

# Abbots Ripton Parish Council

## ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 7.00pm @ Abbots Ripton Village Hall.

17/05/2022

### Minutes

#### 1. Report from Abbots Ripton Primary School

There are currently 100 pupils on roll at school, split into 4 classes. Our Reception class (Van Gogh) has 11, Year 1/2 (Monet) has 30, Year 3/4 (Kandinsky) 35 and Year 5/6 (Picasso) 24. The vast majority of our children (around 76%) travel to us from outside of our catchment area (this covers Abbots Ripton, Kings Ripton, Broughton, Wood Walton and Wennington). The recent addition of Daisies pre-school nursery on the school grounds, will hopefully ensure the school secures maximum entry numbers (our Pupil Admissions Number set by the Local Authority for intake to Reception each year is 17) in future years. In Year 6 we feed to a vast number of secondary schools; St Peters is our natural feeder school as our catchment children would go there but with so many out of catchment children we feed to most local secondary schools.

We employ 17 members of staff; 1 headteacher, 6 teachers (most are part time), 5 members of teaching support staff and 5 other support staff including office and catering staff and a cleaner. Unlike many larger schools, we do not have a caretaker.

Quality of education

We had our last OFSTED inspection in February 2019 when the inspection found that we continue to be 'good'. Our last SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) was in July 2015 and we were judged to be 'good'. We are due another SIAMS inspection imminently as this inspection should take place every five years but it has been delayed due to the pandemic.

We play an active role in our local cluster of primary schools, HAPP (Huntingdon Area Primary Partnership) and are often called upon by the Local Authority to offer support to other schools. At times this is at a leadership level, with our Headteacher being asked to support other heads or to lead other schools alongside leading Abbots Ripton for short periods of time. We also offer support to local teachers; often being asked to host visits from other schools.

For further information on the school, please visit

<http://www.abbotsripton.cambs.sch.uk/website>

Due to COVID restrictions, Governors have been predominantly conducting their monitoring via Zoom over the last two years. We have recently been monitoring the new approach to teaching English and Spellings, online Collective Worship and the new curriculum. Meetings continue to take place via Zoom although recently, the new Early Years Governor was able to meet with the Van Gogh teacher face to face. We are hopeful that Governors will start to make face-to-face visits again through the remainder of this academic year.

## **2. Chairman's Report to include the Year's Activities**

Firstly, may we thank the whole community on the way they have continued to support one another during these difficult times.

The council has continued to meet on a regular basis

As you can see from the accounts we have managed to operate within our budget and accordingly only increased our capitation by a very small amount,

We have completed several projects:

1. We continue to monitor the music festivals to try to reduce to minimum the inconvenience to the parishioners
2. After the issues that arose from the heavy rainfall last year we have been working with the district and county Councillors to see if anything can be done to prevent this issue again
3. We have continued to make an application to the LHI funds, and this year we have applied for a 20mph limit to be imposed in the center of the village.

Also, we work closely with our county and district Councillors to try to resolve issues relevant to the village that they deal with

Despite the difficulties have continued to manage the village affairs.

I would like to thank all my other Councillors especially Dave Brennan and District Councillor Dick Tuplin who have decided to stand down this year all of whom have supported me and the village very well in these difficult times.

## **3. Report from Cambridgeshire County Council**

No report received.

## **4. Report from Huntingdon District Council**

Following the close of nominations this year it has resulted in two District Council Wards being uncontested (candidates not exceeding the number of seats) and these four candidates have been elected unopposed. Cllr S Bywater and Cllr R Martin are the District Councillors for Abbots Ripton PC.

Cllr S Bywater thanked members of Abbots Ripton PC for their continued support, he advised it has been a struggle these past 12 months due to Covid.

He advised there are added financial pressure of HDC due to their lower tax base.

## **5. Report from Abbots Ripton Village Hall**

No report received.

## **6. Report from Abbots Ripton Church**

St Andrews Parochial Church Council has the responsibility of promoting in the ecclesiastical parish of Abbots Ripton with Wood Walton, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelical, educational, social and ecumenical. The PCC also has maintenance responsibilities for the Parish Church and the Churchyard at Abbots Ripton. There is no responsibility for the Church at Wood Walton, which is in the care of the Friends of Friendless Churches and "The Friends of St Andrew, Wood Walton". The Churchyard does, however remain the responsibility of the Parish.

Rev Mandy Flaherty serves as Rector for the North Leightonstone Benefice which consists of Abbots Ripton, Alconbury, Buckworth, Great Gidding, Great Stukeley, Hamerton, Kings Ripton, Little Stukeley, Upton and Winwick, with Mandy taking responsibility for Abbots and Kings Ripton plus several of the other churches along with her Associate Priest, the Reverend Fiona Brampton and Lay Minister Kim Sewell

Membership

The Electoral Roll was revised in 2019 and the total on the Electoral Roll to the end of 2021 is 33.

#### Parochial Church Council

During the year the PCC has met twice, on 15<sup>th</sup> July and 6<sup>th</sup> October with the Annual Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> May. The following have served as members of the PCC:

Chair	The Rev Mandy Flaherty
Churchwardens	Mrs Valerie Scothern
Representative to the Deanery Synod	Mr Roger Gough to 15.7.21
Hon Treasurer	Mr Roger Gough to 15.7.21
Hon Secretary	Mrs Valerie Scothern
Members	Mrs Lois King Dr R Price Mrs Pamela Simpson Mrs Nicola Crawford from 6.10.21

Safeguarding Officer Mrs B Rayner (Kings Ripton PCC)

On her co-option to the PCC in October Nicola Crawford has offered to take on the role of Treasurer as from the Annual Meeting of 2022

Sue Redmond is happy to continue in the role of Project Manager for any repairs or other which may become necessary. We thank her very much for this.

#### Church Services and Attendance

Due to the Covid 19 pandemic the new pattern of monthly services began in April:

4<sup>th</sup> April Easter Day Praise

16<sup>th</sup> May Family Service

20<sup>th</sup> June Family Service

18<sup>th</sup> July Family Service

15<sup>th</sup> August Family Communion

29<sup>th</sup> August Holy Communion BCP

19<sup>th</sup> September Harvest Service

17<sup>th</sup> October Pet Service

21<sup>st</sup> November Family Service

19<sup>th</sup> December Carol Service

25<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Family Service

Overall average attendance was 27

There were no Baptisms, 2 funerals, and 2 weddings

#### Abbots Ripton School

Due to lockdown, there was no school presence at the Church during the year, however Mandy, who serves as a Governor at the school, has continued to provide zoomed Collective Worship for the school on a weekly basis and will return to physical attendance when circumstances permit.

The school have been helpful in notifying parents of Church services and projects and are very keen to continue doing so.

Nicola Crawford is to consider becoming a Foundation Governor

#### Fabric Report

The project to improve the drainage has been monitored over the year and no significant change has been observed.

#### Review of the Year

The Service pattern has been once a month since April

The Pet Service was reintroduced in October and proved very successful

Remembrance Day Although the Remembrance Service was not held at Abbots Ripton this year the members of the WI and the School produced a very effective display of poppies in the Churchyard which was much admired and it is hoped it will be an annual project.

The village newsletter The Little RAN, has been issued occasionally during the year and all Church events continue to be included.

The Mission Action Plan The Proceeds from the Harvest Supper went as usual to the two charities supported by the Church, Water Aid and the Kururi School. How this is to be administered in future is to be discussed.

Bees Extensive work took place during the year to try and stop up the holes where the bees are gaining access. Unfortunately this does not appear to have been successful and further action will have to be discussed

The Parish Giving Scheme continues to be a success. This has produced a guaranteed monthly income for the Church and also removed the necessity of claiming most of the Gift Aid. However money, or rather the lack of it continues to be a problem.

The Parish Share was paid in full and it is hoped that we will continue doing so.

Safeguarding Full training has yet to be provided for PCC members but is in hand for 2022.

2021 was not an easy year and no Fund Raising was carried out due to the continued constraints of the pandemic. We hope that this will change in 2022.

The Countryside Festival is to be discussed with Lord De Ramsey and Freddie Fellowes in 2022 and it is hoped it will go forward in 2023.

It is still hoped to put on a Concert in the Church with Tapestry and the St Andrews Singers and the school in 2022.

Acknowledgments

The Flower and Cleaning Ladies have continued their work during the reduced service rota. Our very grateful thanks.

Our organist rota Roger Ray retired as organist for the Family Service at Christmas with our grateful thanks for all his years of service, but Ann Tollington has stepped into the breach and we are very grateful.

Churchyard Maintenance This is still in the hands of maintenance man Kevin who has kept the churchyard looking lovely.

Geoff Richardson our independent examiner. Many thanks for the time he gives to our accounts, especially during the periods of severe ill health that he has suffered.

And finally to the PCC for their support to the Rector and Churchwardens throughout this very difficult year.

## **7. Report from Abbots Ripton Village groups**

### **ABBOTS RIPTON FISHING CLUB**

The Abbots Ripton Fishing Club last year had around 160 members who now pay an annual subscription of £60, O.A.P.s pay £40 . Under 16s are free but must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

For this members are allowed to fish four lakes in the village, rented from Abbots Ripton Farming Co. Ltd . These lakes are Brooklands, Wild Goose Leys, Foxenfields, and Holland Wood. All lakes contain a mixed variety of coarse fish, e.g. carp tench, roach bream and perch.

The family ticket (now costing £70 per year) which allows a member, his/her partner, and any children of the family under 16 to fish continues to be popular.

Due to the coronavirus no matches were held last year

In agreement with ARFC, fishing on the days before shoot dates is no longer allowed, as well, naturally, as on the shoot date itself.

Night fishing on Holland Wood and Foxenfields lakes was allowed during the summer

months but all year on Wild Goose Leys and Brooklands lakes.

Carp of 30lb have been caught from Holland Wood and Foxenfield lakes.

There are carp over 20lb in Wild Goose Leys lake.

Again some roach and rudd have also been taken from Holland Wood lake and put into Brooklands. The appropriate movement licenses have been granted by the Environment Agency.

The aim of the club is to make Brooklands lake a silver fish lake with no carp.

To help this we have put 1000 small tench into this lake. These tench are now being caught.

The club was granted money from the Solar Park fund to put bream into Brooklands and this will happen this year.

Hopefully the money is still available for the club to purchase the bream for this lake.

As the carp fishing on Wild goose Leys lake is not up to previous years standards

We will be putting more carp into this lake.