

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting, Great Ayton Parish Council
Held in the Friends' Meeting House on Tuesday 15th April 2014 at 7.00 pm**

Business

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Chairman's Welcome and Report
3. Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting
4. Matters arising from the Minutes
5. Councillors' Attendance
6. Public Questions
7. Any Other Business

Present

Cllr Mrs F Greenwell- Chairman, Cllr Mrs J Brown, Cllr J Fletcher, Cllr R Hudson and Cllr S Jackson.

Clerk to the Parish Council – Mrs J McLuckie.

2 Electors.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr R Kirk, Cllr G Readman and Mr P Greenwell.

2. Chairman's Welcome and Report

Cllr Mrs Greenwell welcomed those present to the Meeting and advised that they would be given the opportunity to speak later in the Meeting.

Cllr Mrs Greenwell provided a review of activities the Parish Council had been involved in over the previous year, including:

- Thanks to the Great Ayton Play Park Team who had work tirelessly fund raising to provide the now new equipment that was now installed in the Play Park. The new equipment was already getting well used and their efforts were not only greatly appreciated by the Parish Council but also the residents of Great Ayton. They plan to continue fund raising to try and arrange for the refurbishment or replacement of the toddlers area.
- The Parish Council along with a large number of residents had opposed the proposed Gladmans Development at School House Farm, they still have some time remaining to appeal the decision but to date they had not done so.
- The County Council and Hambleton District Council have introduced a scheme where certain street lights are switched off between the hours of midnight and 5 am, to date this has not caused any issues, however, if there was any increase in anti social behaviour or any issues in relation to safety this would lead to a review.
- The Village Fete would take place on 14 June 2014 and the theme this year would be 'Great Ayton Through the Ages'.
- 2014 would also see the centenary of the start of WW1 and Cllr Jackson was working with a team of volunteers organising various events to mark the occasion.
- Cllr Mrs Greenwell thanked her fellow Councillors the Parish Ground Staff and Parish Clerk for their continued work and support in ensuring Great Ayton remains a clean, safe and great place to live.

3. Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 23rd April 2013 were approved and signed.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Councillors' Attendance

Twelve regular Parish Council Meetings had been held since the last Annual Parish Meeting. Attendance was as follows:-

Cllr Mrs Greenwell 12, Cllr Fletcher 8, Cllr Kirk 10, Cllr Readman 10, Cllr Hudson 8, Cllr Mrs Brown 11 and Cllr Jackson 9.

6. Public Questions

Ian provided an update in relation Great Ayton Discovery Centre which as they approached their 2nd Anniversary continues to be a great success and is held as a model both regionally and nationally. The continued support of their volunteers and the Parish Council was acknowledged. It was presently costing in the region of £3,000 per month to run with £2,500 met from the Precept. It was reported that this was expected to increase next year due to now having to pay the vat costs in relation to the Librarians salary costs and the continued increase in energy costs, however, it was anticipated that they would be able to meet this increase through additional fund raising. They have also secured grants to improve the automatic entrance doors but this was currently on hold while the newly formed Improvement Team review all issues. A full financial report would be submitted to the Council in due course.

Cllr Mrs Greenwell thanked Ian and the team of volunteers at the Great Ayton Discovery Centre for their continued hard work.

7. Any Other Business

There was no additional business.

Cllr Mrs Greenwell thanked everyone for attending and declared the Meeting closed.

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