their spaces in a more environmental way, it was very much appreciated. She questioned the use of weedkillers and asked the Council to consider a 'No Mow May' initiative. She also asked if the toilets at Hangstones could be made public.

A resident also spoke regarding the use of weedkillers and thanked the Clerk for letting the Claverham Neighbourhood Plan Group know about the new proposed planning application for a further 24 homes to the rear of the development on the former Claverham Ltd site.

A resident spoke about the proposed High Street Improvements and what a benefit to the parish they would be. He did highlight issues of overgrown vegetation along pavements making them narrower and more difficult to negotiate in a socially distanced way, especially for pushchairs and mobility buggies. This was exacerbated by vehicles being parked on pavements. Councillor Peter Lomas had called North Somerset Council about parking on pavements and was told it was not illegal.

The Chair thanked all those who had contributed and declared the meeting closed at 8.56 p.m.

Chairman

28/03/2022