

# **Minutes of The ANNUAL GISLINGHAM VILLAGE MEETING held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 6pm in Gislingham Village Hall**

**Council Members present:** Julie Bell, Ian Urwin, Jerry Mew

**In Attendance:** 10 members of the public, CC Cllr Fleming, DC Cllr Warboys, Jane Challis (Clerk to the Parish Council), M Bryant (Footpath Warden), Clare Hall JRSO (Junior Road Safety Officer) Adult Lead, two JRSOs

**Host:** Councillor Julie Bell, Chair of Gislingham Parish Council

## **1 Welcome from the Chair of Gislingham Parish Council**

Cllr Bell welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **2 To receive an Annual Report from the County Councillor**

CC Cllr Fleming's Annual Report can be found as an addendum at the end of the minutes.

## **3 To receive an Annual Report from the District Councillor**

DC Cllr Warboy's Annual Report can be found as an addendum at the end of the minutes.

## **4 To receive an Annual Report from the Chair of the Parish Council**

Cllr Bell read out her Annual Report, a copy of which can be found as an addendum at the end of the minutes.

6:04pm CC Cllr Fleming arrived.

## **5 Guest Speaker – Gislingham Primary School's Junior Road Safety Officer Adult Lead**

A presentation followed by Clare Hall the JRSO Adult Lead, and two JRSO members. Clare Hall explained that 80 schools in Suffolk currently have JRSOs, and that it creates a very powerful visual message to drivers when they see pupils participating in road safety activities. In order to become a JRSO pupils have to complete a job application, and they can achieve bronze, silver or gold level awards for the work they subsequently do. The JRSOs present explained that they wanted to be involved to help increase road safety, and to encourage members of the public to drive and park responsibly in the vicinity of the school. They have also been involved with the Gislingham Speedwatch Team, the School's Eco Council, and local Council Members. The two JRSOs present concluded by conducting a practical demonstration involving an egg experiment, to show the importance of road safety.

Cllr Bell thanked Clare Hall and the JRSO's for their very informative, and brilliantly presented talk on road safety and the work of the JRSOs.

Cllr Bell returned to agenda item 2  
(2 To receive an Annual Report from the County Councillor)

In addition to her Annual Report, CC Cllr Fleming advised that the local County Councils are getting together with regard to National Grid's East Anglia GREEN proposal. Their aim is to work collectively to minimise harm should the proposed Pylon route go ahead.

6:34pm DC Cllr Warboys arrived.

CC Cllr Fleming also provided an update on the ongoing closure of the Cowpasture Lane railway crossing in Mellis, which has impacted residents from neighbouring parishes too. Network Rail has said the works will be carried out w/c 29<sup>th</sup> May 2023, however the County Council has advised them that this is unacceptable and has requested alternative proposals by 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023. CC Cllr Fleming also thanked the JRSOs for their presentation and said it has been a pleasure to work them.

## **6 Presentation of the Watson Bowl**

Cllr Bell announced that the Watson Bowl for 2022 is awarded to Mark Askew and David Hardman who, in the view of the Parish Council, have contributed in a significant way to the Village through their work to the playground on Charity Meadow. Mark and David were not present at the meeting, so the Clerk will advise them of the award, and arrange for Cllr Bell to present it.

## **7 Presentation of the Volunteer of the Year Award**

Cllr Bell announced that the Volunteer of the Year Award for 2022 is awarded to Stuart Wells in recognition of his outstanding service to the Village through his voluntary work with the Speed Indicator Device. Stuart was not at the meeting, so the Clerk will advise him of the award, and arrange for Cllr Bell to present it.

## **8 To receive Reports from those within the community involved in Gislingham**

- Jean Archdeacon Village Historian – no report received
- Gislingham CE Primary School Headteacher's Report – no report received

There being no further business, Cllr Bell declared the meeting closed at 6:42pm, and invited those present to stay for refreshments provided by the Parish Council.

