
Hollinswood and Randlay Parish Council

Chairman of the Council: Councillor Mrs Sheenagh Unwin

MINUTES of the Annual Parish Meeting held on **Monday 15th April 2024** at Randlay Community Centre.

PRESENT: Councillors S Unwin (Chairman)
Katrina Baker (Clerk)

In Attendance: Cllr J Johnson
Cllr C Turley
Cllr C Prescott
Cllr S Vaughan-Hodkinson
Cllr H Unwin
Cllr S Snell
Cllr P Cranfield
G Johnson
S Fisher
L Seabury
J Olenik
Mark Eccleston, West Mercia Search & Rescue (Guest Speaker)
5 Members of the public

F24/001

WELCOME

Councillor S Unwin, Chairman, opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. This is a meeting of the residents of the Parish, with representatives of the Parish Council. A warm welcome was extended to Mark Eccleston, our Guest Speaker and local residents.

CHAIRMAN'S AWARDS

It was a pleasure to present the Community Award to Amanda Winnall. Amanda volunteers around the Parish, the Town Park and in neighbouring areas keeping everywhere tidy and free of litter. Amanda also encourages family and friends to help – her tireless work is much appreciated.

The junior Award was presented to Rosie Roberts. Rosie also helps to keep the area clear of litter on a regular basis, often with her Dad and sometimes with her brother. Rosie is also a carer for her Mum. The Chairman says she always has a smile on her face and is always happy.

The Chairman, and Councillors, congratulated Amanda and Rosie on receipt of the Chairman's Awards, and thanked them on behalf of the community for the excellent work that they undertake regularly.

F24/002

GUEST SPEAKER

The Chairman welcomed Mark Eccleston. We first got to know Mark when he was working on trees in Randlay Valley. We found that he volunteered for West Mercia Search & Rescue. Mark gave a short presentation on the work of the Team – Everyday Heroes every Day – and showed a video telling the story of a young man who lost his life and who's family want to make a difference by raising awareness of the wonderful work that WMSR do in the West Mercia Area.

West Mercia Search & Rescue save people in danger. They are unpaid volunteers from the local community. All training, equipment and overheads are funded by donations and grants – unlike

Hollinswood and Randlay Parish Council

Chairman of the Council: Councillor Mrs Sheenagh Unwin

big national charities, they can't spend donations on advertising campaigns to attract funding. It costs around £2500 per month for them to remain operational.

The Chairman thanked Mark for attending and for the work that the Team carry out on behalf of the communities. Anyone interested in supporting or volunteering can email enquiry@westmerciasar.org.uk.

F24/003

APOLOGIES

Councillor P Farrar

Councillor J Creed

Councillor N England (TWC)

It was proposed by Councillor H Unwin, seconded by Councillor Turley, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the apologies, as listed, be accepted.

F24/004

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 25th APRIL 2022

The Minutes had appeared on the website following the meeting and had been confirmed at the May meeting of Full Council. It was proposed by Councillor Snell and seconded by Councillor Turley, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the APM held on 17th April 2023, be signed by the Chairman as an accurate record of the meeting.

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

F24/005

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman read her report. A copy had been distributed to all Councillors and it would be circulated to Members of Staff. It will also appear on the website.

F24/006

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk reported that the year had started with a balance of £222,309 with income totaling £336,755. The expenditure had totaled £427,341 which included £174,006 on projects – which showed a positive picture in support of our communities. The Closing Balance was £161,723.

A significant amount of the reserves has been earmarked for ongoing projects and are identified within the budget for 2024/25.

A copy of the balance sheet is available on request and will appear on the website.

F24/007

BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2024/25

The Clerk reported that Members of the Finance & Audit Committee were, throughout the process, mindful of the current situation for many residents, especially regarding the effects of the cost of living increases which everyone has been subject to.

Hollinswood and Randlay Parish Council

Chairman of the Council: Councillor Mrs Sheenagh Unwin

Whilst keeping this in mind, Members had considered the need for additional support for our residents and identified, through the Parish Strategy, ways in which the Parish Council can enhance the Parish.

With effective use of balances, and significant savings in recent years, the budget has reduced this year to £374,780. The precept was set at £263,834 resulting in a small increase for 2024/25.

F24/008 HOLLINSWOOD & RANDLAY PARISH YOUTH PROVISION PARTNERSHIP AND SPECIAL NEEDS ACTIVITY CENTRE

The Clerk presented a report regarding these two important projects, led by the Parish Council. A copy is available on the website.

F24/009 PRIMARY SCHOOL REPORTS

The school reports will appear on the website.

F24/010 OUTSIDE BODY REPORTS

a) Telford & Wrekin Council – Councillor C Turley and Councillor N England

b) Friends of Hollinswood & Randlay Valley – Councillor C Turley and L Seabury

Liam gave more information regarding the invasive plants that had been removed from the Valley and shared good news in that Shropshire Wildlife Trust will be holding events in the Valley in the Summer.

c) Shropshire Association of Local Council (Wrekin Area Committee) – Councillor H Unwin

The Chairman thanked the representatives for presenting their reports, copies had been circulated and will appear on the website.

F24/011 PARISH MATTERS

a) There had been no matters raised in writing, prior to the meeting.

b) Other matters raised:
None.

c) Thank you

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending..

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.50pm

SignedDate.....