

**Steeple Bumpstead Annual Village Meeting 20th
April 2022
Held in the Lecture Hall, behind the
congregational church.
DRAFT M I N U T E S**

Chairman: Cllr Kerry Barnes

Attendees: Cllr Garrod, Cllr Swaby, Cllr Hill, Cllr Rust, Cllr Mackenzie, Cllr Denning, Cllr Hexter and Julia Howard (Parish clerk).

**Members of the Public/ Speakers (by approximate number only):
7**

Total attendees: 16

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Cllr Borges, Rev'ds Lowe, Sheila Walsh, Chris Bailey and Annie Turner all send apologies as they would have liked to have attended

2. Approval Of Minutes from the meeting held on 21st April 2021 (by zoom due to Covid restrictions) - Cllr Rust proposed to accept the minutes as a true record and this was seconded by Cllr Mackenzie and accepted by all.

3. Presentation from Cllr Mackenzie regarding the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations (2nd-5th June 22). Cllr Ian Mackenzie ran through a schedule of events planned for the Jubilee weekend (this is within the appended presentation). He also spoke about a gift of seeds, from the Parish Council to residents of the village, which will be delivered soon. We also have been awarded 30 trees as part of the Queen's tree canopy, provided by the Woodland Trust. The Moot Hall will be open over the weekend for people to come and have a look at old photo's etc.

4. County & District Councillor's reports

County Cllr Schwier was absent.

Cllr Garrod, our District Councillor presented to the group, first introducing herself and the role that she holds, then going on to provide an update from the past year. (See appendix 2 for the written report)

5. Chairman's report

Chairman Cllr Barnes began by sharing the Councillors who have left the PC over the past year (add names and details) and welcomed three new Councillors, Cllr Alice Hexter, Cllr Roy Swaby and Cllr Rebecca Denning, taking us to full quota again, he extended his thanks to all other Councillors too (names)

The chairman then worked through the attached presentation, sharing how money has been spent by SBPC, how much and what types of contact we have had from parishioners and highlighting how many planning applications have been received within the Parish.

Several new bridges have been installed, having taken 2 years to get the works done. New play equipment was installed at camping close. Arboriculture reports were undertaken on some of the larger trees at camping close and Humphrey's Meadow. We have an active litter picking group in the village, Steeple Bumpstead Wombles, who are doing a wonderful job at keeping the village tidy. There are also some temporary Highways signage 'littering is illegal' at hot spots coming into the village. A large tree at Humphrey's meadow was diseased and felled, and now makes a lovely natural climbing activity. The village GP surgery sadly closed this year, in spite the best efforts from the Parish Council.

6. SPBC Neighbourhood Plan

SBPC has been working hard on this and there is now a draft neighbourhood plan, which is now with consultants who are assessing the plan to make sure it is legal and does what it needs to do. Another set of consultants are also advising on design codes. It is hope that the SBNP will go to referendum by 09/22.

7. Presentation from Guest Speakers

1. Mary Nicholls – SB Primary School – spoke about the past 2 years and the changes that COVID brought about, lockdowns and home schooling, hybrid lessons etc. Having previously been oversubscribed, the school has had lower intake in the past 2 years.

There is a new senior leadership team. Working hard on a new curriculum, as part of the Unity school's partnership. The school building has had a new roof installed.

A group of children gained recognition for their work on coding.

2. Brenda Pennycook – Ladies Social Circle, 4th Wednesday of the month, all welcome (and men welcome to pop along too). It has been running for around 23 years and now meets in the village hall.

3. Dave Kuyper – Bowls club. Dave has been Chairman for 11 years, it was founded in 1996 and still flourishes although it has moved sites during that time. Approx. 40-50 members, new members always welcomed. Open day on Saturday morning 23/4/22. Play in 2 leagues, the Steeple Bumpstead Bowls League and the North West Essex League. Club night is on a Tuesday evening, pop along any week and have a drink and be welcomed. There are regular other events, i.e., quiz nights. In the winter the carpet bowls teams take over.

They have planted around 70 trees and bushes in the village, have been doing lots of work to the bowls club, incl. new lighting.

It isn't just a game for the elderly – younger members are welcome too.

Dave also winds the church clock and has done so for 44 years.

4. Paul Sullivan – SB Golf Society – things slowed down a lot due to covid but please to say they are looking to run one event each month locally in the coming year. They are social events, usually including a stop for breakfast and a meal later on too, try to keep costs down but enjoying visiting some different locations not too far away.

Now has a Facebook presence too. Membership is £15/ year, details are in the Yellow Book. Guest welcome.

5. Jan Hall – Bingo – Jan gave a background to herself and Bingo (originally called Beeno). It is estimated that approx. 3million people play bingo twice a week across Europe. Jan has been running the village bingo club for 28 years, has raised over £47,000 for the village hall upkeep. Bingo is in the village hall every Thursday night at 8pm, all welcome.

Reports for absent speakers – please see reports within the presentation (appendix 3).

1. Sheila Walsh- Library has asked that we look to the regular updates in the Yellow Book for all you need to know about the village library which is open on Tuesday afternoons.

2. Catherine Condie – Steeple Bumpstead Neighbourhood Network (SBNN), helping hands, came about as a response to COVID – please see report appended.

The Chairman then threw open the floor to all, discussions commenced regarding PROW's – if you find a Public Right of Way is no longer passable, please ensure these are reported to the Highways team (County Council- there is an interactive map online for this) and the Parish Council – the clerk and Cllr Rust. Footpaths should be re-instated within a couple of weeks of ploughing fields.

7. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 19th April 2023 at the Village Hall.

8. Chairman closed the meeting at 20.51