

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH

MINUTES

7.30pm on 29th May 2024

Great Bowden Village Hall

Present Bob Hooper (chairman); Paul Claxton (vice chairman); John Wilson (councillor). Richard Emery (councillor); District Councillor Buddy Anderson

7 members of the public

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

Apologies from Lindsey Wolstencroft (clerk)

2. Chairman's report 2023/24

Cllrs Hooper and Wilson have met with the deputy crime commissioner to discuss rural crime. The outcome of this was to encourage residents to report every suspected crime as data drives services. The commissioner has been invited to future parish council meetings. The Neighbourhood plan is moving along. Peter Mitchell presented a report at the last parish council meeting which can be viewed on the website.

The developers of the anaerobic digestion plant have invited interested parties to visit their plant in Peterborough. Cllr Hooper thinks plans are still in the consultation stage.

3. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 2023

Cllr Claxton read out the minutes of the annual meeting of 2023. These can be viewed in full on the parish council website.

4. District Councillors' Reports

No reports were available at the meeting due to unforeseen circumstances.

County Cllr Barry Champion gave an up date on the Market Harborough Waste site which had been under threat of closure. After a public consultation money has been obtained from the government and has been used to keep the facility open.

(A report from District Cllr Phil Knowles can be read as an addendum to these minutes)

5. Public Comments or questions for the upcoming year 2024/25

1) Carolyn Ford had asked County Councillor Barry Champion to the meeting to answer questions concerning outcomes of the recent traffic surveys carried out on the approach to and inside the village.

Cllr Champion explained that LCC now have an outline plan for traffic calming in the village and would like to set up a meeting with residents and the parish council to find out what is required by them. This implies that the promised money from the Airfield Farm development will be available soon.

A lengthy debate followed but most agreed that any measures employed should prevent “rat running” through the village and reduce speeds of vehicles entering . LCC’s plan would be to reduce speed limits on the approach roads to 40mph. Cllr Claxton would like to see a 20mph limit within the village and ANPR cameras at each entry point whereby speeding motorists would be fined.

Everyone in the village will be consulted either by a leaflet drop to each household and/or a questionnaire included in the village newsletter. After this operation and when a consensus of opinion has been gathered Cllr champion will set up a Teams meeting between the parish council and LCC highways.

2) Overgrown hedges. A resident was concerned about hedges in Station Rd. Cllr Claxton advised her to report them to the footpaths officer

3) Cllr Wilson was concerned about the dangerous curve on the bridge on Station rd. There is currently a consultation between Network Rail and LCC highways re a) quality of work and b) curve design and height. Some time ago Network Rail were going to start work to improve this but didn’t have the permit so nothing has been done so far.

The Chairman thanked everyone for one of the most useful Parish Meetings in a while.

Meeting ended at 20: 51

