



## UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 28 APRIL 2022 AT 1900

Councillors present: Jeff Hallett (chair), Susan Jones (vice chair) Mary Chilvers, Chris Cook, Mike Watts

In Attendance: James Clarke, Highways Officer

Apologies: Cllr Westrope, Cllr James Hayward, County Cllr Alexander Nicoll, District Cllr Carol Poulter, Jim Jarvie

1. Cllr Hallett (chair) welcomed Pettistree and Loudham residents. There were 18 people present, an exceptional turn out.
2. Chair signed the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of 20 April 2021 as a true record
3. Cllr Hallett gave his chairman's report for the past year (see Annex) and said that he would be giving up the leadership role at the Annual Parish Council Meeting on 24 May 2022. He had been a member of the council for 37 years and chair for 18. He may continue as a parish councillor until the 4-yearly elections in 2023.
4. The Chair received reports from:
  - Cllr Alexander Nicholl
  - Cllr Carol Poulter
  - Cath Caudwell, Chairman, Pettistree Heritage Trust
  - Maggie Hallett, representing the Parochial Church Council
  - Jim Jarvie, Chairman of the Village Hall Committee

These reports can be found in the Annex

5. Matters concerning the village:
  - Cllr Hallett reported on meetings to plan the village's **Platinum Jubilee celebrations**. The four days will include: bell ringing, a meal provided by Mary and Roger Chilvers, Beacon, Bonfire, BBQ & Bagpipes, a Village Hall Bring & Share lunch, a Heritage display, a craft exhibition and sale and a flower festival and art exhibition at the church. In addition, horse brasses commemorating the Jubilee will be available from Maggie Hallett. The brasses will be presented to children of school age and under, and they will also be on sale.
  - Cllr Jones reported on the current **ESC Community Governance Review** which will survey parish councils' governance structures and boundaries. The Parish Council had taken this opportunity to request a boundary change. That would be to move the new Hopkins development on the Main Road into Wickham Market Parish to join with the existing Hopkins housing estate. There are good reasons to for this which are given in a letter to

the district council (available on the website). We are now waiting for contact from the ESC and its Review consultation document.

- Cllr Jones also reported on the **Solar Farm Community Benefit Fund** which could provide £20,000 for projects of 'lasting benefit' to the community. The solar farm has still to achieve planning permission and the money will not be paid until it is in operation and feeding into the National Grid, but ideas for projects will have to be given to the developer, BSR, at some point. Those currently on the table were:
  - A **village car park** to mop up excess parking at the church and the Greyhound Inn and for village visitors in general. Four possible sites had been offered by R Hayward & Son on a rental basis of £500 a year. The Parish would have to cover the cost of car park surfacing and maintenance. It was pointed out that surfacing the Village Hall car park had cost £25,000. Further, the Village Hall Committee had decided that its car park should be open and available to church goers and visitors to the village. Signage to that effect was being discussed. A conversation was needed with the new Greyhound tenants about car parking. Action: Better management of existing car parking and advertising.
  - A **village defibrillator** centrally sited. Cllr Cook is pursuing this and the possibility of siting it at the Greyhound inn. An alternative site could be the Parish Room.
  - **Restoration of the Parish Room** which needs a new roof and general refurbishment. It is now used for Parish Council meetings and storage but has potential as a village meeting room and heritage centre. The Room is owned by the Church and the PCC is currently discussing its future. Action: A discussion between the PCC and Parish Council about what is possible.
  - **Installation of wi-fi** at the Village Hall and Parish Room. Dave Caudwell said the Village Hall Committee did not want wi-fi installed and no request had ever been made for it. There was support for installation at the Parish Room, essentially rental of a dongle, which would enable video conference links. Action: This will go back to the Parish Council for a decision on provision for the Parish Room.
  - **Pollarding of hornbeams** in the churchyard. Cllr Hallett had called in a tree expert from ESC to check on the trees which were shedding rotten wood. Re-pollarding had been recommended. Dave Caudwell said that he had removed dead wood which did not pose a safety issue and that, instead of drastic pollarding, the trees should be monitored by an expert. Action: A discussion between the PCC and the Parish Council about regular monitoring of the trees' condition to determine whether that would save the trees long term.

Additional ideas offered by attendees:

- Dick Smith proposed a **woodland** amenity for the village.
- Dave Caudwell requested folding **chairs for the Village Hall** at a cost of £5,000.
- Cath Caudwell proposed a **children's play area**.
- Cllr Jones proposed setting up a **Pettistree Conservation and Enhancement Fund** to make money available for projects – large and small – of 'lasting benefit' to the community. This could take up the Solar Farm monies and any other donations/grants available.

## 6. Any Other Business

This had been covered in earlier discussions

Light refreshments were provided by Cllr Mary Chilvers

# ANNEX

[Cllr Jeff Hallett, Chair of Pettistree Parish Council](#)  
[Annual Report](#)

The last Annual Parish Meeting was held by Zoom internet on 20th April 2021

## Meetings

20 <sup>th</sup> April 2021	Annual Parish Meeting. (by Zoom)
20 <sup>th</sup> April 2021	AGM of Parish Council. (by Zoom)
19 <sup>th</sup> May 2021	Parish Council Meeting
21 <sup>st</sup> July 2021	Parish Council Meeting (in Churchyard)
9 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2021	Parish Council Meeting
21 <sup>st</sup> Sept 2021	Open Parish Meeting. (Quiet Lanes)
21 <sup>st</sup> Sept 2021	Parish Council Meeting. (Quiet Lanes)
11 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2021	Parish Council Meeting
16 <sup>th</sup> Feb.2022	Parish Council Meeting
24 <sup>th</sup> March 2022	Parish Council Meeting

## Parish Council as at 20<sup>th</sup> April 2022

### Membership

Mr Jeff Hallett	(Chairman. Re-elected at the AGM on the same evening)
Ms Sue Jones	Vice Chair
Mrs Mary Chilvers	
Mr Mike Watts	
Mr Philip Westrope	
Mr Chris Cook	
Mr James Hayward	
Mr James Clark	(co-opted as Highways Officer (Non-voting))

### Clerk to the Parish Council

Mr Rod Caird from late November 2020 until his death on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2021. There has been no parish clerk since then, but the financial duties have been taken over by Mr Simon Ashton who was appointed as Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022. The chair and vice chair have been handling the non-financial matters until a clerk can be recruited.

### MP, County & District Councillors

Therese Coffey MP, Suffolk County Councillor Alexander Nicoll (Wickham Market division),  
East Suffolk District Councillor Carol Poulter (Wickham Market ward)

### Roads and Pathways

There has been further filling of potholes, but the fragile road edges often crumble with heavy traffic.

There has been reduced verge cutting by Suffolk Highways. (SCC)

A Speed Indicating Device (SID) has been bought and installed, with posts at three sites approved by Suffolk Highways.). Individual vehicles are not identified but their time and speed is recorded for subsequent analysis. Speeding has been recorded at all three sites but Presmere Road is the worst.. Some footpath repairs have been carried out by Highways but there are still unsafe stiles and overgrown vegetation.

### **Village Amenities.**

Olivia Smith keeps the Village green well mown using her own equipment and is contracted on an annual basis.

Hedge cutting has been organised by Mr Louis Deliss and carried out by Mr David Cunnell at the expense of the relevant landowners.

The avenue of full-size heritage apple trees planted in the meadow part of the churchyard as part of our Diamond Jubilee celebrations has grown well and is now in blossom. An English Oak tree has been planted this year in the meadow part of the Churchyard. It was provided by East Suffolk Council as part of the Platinum Jubilee Celebration.

The line of Hornbeam trees in the churchyard meadow have their unusual shape because they were pollarded many years ago. Rot is developing in the old wounds and they now need to be re-pollarded to about waist level. This will be lot of work that will have to be done professionally. The church cannot afford this but the meadow area is a community asset in the conservation area so we shall need to work out how this can be done.

The Village Hall is in very good order internally and externally. The car park has been resurfaced and a bike shelter has been installed. As Covid restrictions are eased we shall be able to use it more.

The Village Marquee gave very good service while on loan to the Greyhound Pub during the Covid lockdown times, until it was collapsed by a very heavy overnight snowfall on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021. After waiting for insurance payment and for marquee supplies to be available we have now purchased a new and even stronger one with a contribution from the Village Hall.

### **Crime and Police**

Police no longer attend village meetings but fortunately Pettistree has little crime reported. There have been some break-ins: copper piping from Green Farm and attempted break-in at KIND Water but the police were informed by residents living nearby. The village WhatsApp Group exchanges information about any suspicious vehicles etc.

### **Village Pub**

The "Greyhound survived the Covid lockdowns and restrictions with the help of the village marquee and doing take-away meals. It is now fully open as Covid restrictions ease but we hear the Stewart

and Loise may be moving back to be near their family in Scotland. We shall therefore probably have new tenants soon, but I have no details.

The "Three Tuns" is no longer a pub but has accommodation and the Vida Haus Yoga & Dance Studio with plant-based Café.

### **Village Communication.**

The village has fibre broadband but the final link is by wire so not all outlying properties get good service.

The Pettistree Support Group stopped using WhatsApp as Covid receded but several villagers still use the unmonitored network for general information and chat.

### **Hopkins Homes**

The site of the new development is now fenced off and final adjustments are being made to the plans. Road names suggested by the Parish Council have been approved and building is likely to start in the next few months. Despite representations from villagers there is still no requirement for the new houses to have solar panels or 'grey water' systems.

The Parish Council hopes that the parish boundary will be moved during the Community Governance Review being carried out by East Suffolk Council so that the new development becomes part of Wickham Market which is where the new residents will look for their shopping and services.

### **Pettistree Businesses**

(This list may not be accurate or complete due to Covid changes.)

Anglia Coastal Marquees (Hungarian Hall)

John Balance. Computer expert and utilities agent.

Bridge Classic Cars

Roger Chilvers (Master Thatcher)

Greyhound Public House

Gloveman Supplies

Harambee Training Ltd

Kind Water

Loudham Computer training

Pettistree House "Large Country House Party Venue"

Presmere Day Nursery

The Paella and Tapas Cornpany

The Suffolk Plant Store (Plant Pro)

White House Kennels

Local farms (Westrope \_ Park Farm; Hayward's – Main Road; Carter's–Grove Farm)

Pettistree Container Storage

Vida Haus in what was the Three Tuns pub)

### **Pettistree People**

Our newsletter, "Pettistree People" continues to be a great asset to the community and is widely

appreciated. It is funded by the Parish Council without recourse to labour-intensive advertisements. It is still edited very effectively by Mike Watts assisted by Mrs Pat Deliss who encourages new and regular contributors. It is distributed to all households in the village by volunteers.

### **Web Site**

The Pettistree Village website is hosted by Community Action Suffolk, updated and managed by our webmaster, Chris Garner.

### **Finance.**

The combination of the deaths of two parish clerks, Covid, the major purchases of the SID system and the replacement of the marquee has made the financial picture rather complex. The details are being sorted out by our new RFO but overall, our bank balances are reasonably healthy, and our Precept request from Suffolk District Council has not increased in real terms.

We do not know how much money will come to Pettistree as a result of the building of the new estate by Hopkins Homes. It will partly depend on whether the new development becomes part of Pettistree or Wickham Market parish.

Savings Account	£2,414.83 (at 7 March 2022)
Current Account	£1,779.54 (at 21 March 2022)
Precept request for 2022/23	£2541.93

### **Sizewell C**

The application process and consultation by EDF has not run smoothly. However, it is now almost certain that it will go ahead because of the energy crisis precipitated by the huge increase in the costs of fossil fuels, and shortages resulting from the Russian invasion of Ukraine starting earlier this year. The Parish Council is still worried about the effects on traffic congestion and “rat runs” from construction traffic over the 12-year construction period. We share the critical view taken by many parish councils in Suffolk of the comments made recently by Kwasi Kwarteng, Secretary of State for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy, pre-empting the conclusions to be reached by the Planning Inspectorate.

### **Personal Note**

In my 2021 report I explained that the Hallett family had downsized and moved to a bungalow in Wickham Market after 38 years in Pettistree. I am also downsizing on my commitments and will stand down as Chairman of Pettistree Parish Council at the AGM of the council on 24<sup>th</sup> May.

(I have been a member of the Parish Council for 37 years since 1985, chairman from 2001 to 2004, and again from 2007 until the present, with a brief gap when Elaine Boardley took the chair for a few months before moving away, i.e. about 18 years as chairman.)

A new Chair will be elected by the Council. I may stay as a parish councillor until the next parish council elections but would be more than happy to be replaced by an able and enthusiastic newcomer who is resident in the parish or within the statutory three miles.

Finally, I must add my sincere thanks to fellow councillors, and especially to Sue Jones as Vice Chairman, for all their help in the recent difficult times.

#### [Suffolk County Councillor Alexander Nicoll](#)

I was delighted to be re-elected as county councillor for Wickham Division in May 2021 having served previously since 2017. I will be the last councillor to represent the six parishes within the Division as recent local government boundary changes, coming into effect in 2025, signal the move of some of the civil parishes into other Divisions created or expanded by the Boundary Commission review. Meantime, I look forward to working with all the PCs in the Division and their communities over the next three years until May 2025.

Over the past year and in addition to a mailbag (mostly emailbag) of issues raised by local people I have been focused on transport and planning issues arising in large part from several ill-considered proposed developments which have, apart from design and other imperfections, simply led to more traffic on our roads. I have called for the public transport needs of our villages and outlying communities to be taken greater account of during the Section 106 and Community Infrastructure decisions forming part of the planning process at East Suffolk Council (ESC) rather than, as is usually the case, being directed to community bricks and mortar projects which may do nothing to curb the need for private car use. I have managed to secure a meeting soon with ESC planners and involving Transport East (our regional transport body) who are leading work to improve our public transport offer, especially for rural and remote communities.

Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs) with or without Sizewell C (I fear it will be approved and this despite widespread local opposition, including my own, over many years) continue to clog our roads and I am pressing for the HGV Review, carried out by Suffolk County Council last year, to bring forward a better and more co-ordinated strategy for HGV movements, often currently taking unsuitable routes, to curb the current atmosphere of 'free for all' in terms of HGV movements and behaviour. Many PCs within and beyond my Division associate some of the local HGV problems with the intensification of logistics operations at Bentwaters and I continue to work with a group of PCs to see what improvements can be made. A key element is the role and attitude of ESC as planning authority in terms of the impact of HGVs created by new planning consents and adequate monitoring of existing operations on site. Practical responses to unwanted or anti-social traffic issues always involve cost and legal treacle to wade through. I am, however, delighted to have helped deliver a long-awaited Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for Ivy Lodge Road in Campsea Ashe which sets a weight limit for traffic using the road but, as ever, enforcement is another matter! I am also helping residents in Friday Street near Rendlesham who have faced both dangerous vehicle activity in their very narrow road and much of this activity has been connected with anti-social behaviour by people entering Rendlesham Forest via Friday Street and both causing ecological damage and curbing the enjoyment of the many people who want to enjoy the forest. I am providing new signage and am working with local people to get Forestry England to do more to address their concerns.

Over the past twelve months I have been proud to support and promote a number of local community initiatives with funding from my Locality Budget. I have made grants in all six parishes in my Division

and in some more than once. Football pitch repairs, BBQ equipment for a Scout group, a covered bike rack, a take a book/leave a book library style trolley, village sign, a Speed Indicator Device (SID) and provision of disabled parking space and associated handrail have all received support from me.

Turning to my wider responsibilities, I was pleased to be appointed Deputy Cabinet member for Transport Strategy in May 2021 and in that role, I lead on bus and rail initiatives across Suffolk working with district councils, bus and rail operators and Transport East. I also chair the East Suffolk Community Partnership Transport Group which has developed a focus on more sustainable and responsive transport solutions like the Katch EV taxi-bus currently being piloted in my Division and out towards Snape. I have been asked to chair the Enhanced Partnership Board required as part of Suffolk's response to the Government's Bus Back Better initiative and this group, involving district councils and bus operators and other stakeholders across Suffolk, meets for the first time on 29 April. On the rail front I sit on the Great East Mainline (GEML) Taskforce, involving MPs and rail industry bodies, which looks to further enhance journey times between London and Norwich via Ipswich and other stations. If we are serious about climate change and encouraging (all of us) people to reduce private car use, then rail and other public transport services must be widespread and reliable and more affordable! I chair the national Public Transport Consortium of the Local Government Association and have and will continue to talk frankly with Department for Transport and others to increase public transport provision throughout England and Wales. Rail must play its part, for passengers and freight, and I continue to lead the Eastern Group of local authorities (of all political complexions) who wish to see the East West Mainline better connect the east - Norwich, Ipswich, Port of Felixstowe - with the west via the Midlands.

#### [East Suffolk Councillor Carol Poulter](#)

The year of 2021 continued to be difficult as we all dealt the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic in its various strains. Through many false dawns, restrictions remained in place well into 2022 but, despite these, communities and businesses continued to adapt, as best they could, to make sure no-one was left alone to struggle through. Huge credit is due to all Parish Councils for leading the efforts in their local communities.

East Suffolk Council also adapted work procedures and practices to make sure that services were maintained and, despite also suffering from staff shortages from time to time, largely achieved that albeit with the occasional delays in some bin collections! In some respects, more efficient ways were found to conduct our business and these, I hope, will continue.

Since the start of the pandemic the Council has administered a range of business grant schemes to support our local businesses. During that period, just over £130 million was distributed to businesses across the East Suffolk district via 29,502 payment transactions. This gives an indication of the scale and complexity involved in delivering the schemes. Nevertheless, the outcome has been the survival of the vast majority of local businesses.

Additional support of some £7.9m in the form of Covid-19 Additional Rate Relief to Business rate payers is shortly to be announced and these measures, together with initiatives such as the recently announced 'Click Local' scheme will, hopefully, further ensure that our local businesses can continue to recover and thrive.

Individual Council Taxpayers have also been supported through the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme and, in addition to the £150 being made available by the government to reduce Council Tax



bill in bands A–D, East Suffolk Council has provided up to £150,000 from an Exceptional Hardship fund to those most in need.

Across the East Suffolk district there are many significant and major projects either underway or on the horizon. Massive development is starting in Lowestoft with the new Gull Wing Bridge being installed and plans for the regeneration of the whole town. A decision on Sizewell C is expected shortly and permission has been granted for Scottish Power's offshore windfarm proposals. Acceptance of our bid for a Freeport at Felixstowe is another and all these projects, whilst perhaps vital in terms of achieving our environmental targets and aspirations, nevertheless have great impact on our local East Suffolk communities and this is particularly the case if Sizewell C is built. Obtaining suitable and adequate mitigation from the developers continues to be my main priority and I shall continue to do my best to achieve this.

With my very best wishes for the future.

#### [Cath Caudwell, Chairman, Pettistree Heritage Trust](#)

This past year has been much quieter in terms of events and historical enquiries. Given the continuance of some Covid restrictions this is to be expected.

Several village organisations such as the Parish Council, Churchyard group and Church members were able to hold their events in the open air, with social distancing, in the Church Meadow. The Bell Ringers were able to ring all six bells for services in July, the first time since March 2020.

Jeff and Maggie Hallett moved into Wickham Market after 38 years in Pettistree at The Laurels. Alun and Zoe Davies, with children Dom, Pippa, Kia and Sasha are now settled into their new abode. Sadly, Pettistree lost its good friend and latterly Parish Clerk, Rod Caird. Although Rod did not live in the village he attended and piped at all of our village Burns Nights and was well known to many of us.

The Women's Cycling Tour came to Pettistree in October, hurtling along the B1438 on its way from Haverhill to Felixstowe. A lot of the excitement for those watching came from the cavalcade of police motorcyclists and supporting vehicles that came before the cyclists themselves.

Recording the natural world is equally important and this is ably done by Darren Tansley in his nature notes in Pettistree People.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee has been kick started with the planting of the Jubilee Oak in the Church Meadow, nicknamed 'Treebilee'. A small group of residents attended the planting making it a lovely community occasion. Pettistree Heritage will play its part in the celebrations in June by holding an exhibition, bringing in records of previous royal events and noting changes over the past 70 years. This will be held in the Village Hall over the bank holiday weekend.

Pettistree People provides an excellent heritage record of our village events, people and places and I would urge everyone to contribute when they can, be it welcoming new residents, recording a life event or photographing our natural environment. Copies of each edition are lodged with Suffolk Record Office in the Joan Peck Collection.

### [Maggie Hallett for the Pettistree Parochial Church Council](#)

The year continued to be impacted by the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic and the nationwide restrictions put in place by UK government, but the Sunday morning service returned to a regular 9.30am start from late May, and social distancing and mask wearing has been reduced slowly during the last few months.

It was not possible to hold the usual Harvest festival service and Ploughmans Lunch again this year. However, an outdoor afternoon harvest service was held in the churchyard, followed by refreshments and generous quantities of cake. It was good that some more vulnerable people felt able to return to a service out of doors.

An 'Act of Remembrance' at the War memorial on November 11th. included the two minute silence at 11.00am and the poppy wreaths were laid at the village war memorial in the churchyard.

Bell-ringing has continued although Covid-19 restrictions limited what was possible during 2021, particularly during the first half of the year. A bell was tolled for 99 blows on the day Prince Philip died, and also half-muffled on the day of his funeral.

The Benefice choir has had limited opportunity to sing this year. As Covid-19 restrictions relaxed during the latter part of 2021 it was possible for the choir to meet, socially distanced as required, and they were able to sing for the carol services at both Pettistree and All Saints Wickham Market.

Highlights of the Christmas period were the Christingle service, held on a weekday primarily with children from Presmere nursery present, and was very much appreciated by them and their parents. The church Carol service was well attended, with the Benefice choir leading the singing. Earlier in December Carols in the Churchyard, was well attended and followed by 'Seasonal refreshment'!

Due to the Covid restrictions the Community Payback Service team were again unable to work in the churchyard this year and the PCC are very grateful to all those who spent a Saturday morning in early August working to tidy the church yard. Andy Curtis has continued the regular mowing, but is hampered by the age and unreliability of the ride-on mower.

The Church redecoration saga continues as early in 2021 a preferred contractor was selected, and a revised costed proposal was completed in April 2021. The estimated cost to comply with the Consistory Court Restoration Order judgement from October 2017 was circa £175k. However, this work requires the church nave to be closed for a 3-5 year period, during which time only the chancel will be available for church services. The PCC are extremely concerned about the long-term impact that this could have on the viability of the church. An alternative approach to meeting the intent of the nave restoration order could be to strip all the existing plaster from the walls and then re-render and apply limewash. This could be cost neutral, but much quicker without the need for long-term closure of the nave.

These options were shared with the Diocesan Registrar, Archdeacon and DAC in April 2021, with a request for further guidance. Subsequently, five representatives of the DAC made a site visit to the church in June 2021. Following the visit, the DAC expressed their sympathy for the situation the church is in and expressed their concerns about the negative impacts of a long-term closure of the nave. The DAC agreed to refer the matter to the Chancellor to seek further Directions on compliance with original court judgment. The newly appointed Chancellor has now (we understand) visited the church and his opinion is awaited.

I hope that when this report is given next year there will be a costed, timed plan in place for solving the problem.

#### [Jim Jarvie, Chair, The Village Hall Committee](#)

Like many businesses and organisations, activities in the Village Hall were severely curtailed for two years. Lockdown gave us the time to complete some of the planned interior and exterior work. During the month of October, thanks to a government grant, work on the Village Hall car park was completed. Dave Caudwell took on the role of Project Manager although it didn't run according to the original timescale and the work was done in two stages (this was due to problems with the supply of tarmac!). The end result was worth the wait and we now have an excellent car park.

Our local electrician, Paul Ballard, upgraded the external floodlights and we now have adequate lighting at the rear of the hall. More recently he has installed new lighting to the front and side of the building. Internally, the entrance hall was re-carpeted with barrier matting. A full-length curtain is now in place to hide the table and chair storage area when the hall is in use.

The Parish Council Chairman Jeff Hallett highlighted an opportunity to secure funding from Alexander Nicoll, our County Councillor. We were able to secure a grant of £1,000 from his Locality Budget and following suggestions, the Hall now has a covered bicycle shelter. Brad Bye installed the shelter which was used two days later by regular Pilates class members.

Prior to re-opening, the Committee instigated a robust Covid protocol including a restriction on numbers. The various groups that previously used the hall gradually returned and we are now back to our normal usage. The first village event was a coffee/tea morning on Sunday 5 December at the hall which provided an opportunity for villagers and supporters to see the carpark but also other work that had been completed during the lockdown period.

Most recently the Committee decided to host a monthly coffee morning on the first Wednesday of each month in order to encourage residents and supporters to meet up for a chat post-lockdown. The first one on 6 April was a great success and those who attended thoroughly enjoyed the gathering.

The Committee agreed to defer the AGM until July 2022 to coincide with the production of the audited accounts. The latest accounts will be placed on the website with a status of 'unapproved' as they have yet to be approved at an AGM.

The village hall is in a healthy financial position and we will continue to explore how we can improve the facility.

My thanks go to the Committee members but in particular, Cath and Dave Caudwell, who do a lot of work behind the scenes. The Village Hall is a facility for all of us so please support our activities.

ends

The meeting closed at 2040

Signed..... Dated.....