

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING, 16TH MARCH, 2023, 7.00 P.M. AT THE GLEBE

Present: Cllr L Campion chaired the meeting. The clerk of the parish council was also present.

7 members were present

1/16-3-23 Introduction and welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone and thanked them for the attendance.

2/16-3-23 Minutes of the meeting 21st April 2022

Minutes were approved as an accurate and factual record.

3/16-3-23 Chairs report

The Chair gave the following report to attendees.

The PC have continued to work to further develop our sense of identity within Brizlincote and to encourage our younger residents to appreciate the benefits of a cohesive community. We therefore continue with our endeavours to enhance our natural assets within the vicinity in order to promote the benefits of mental and physical health and engagement with local biodiversity as well as to protect our environment for the benefit of all our residents and visitors.

The challenges recognised by the PC in April 2022 are, unfortunately, still in evidence but we continue to work with our local Borough and County Councillors, Staffordshire Police and Speedwatch group in order to seek resolutions to these issues.

Grants were awarded to the Community Church and also to the Leander Rowing Club. The Parish Council has also received grants from Transforming the Trent Valley, The Climate Change Fund, and the National Forest. We greatly appreciate this funding along with the generosity of other organisations who have donated their time, skills, resources and materials or goods in order to support the work which has been undertaken on behalf of the Parish. Many thanks to all our volunteers who have worked tirelessly on the projects which we have undertaken.

Earlier in the year the Time Capsule was interred within the Cemetery and the Queen's Green Canopy Tree was planted at Beaufort Road green space.

The Queen's GC tree was also the focus for an event which celebrated the Queen's Diamond Jubilee; the Brizlincote in Bloom also followed the Jubilee theme. Later in the year the Festive Light's event at the tree was well supported and took place near to Christmas with music and singing led by local schools.

A carpet of bluebells was planted by volunteers in the Tall Trees walk and two village planters were also introduced.

Ongoing maintenance within the Parish included renovation of a damaged Interpretation board and a memorial bench while a new information notice board was adopted outside the Post Office on the corner of Woods Lane.

The Parish Council have commenced work on the Community Orchard with a view to restoration of the fruit trees and enhancement of the area. A volunteer training group have started a pruning programme and it is hoped that this, along with the new trees planted, will eventually result in a plentiful harvest of both eating and cooking apples and pears which will be free to pick by residents.

We continue to expand the Brizlincote Family Walk (part of the Circular Nature Walk) at the Hollows, and we expect that phase 2 will be completed by summer. ESBC Open Spaces have worked in co-operation with the Parish Council to create an interesting and we hope, aesthetically pleasing area which is intended to appeal to a wide demographic. In addition, a memorial copse made up of native trees has been planted by ESBC in the Wildflower Meadow.

The East Side Arts Event (which takes place between local schools) was well supported with over 300 entries. The subject this year was Climate Change Mitigation and partaking schools received a calendar made up from their own schools' art, whilst a Brizlincote calendar was also created. Following on from this a new Music event took place at St. Peter's Church and it is hoped that this will also become an annual occurrence.

Additional working parties formed this year include the Climate Change Working party and a group which will aim to co-ordinate feedback on residents' observations.

We have recently been advised that additional funding has been secured from the levelling up fund with a view to resolving issues in relation to traffic calming within the Parish.

During the last year the Parish Council adopted The General Power of Competence and instigated a Business Plan. We were pleased to welcome Andy Mason as a new member but, very sadly, also advised that our fellow councillor Barry Marsden passed away during the year. Despite his being registered blind Barry was an active part of the council.

It is worth underlining at this point that all parish councillors are volunteers and together with additional volunteers from the Parish we aim to enhance the area where we live on behalf of us all. Grateful thanks to all who contribute.

Finally, well done to Friends of Scalpcliffe Woods who have received a Civic Award for their work in planning and maintaining a wonderful Nature Reserve within Brizlincote Parish.

The clerk had advised residents that the parish council have again been very prudent with public money.

Income to date is £20121.13 and expenditure to date is £18384.45.

The Chair has already summarised what financial support council have received this financial year.

4/16-3-23 Local residents in attendance were given an opportunity to raise any local issues.
No questions were raised.

Signed:

Date: