Algarkirk Parish General Annual Meeting 2023

Good Evening Ladies and Gentlemen, I’d like to welcome you all to the Algarkirk Parish Annual General Meeting for residents of the parish, to inform you of the years dealings of the Parish Council, the associated committees and the individual Charities, representatives of the of these committees will read their reports.

To be clear we host this meeting it is not a Parish Council meeting.

As the chairman of Algarkirk Parish Council I will read my report.

The past year has been eventful to say the least, for the UK as well as locally. Whilst somethings have been resolved, we still continue to struggle with rising prices and world wide issues. We, as a small Village Parish Council, decided to stick to our existing budget, we have done this for the last couple of years.

The past year has not raised too many problems, we have continued work through a wide scope of business. To discuss and respond to a variety of planning issues, usually in the positive. The pot holes, day to day concerns that have arisen have for the most part been successfully dealt with. We also looked at cost cutting exercises such as street lights, which will create further savings going forward.

Although we no longer have the police attendance at meetings, we have remained safe. However, the church yard hut, used by the payback teams, was broken into and a number of valuable petrol driven grass and hedge tools were stolen. We were annoyed that nobody from the police bothered to attend. Valuable tools are no longer stored with the hut.

The payback team have again been invaluable to us, not only in looking after the churchyard but as you will hear, working in the village hall and with the ageing playground equipment. We thank them wholeheartedly, we would not manage these thing without them.

In May we purchased a number of commemorative 50p coins from the Royal Mint, to celebrate Queen Elizabeth II’ platinum jubilee. These were presented to the village children under 16.

To celebrate the Jubilee we held an afternoon tea for interested adults, alongside colouring competitions for the children. Councillor Mandy Spiller did the organising, helped on the day by her girls and Councillors George Reid and myself. It was quite successful and residents who attended thoroughly enjoyed themselves….a good time was had by all who took advantage of the event. Sadly the event was not attended by as many as we would have hoped.

In July, we finally and thankfully, were able to appoint a highly qualified, cheerful, Clerk, Maxine Warr, who has become an invaluable, crucial member of our team. Luckily, Maxine also has plenty of perseverance. She is getting to grips with missing information and working through the essential upgrading of our website amongst other outstanding issues.

During September we received the sad news of the death of Queen Elizabeth II We sent condolences to the new King Charles III and later received acknowledgment from him.

Sadly, BBC Mike Cooper, who has attended nearly all of our our PC meetings for a number of years, announced that he would not be standing at this year’s election. He was supportive, a font of knowledge and a friend to the PC, he will be missed.

During the year we decided that we would purchase a 2nd PC notice board to be erected on Andrew’s Common so that residents in the east side of Algarkirk could know what was happening. In April we were finally able to arrange for it’s erecting in May.

We decided that for the coronation of King Charles III, we would pay for commemorative mugs to be presented to Algarkirk children, who attended Sutterton Primary School. It was felt that with the poor take up of the Jubilee coins and the events, it was better for the children to celebrate with their school.

I’m pleased to say that the Parish Councillors were re-elected at the recent

Local elections.

**Finally**, I would like to thank

County Councillor Mike Brookes and Boston Borough Councillor Mike Cooper for their continued attendance, advice and support at the Parish council meeting.

I would once again, give thanks to Kathy Partridge, who again has been an invaluable help with missing information.

 Last but most importantly, I wish to thank Maxine and the Parish Councillors for their continued attendance, support, hard work and commitment to the parish and naturally their attendance at meetings.

 **Diana Reid chairman**