

HALWELL & MORELEIGH ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

& PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 25th April 2022 at 7pm .

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

1. **District Councillor – H. Reeve**

Within the South Hams properties that have successfully been matched to house Ukrainian guests is 46. It is anticipated the actual number will be more. The most direct way to help is to go to the DCC website.

Waste continues to be troublesome. Although the grey bins and recycling seem to be collected on a regular basis unfortunately the brown bins are having issues. This has been put down to staff shortage and if your bin is not collected it is best to take it back in and put in out on the next date for brown bins. The council apologises for this.

Locality Officers spend a big part of their time around the South Hams patrolling areas. This would be checking up on our beaches and towns, litter, dog & anti-social behaviour. One problem we have is that the new Multiuse Bin at the village hall is being 'filled up' with large bags of rubbish which is stopping the bin being used as it is intended, that being for litter and dog waste. If this continues the bin could be removed.

2. **County Councillor – R. Gilbert**

Good to see the new VAS.

I have attended almost all of the PC meetings.

I have kept the PC up to date with all the pandemic information.

I helped to achieve the change of priorities on the road past Pears.

I met with the Church Street communities along with members of the PC & Highways.

I have forwarded a report on the freeport.

Regarding Ukraine guests the following information might be of interest:

1048 guests have been sponsored in Devon.

Over half of those now have a visa and 142 have arrived.

435 sponsored homes with 422 DBS checked and 11 rejected.

70% of sponsored properties have been inspected.

Sponsors receive £350 per calendar month and guest receive £200 per person per month.

400 Hong Kong refugees are in Exeter and there are a lot of Afghan refugees.

The Chair commented that the traffic arrangements at Pears are only 70% effective.

3. **Police Report** – No incidents reported since 22.2.22

4. **Chair's Report**

The traffic restriction past Pears is only 70% effective.

The VAS is in operation and a new post has been erected on the Diptford Road.

Thanks to the PC for the past 12 months and especial thanks to our younger Members and to Paul Westlake for their work. It is good to have Helen Reeve as our district councillor.

It is disappointing that the repairs to the potholes and to the surface of the road at Moreleigh Cross have not been carried out.

Wifi distribution has improved.

Many cars are being parked on the road through Moreleigh, which helps to slow traffic.

The PC will be involved in the Jubilee Celebrations and will finance the provision of coins for the children of the Parish and a new bench for the play area.

5. **Moreleigh Church representative – Rose Hannaford**

As most people are now aware, Moreleigh Church is temporarily closed awaiting building work. The tower is unsafe due to some of the merlons surrounding the top of the tower being loose. The PCC are working with the architect and the builder to firstly, board off the access to the tower inside the church to make it safe to hold services giving us time to raise funds for the main building work, applying for a grant and fundraising.

To add to the problems there has been a fire in our electrics cupboard causing damage to the we have to have the whole cupboard rewired.

At the moment, St. Leonards's at Halwell are hosting one service a month for Moreleigh which is very much appreciated.
6. **St. Leonard's Church representative – Rose Palmer**

At the beginning of 2021 we were still experiencing difficulties moving forward due to ongoing Covid 19 restrictions, however the church is now unlocked and open to visitors, to use the book exchange and leave items in the food bank box which is taken regularly to both Totnes and Kingsbridge food banks.

We hold an evening service once a month and since Moreleigh is temporarily closed we host their monthly evening service.

Tuesday lunch continues monthly with up to twenty attending.

We hope to build on a monthly craft and tea service for children, after our successful Palm Sunday service.

With Moreleigh having to temporarily close, both churches feel the pressure of ongoing repairs and maintenance. We hope to hold a number of fundraising activities to help towards the cost of this work. To support St Peters at Harbertonford too, the three churches are working together and their first joint fundraising event will be a PLANT SALE at Knowle House on the 14th May 2022.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Parish Council for the contribution to the churchyard maintenance which is greatly appreciated.
7. **Parish News representative – Jax Williams**

Contributions are coming in regularly thanks to a few regulars (you know who you are!) Be great to get an injection of a different subject - whatever that may be... May's went to the printers today and asked for 150 copies.

Thoughts of sending it out to some by email - I think we'll lose revenue as some may forward it on to others. If you do decide to do this I would suggest you still charge the same amount.
8. **Village Hall Trust and Sports & Social Committee representative – Helen Reeve**

The village hall has survived covid well with grants applied for by Graham Spittle. It has helped the hall no end during this lean time with bookings. The hall is now picking up on weekly bookings with social events & fund raisers taking place too. Only on Friday the hall held a bingo raising £1000. With the dedication of Graham as treasurer, Angela as booking clerk & caretaker plus the great team who work so well on the social side of the hall it remains in a very stable way.
9. **Footpaths – Council representative – Mike McInerney**

After thirteen conscientious years, Councillor James Mussen stepped down from his role as footpaths officer towards the end of last year. I volunteered to step into his shoes and was voted in by the PC. In the past year I have walked all bar two of the parish footpaths and rights of way and have found them to be in a satisfactory condition save for some drainage issues and the occasional risk of ruts developing from trail bike use. James used to keep an overall eye on the state of the footpaths with the aid of a couple of volunteers (myself included) and I plan to continue in that fashion as we move forward.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

PRESENT: Councillors: D. Treeby, J. Collins, M. McInerney, J. Mussen, N. Palmer, H. Reeve, R. Tozer
P. Westlake, R. Widger
In attendance: Cllr. R. Gilbert, S. Winstanley (Clerk in attendance)

OPEN FORUM – Three members of the public attended.

- Request for a VAS for Church Street.
- Discussion took place about the speed of vehicles through the village.
- The white lines around Moreleigh Cross are badly eroded.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – As Annual Parish Meeting

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – As Annual Parish Meeting

POLICE REPORT - No report.

1. **APOLOGIES** – M. Hicks
2. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 21st March 2022.** It was proposed, seconded and **Resolved** that the Chair sign the Minutes as a true and correct record.
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Members are invited to declare any personal or disclosable Pecuniary interests including the nature and extent of such interests they may have in any items to be considered at this meeting. None
4. **CLERK'S REPORT** – No report
5. **CHAIR'S REPORT** – As Annual Meeting.
6. **PLANNING & PLANNING MATTERS** – None
7. **FINANCIAL MATTERS:- To approve the following payments.**
 - a) BT – £303.68 - S. Winstanley (Apr)
BT – £108.53 – DALC sub
BT – £321.58 – S. Winstanley (annual office expenses)
BT - £60.00 – ½ SLCC sub **Approved**
 - b) Cash at bank – £24,919.12 (including £5000 precept payment & £600.59 VAT)
 - c) To approve the Annual Accounts
 - d) To approve the Annual Governance Statement
 - e) To approve the Accounting Statement)
 - f) To approve Certificate of Exemption **Approved**
8. **To update the Parish Council Risk Assessment.** All agreed and updated.
9. **To discuss provision of additional defibrillator for Moreleigh.**
Quotes not available. To be provided.

10. To discuss quotes for additional bench.

It was agreed that the PC should purchase a 6ft bench with arms from TDP.

11. Update on Parish plans for the Jubilee celebration

Helen Reeve has purchased the coins for the children of the Parish which were shown to Members. The PC are also providing a new bench for the play area which will have a plaque commemorating the Queen’s Jubilee.

12. Update on employing a Parish Lengthsman

The Chair has received no contact from the proposed lengthsman.

13. CORRESPONDENCE - None

15. COUNCILLOR’S REPORTS –

M. McInerney – the residents of Church Street want a VAS. It was agreed that the VAS at present outside Moreleigh Cross Farm should be switched off for a week and the speed of traffic be monitored (through the sign) to see the effect. It will then be moved to the new position on the Diptford road and once again the statistics gathered by the VAS will be considered and the item included in the agenda for May.

P. Westlake - The play equipment has been inspected and the old bench has been removed. Weed killed the area around the Village Hall. The bin was full but having been emptied it is now full again.

J. Collins - The vegetation by the Rectory has grown out and needs to be cut back and the white line has been obscured. It was also noted that the white lines at Moreleigh Cross and nearby junction – the white lines are very faint.

16. DATE of next MEETING – In the Village Hall at 7pm - 16th May 2022 (Annual Parish Council Meeting)

SIGNED

D. Treeby – Chair

ACTION POINTS

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| Clerk | To include additional VAS in next agenda
To contact Highways Officer re. Growth near Rectory and white lines.
To obtain new Bench |
| Chair | To include quotes for new defibrillator in next agenda
To arrange meeting re. lengthsman |

