

## Oswaldkirk Parish Meeting

### Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 26 August 2020 at 7.30 pm

**Present:** 16

**Apologies:** Gaynor Badham, Ben and Mel Burnside, Jane Dexter-Smith, Andy and Shirley Halliwell, Richard Kettlewell, Peter O'Neill, Roger and Sue Wade, Jackie Young,

**Minutes from the Annual General Meeting Held on 10 April 2019:** These were deemed to be a correct record.

#### **Matters arising from the 2019 AGM Minutes:**

£360 from funds raised from the sale of the village history document, which had been donated to the Parish Meeting by Helen Goodman, has now been returned. Mrs Goodman reported that the sum had risen to £400 and was available for projects within the parish. It was agreed further details should be published on the village website.

**Chairman's Report** – the following report was given by the Chair of the Parish Meeting, John Wilkinson:

*Since the last AGM in April 2019 we have had a period of two very different halves. During the first half we tried to deal with some of the issues that arose from HGV traffic, we were looking forward to seeing the refurbished village hall busy and successful and new projects such as the Oswaldkirk to Ampleforth footpath come to life.*

*The second half has obviously been dominated by the Covid 19 pandemic which has put many things on hold and tested many of us. It has however shown the very best of many people who have stepped forward, seen and unseen, to help those who are more vulnerable to the virus. Their generosity is an example to us all and they should be heartily thanked.*

*There have been some minor successes during the year, the 40mph limit to be put in place on approaching Gilling (signs to go up very shortly), the playground road barrier and reinstatement of the 31X bus service. Probably the most significant action the Parish Meeting took during the year was to increase the parish precept by an average of £5 per household to help spread the cost of funding the village hall and playground between all households in the village.*

*These issues however pale into insignificance when we look towards the coming winter months with limited access to the three venues which offer villagers social contact, the village hall and the churches. Unfortunately, no further word has been heard from the brewery re the future of the Malt Shovel. It is against this background that, with darker nights approaching and the possibility of a Covid second wave, we need to be as vigilant as possible in looking out for each other.*

*I reiterate our thanks to the Covid helpers but there are many others that need mention, the village hall trustees and all those who have helped rejuvenate the hall and playground, those who look after the churches and keep them operating, the snow clearers, the repairers and*

*refurbishers, the fuel buyers, and the list goes on. All contribute to making Oswaldkirk a good place to live.*

*Despite the fact that we have had to limit the number of meetings over the past year, the number of government and council directives seems to be ever increasing, so finally I would like to thank both Samantha and Mike for dealing with these issues, supporting the Chair and for their hard work for the Parish Meeting over the past year.*

**Treasurers' Report** – Michael Aherne had presented the accounts for 2019/20 (see separate document) and the proposed budget for 2021/22 (the 2020/21 budget having been approved at the General Meeting in October 2019).

It was highlighted that there was an increase in the number of households paying tax which may result in an individual household's Council Tax bills reducing, despite the fact that the money requested from the Council remains unchanged.

Approval of the budget was proposed by David Badham and seconded by Roger Dexter-Smith. All present were in favour. The budget was duly approved.

**Election of Officers** – No nominations had been received for the Chairman, Treasurer or Secretary posts, therefore all three officers were re-elected unopposed.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 8.00 pm.