

Kilmeston Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Assembly held 18th May 2021

Venue Kilmeston Village Hall

Present: - Mr Simon Young (SY) - Chairman
Mr Jason Bridgen (JB)
Mr Charlie Parry (CP)
Mr Nick Gerrard (NG)
Mr Mike Curtis (MC)
Mr Kenrick Fell – Clerk
6 Parishioners were present.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

MC stated that he wished to discuss a personal matter with the Chairman after the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

There were apologies for absence from Cllrs Rob Humby (HCC), Hugh Lumby (HCC/WCC) and Laurence Ruffell (WCC)

2. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY MEETING 15th MAY 2020.

This meeting was cancelled.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT.

See attachment.

Report from Jason Bridgen

JB states that the most recent update to the ongoing fibre situation which has been sent to all applicants is as follows:-

You may remember from my update no.2 that we were waiting for the budget, whereupon it was expected that we would receive more news. The budget came and went and almost immediately after it went, we moved into “election purdah” which prohibits central and

local government from making announcements about any new or controversial government initiatives that could be seen to be advantageous to any candidates or parties in the forthcoming election.

So it is to be hoped that, after 6th May, some progress will be made.

It's worth noting that the "Rural Broadband Engagement Officer" seems to be a one-man-band responsible for most of the South of England. He's probably snowed under, so, if any of you know anyone with any clout in Open Reach, please let us know. When more information becomes available, we will pass it on.

With regard to paths and access, I have only received one query regarding the path opposite the village hall being diverted.

4. COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT.

Cllr. Humby had submitted his apologies.

5. CITY COUNCIL REPORT.

Cllr. Lumby/Cllr. Ruffell had submitted a report which the Clerk had circulated. (Also attached to these Minutes).

6. PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS - CLERK.

The Clerk stated that the 2020/21 accounts had been balanced and they showed a balance to be carried forward of £1,890. The VAT had been reclaimed £140.99. The insurance this year was £349.36, and this year included the Broker's fee. The new seat had been added to the street furniture on the Insurance Assets and there was no increase applied to the invoice.

The papers were prepared for the Internal Auditor and finally the External Auditor PKF Littlejohn.

7. QUESTIONS FROM PARISHIONERS.

Mr Robinson mentioned recent burglaries in the village and surrounding area.

The Chairman suggested that we invite the police to our next meeting to give a report.

8. CLOSURE OF MEETING.

The Chairman closed the meeting and opened the Annual Parish Council Meeting.