The Annual Meeting of the Parish of Acle on Monday, 26th April 2021

Online at 6.30 p.m.

**Present:**

Parish councillors – Angela Bishop (Chair), Jamie Pizey (Vice-Chair), Sally Aldridge, Sarah Carter, Jackie Clover, Barry Coveley, Jayne Greenacre, Tony Hemmingway, Hannah Jackson, Wendy Kenny and Richard Powell, parish clerk Pauline James, County Councillor Brian Iles, District Councillor Lana Hempsall and 18 residents.

**Apologies:**

Rev’d Martin Greenland

**Police Report:**

The parish clerk gave a report; crimes in the area had fallen during lockdown, with the exception of domestic violence.

**Minutes of the 2019 and 2020 Meetings:**

The minutes were approved and will be signed by Angela Bishop, on behalf of the Meeting.

**Matters Arising from these Minutes:**

Speeding continues to be an issue in the village. The Parish Council has purchased a mobile Vehicle Activated Sign that will be moved to different locations, to reinforce speed limits.

**Acle Parish Council:**

Angela Bishop gave a report thanking everyone in the village who had helped support the community during the past 12 months, including the Acle & District Foodbank, which continues to support local families. The village had shown a wonderful community spirit. The Parish Council launched a Shop Acle initiative to support local businesses. The Council is concentrating on the refurbishment of the former Barclays building and the Chocolate Box building.

**Broadland District Council:**

Lana Hempsall gave a report; all business at BDC is being done online at present. BDC has given grants to businesses and community groups. Sanitiser stations were fitted in the village, and signage to support safe use of businesses. Officers are supporting residents, including delivering food when required.

**Norfolk County Council:**

Brian Iles gave a report which is filed with these minutes. Brian is not standing at the forthcoming elections so he was thanked for his time as Acle’s county councillor.

**Acle Good Neighbours:**

Sally Aldridge gave a report which is filed with these minutes.

**Acle Lands Trust:**

Nigel Robson gave a report which is filed with these minutes.

The Parish Councillors sent their thanks to all the volunteers.

**Acle Recreation Centre:**

Trustee Barry Brooks gave a report; Income at the Recreation Centre decreased by 78% while it was shut but, thanks to various grants and support for furloughed staff, there is only a £3,000 loss for the year to 31st December 2020. Some outdoor facilities have reopened and some indoor groups will start back as soon as permitted. Barry thanked the Parish Council for their financial support, and the trustees and staff at the Centre.

**Acle Beeline:**

Richard Powell reported on plans to increase wild flowers in the village to assist pollinators. The Beeline scheme aims to put in areas of suitable plants to create accessible lines of plants for bees and other pollinators. It’s a long-term project, and locally it is starting by leaving areas of grass uncut around the village, including the Damgate Lane play area, churchyard and the rear parts of some verges.

**Parishioners’ Comments and Questions:**1. Broadland Tree Warden Network – John Fleetwood introduced Anna Rodriguez, who has volunteered as Acle’s Tree Warden. There is possible funding for trees planted on publicly owned and accessible land.

2. Vernon Cumpstey asked for a grant to assist with the running of Acle Community Gym. It was agreed to discuss this at a Parish Council meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7.40 p.m.

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

Chairman of the Parish Council on behalf of the Meeting