

# **Clungunford Annual Parish Meeting**

**May 2019**

The annual parish meeting for Clungunford was held on **Wednesday 18th May 2019 at 7.00 pm** in the Village Hall. All the parish councillors were in attendance along with Shropshire county Cllr Nigel Hartin and around 15 parishioners.

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## **Notes from the meeting**

### **1 – Welcome from the chair**

Cllr Roberts welcomed those in attendance and offered some particular thanks and welcomes:

- Thanks to all the councillors
- Welcome to new Cllrs Elizabeth Lyster and Anne Gledhill
- Thanks to former Cllrs David Chapman and Bert Bason
- Thanks to the former clerk, Brian Taylor
- Welcome to the new clerk, Max Maxwell

The chair outlined the council's activity over the previous year. This included dealing with an abundance of potholes, making representations on behalf of parish residents, organising litter-picks and responding to planning applications. A particular focus has been dealing with the application for poultry units at Hopton Heath.

The chair also mentioned recent developments at the village hall and the church.

### **2 - Annual Financial Statement**

The chair read through the salient points from the annual financial statement which was adopted by the meeting.

### **3 – Report from county councillor – Nigel Hartin**

Cllr Hartin provided an overview of various county council matters including the following:

- The overall council budget is still under considerable pressure with more cuts expected. There is no prospect of change without greater funding from central government.
- The highways portfolio has not changed and a new contractor (Keir) has been appointed to deal with road repairs. This has led to some concerns that the repairs are not being done effectively or for good value. In addition, the highways budget is shrinking and staff levels are reduced. Divisional surveyors no longer have control of local budgets.
- Street lighting will be changed to LED.
- Budget constraints have affected the community enablement teams and these have been replaced with Place Plan Officers.
- The number of county planning committees will change from three to two (North and South Shropshire) but this may mean that councillors from outside these areas may sit on the committees.

Cllr Hartin was thanked for efforts to improve the broadband provision in the parish.

### **4 – Parish Charities Report**

Pat Buchanan provided an update on the two charity funds available in the parish. The Clungunford Educational Foundation has helped support many activities including driving lessons, swimming lessons school uniform purchase, school travel costs and special equipment. The Clungunford Fund has been used to purchase a number of personal alarms for parishioners.

The chair extended thanks to the charity trustees and Pat Buchanan for their efforts.

## **5 – Resolutions**

There were none.

## **6 – Questions from the floor**

The issue of equipment for children and families was raised. There is a need in the parish that is not currently met. During the discussion it was acknowledged that new governance arrangements at the village hall provide an opportunity to look at this. However, the key limiting factor is financial.

**Max Maxwell**

**Clerk to Clungunford Parish Council**

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