

## Annual Parish Meeting of Electors

Acton Village Hall  
Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in Acton Village Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 19th April 2023.

Prior to the meeting residents were invited to chat with representatives of local groups at tables around the meeting room between 7pm – 7.30pm.

Stall holders: Acton Good Neighbours Scheme, Acton Wombles, Crafters, Acton Action Plan, Go Start, Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, and Acton Scouts.

**Present:** 16 residents (including 5 Parish Cllrs), District and County Cllrs and the Clerk.

**1. Welcome:** From the Chairman Cllr Round, of Acton Parish Council welcomed residents to the meeting. The Chairman noted the difference between the Annual Parish meeting and Parish meetings,

This covered the following points:

Annual Parish Meeting is a relatively informal event for the community, whereas the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council is a formal council meeting.

When a parish does not have a Parish Council, parishioners can organise the Annual Parish Meeting, where there is a Parish Council, the Parish Council Chairman, with the assistance of the Parish Council Clerk normally organises the meeting which is then chaired by the Parish Council Chairman.

**2. Apologies:** Apologies were received from Sara Richmond, (Acton Gardeners Club)

**3. Minutes:** Of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 20th April 2022: it was agreed that the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting dated 20<sup>th</sup> April 2022 were an accurate record of the meeting. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

**4. Chairmans Annual Report:**

The chairman reported on the work of the Acton Parish Council throughout the past year.

The points reported covered:

- Organisation of a village Christmas tree event at Queensway which children were able visit Santa in a pop-up Grotto.
- In March and September a Parish Council newsletter was delivered to every home in the village.
- Working with both the District and County Councils to have the surface of the footpath between the High Street and Clay Hall Place improved.
- Installing a bench at Cuckoo Tye.
- Improving the entrance to Lime Tree Play area from Jennens Way.

- Volunteer teams improved the surface of local public footpath routes.
- Currently raising grant funds to add some additional equipment to Lime Tree Green children's play area.
- Working with the developer at Tamage Rd to install a Village Gym Trail.
- Three of the Council members worked with a group of residents to form a sub-committee of the Council the Council formally adopted the Neighbour Hood Plan Steering Group.
- A Parish Council website has been created and has lots of useful information, including a set of useful leaflets than can be downloaded or printed. The leaflets, identify in great detail, the routes of 8 local walks. Via the website you can contact your Parish Councillors and or the Parish Clerks.
- Finally following the great success of Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee village day here at the VH, the Parish Council are again supporting Acton Play Group in organising a village Coronation Day for the King, here at the Village Hall on the 8<sup>th</sup> May.

**5. County Councillor's report:**

Cllr Philip Faircloth-Mutton congratulated the parish council on their work and expressed his enjoyment in the working relationship in the past year. Phillip Faircloth Mutton reported on some highlights of the year and the coming months a summary of this was:

- A boost to citizen advice bureau has been made to benefit the community.
- A new school for children with severe learning difficulties will be in south Suffolk.  
The school will offer a full range of services that they children deserve.
- A new Brownie archive centre will be in Bury St Edmunds the existing centre is not suitable and the refurbishment would have cost more.  
The new centre will be western way near Asda Bury St Edmunds.
- Support of the new bench at Cuckoo Tye,
- Quiet Lanes signage has been installed lead by Cllr Nick Antill.
- The airfield public rights of way designation is ongoing and discussions are continuing.
- A speed test on Vicarage Lane is being looked into and a speed reduction to 20mph.
- If you wish to vote polling day is at Acton village Hall 4<sup>th</sup> May 7am – 10pm.

**6. District Cllrs report:**

Cllr Liz Malvisi and Cllr John Nunn circulated their report which included

- the recent changes to voting with the need to bring ID to polling stations.
- The report included:

Making even more homes energy efficient. Over the next three years, more Suffolk homes will be upgraded to improve their energy efficiency, helping to reduce residents' energy bills. A joint bid by Suffolk's local authorities, including Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils, will see £8.6m come into the county as part of the Government's Home Upgrade Grant (HUG). Eligible

households will benefit from improvements such as insulation, low carbon air source heat pumps or solar panels.

- The Suffolk Waste Partnership’s subsidised compost bin offers at this year’s prices (current prices end 31st March 2023). Home compost bins and other food digesting systems help reduce our garden and kitchen waste and turn it into nutrient rich organic matter.
- Prosecution of a Sudbury resident at a council property due to rubbish being left to fester including a stolen shopping trolley.

**7. Public Forum:**

The chairman opened the meeting to a public forum.

- A resident raised concerns over pot holes in the village with the focus on the road between Acton and Lavenham. Phillip Faircloth Mutton explained that most potholes have been filled within 12 weeks however the contractors are being changed from October where milestone will take the contract over therefore hopes for more efficiency from October onwards.
- A resident noted Vicarage Lane linking to Tamage Road new development concerns over the edging. Phillip Faircloth Mutton explained after a recent meeting that the edging is to be continued by Bloor with additional planting.
- A resident explained that the Tamage Road development outlet pipe of the attenuation pond has potential blockages. Cllr Round explained that the developers are aware of such issues as the point has been raised previously.

The chair thanked residents and Cllrs for attending and closed the meeting at 8pm.