

**Minutes of the Salhouse Annual Parish Meeting
held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 5th May 2021
held virtually via Zoom**

Present : Bob Cooper, Colin McCormick, Julie Redburn, Steve Jarvis, Martin Nudd, Lynn Yallop, Nick Ball and Andrew Peachment.

In Attendance: Sarah Martin, Parish Clerk

Members of Public: 10

1. Welcome to all

Colin McCormick, chairing the meeting, welcomed all to the 2021 Annual Parish Meeting of Salhouse. It was reiterated that this meeting is not a Parish Council meeting and it will not be discussing Parish Council business, although it is hosted by the Council.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 10th April 2019 were available for the meeting. They were proposed to be accepted by Julie Redburn; seconded by Martin Nudd.

3. Chairman's Report – presented by Bob Cooper

The Parish Council has not met in person but has been 'meeting' by Zoom for over a year now. In general, this has worked well. However, the legal exemption that enabled councils to meet remotely expires on 7th May, but the 'roadmap' out of lockdown does not permit indoor meetings until 17th May at the earliest. There will therefore be no meetings during this period.

I would like to thank our previous Chairman, Martin Murrell, who left the Council at the end of 2020 to concentrate on District Council matters.

During the 2020 lockdown, the Parish Council created an Emergency Group with the intention of providing whatever help was required by residents in isolation. For several months we ran a very successful prescriptions delivery service in cooperation with Hoveton and Wroxham medical centre, but generally the demand for assistance was fairly low. However, some of the goodwill generated during lockdown has been utilised to create a 'Good Neighbour Scheme' whose aim is to provide a wider range of help to residents in need in the future.

Over the winter 20-21, there have been some successful projects completed utilising the Highways' Parish Partnership scheme, most notably the long-awaited 'trod' path along a significant part of Norwich Road, and another short section of 'trod' near the parish boundary on the 'Hills and Holes', connecting two sections of rural footpath on the circular walk route enabling walkers to navigate this section in greater safety. As part of the same programme, there have also been drop kerbs installed at junctions around Cheyney Avenue to help wheelchair and buggy users. We have also acquired two additional defibrillators which have been located around the village.

These are examples of local improvements which the Parish Council can achieve. Unfortunately, there are other issues where the council's powers are strictly limited or where the Parish Council can only engage with other 'stakeholders' but cannot force them to act. One example of this is the winter flooding which has occurred in various locations around the village; another example is the parking issues which arise in connection with Salhouse Broad and around the school, and likewise with speed limits. We will, however, maintain whatever pressure we can on these issues.

We continue to receive complaints about dog fouling in various locations. We have recently had some new red bins installed, at the Parish Council's expense, so please clean up after your dog.

Finally, I would like to give some thanks to our volunteers in the village, most notably Team Salhouse, the Salhouse Good Neighbours Scheme, the Friends of Salhouse Broad and the tree planting work which is quietly being done by a team led by our Tree Warden. And not least, of course, our own

Parish Councillors who put in a lot of hours unpaid. I would like to take this opportunity to point out that there are vacancies on the Parish Council for additional councillors.

4. Police report – written by PC Steve Clarke - read by Steve Jarvis

Please find attached for your information:

This period covers 1st Jan to 5th May 2021

In total there were 50 calls into the Control Room with regards to Salhouse.

- 5 x Domestic Incidents, two resulting in a crime.
- 2 x neighbour disputes
- 1 x neighbour disputes
- 1 x Drugs offence
- 5 x animal offences – (dog bite/wildlife on road etc)
- 6 x concerns for safety
- 1 x burglary
- 3 x thefts
- 3 x harassment
- 5 x Mental health
- 3 x violence
- 1 x RTC

I have looked into all of these incidents and nothing of note really alarms me. When broken down I believe that the start of the year has been as expected and crime within our area remains low. On average 12 jobs per month really is not too alarming although I will still commit to providing best service and reduce this number although we are now heading into the summer months. Salhouse Broad and the play area will be patrolled during these times.

The rest of the incidents reported did not warrant police attendance or occurred away from Salhouse but were reported within.

I will continue to patrol locally and assist with anything that is needed with regards to Salhouse.

Please pass on my details should anybody need to speak to me.

Current Neighbourhood Priorities

- Speeding
- Nuisance ASB
- Drug misuse

5. District and County Councillor – report received from Cllr Fran Whymark – read by Sarah Martin

You're on mute, Zoom, Teams, et cetera, et cetera, have all become part of daily life over the last year. There is no doubt that it has been an extraordinary year for everyone. The recent death of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, really brought it home to many people, recognising the loss so many of us have felt.

The worst of times bring out the best in people. Without the community groups supporting our most vulnerable it could have been a lot worse for so many. Broadland District Council (BDC) continue to work with community groups across our district, supporting them to continue helping our communities.

25% of the adult population has now had both vaccinations and over 70% of all adults have had their first Covid vaccination. Seeing what is happening in India now shows that we cannot be complacent. 'Nobody's safe until everybody's safe' is so true.

Remember you can get free Covid tests from your pharmacy. If you test positive or have Covid symptoms, please isolate. There is support available should you need it.

Remember, Hands – Face – Space. We will get through this working together.

At BDC the new Housing Portal is now up and running. Everyone on the housing register has access to all available properties 24/7 and can bid on properties in Broadland or South Norfolk. Kickstart is making job placements available for 16 to 24-year-olds on Universal Credit. Work4All is there to help anyone who is unemployed get back into work. We know the last year has been tough and the year ahead could be difficult too, so we are trying to support our residents back into work.

At Norfolk County Council (NCC) I am pleased that the People and Communities Select Committee has continued its work looking at improving Adult and Children's Social Care and Public Health. Over the last few months we have been looking at how we improve the quality and supply of care for young and old alike. I believe we will see positive changes in the future.

And NCC policy for Extra Care Independent Living is starting to increase the quality and choice for older people. The show home at Fakenham is now open and Herondale in Acle will open in summer 2022 and a new unit has been approved in Little Plumstead near Rackheath. We are also testing assistive technology, such as the Carephone which allows people to contact carers or family with just one touch. Maintaining contact for those who may have difficulties using other technology.

Two new Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Schools will be opening soon. A school for children with social emotional and mental health difficulties will open in Great Yarmouth in Autumn 2021 and a school for children on the autistic spectrum will open in Fakenham in January 2022.

Two new recycling centres are under construction, showing our commitment to increase our recycling rates and care for our environment.

And finally, as most of my correspondence is about Highways, NCC have committed to spending £10 million repairing potholes over the coming year. Each County Councillor will also have £10,000 to spend on improving the roads in their area this year

6. Other contributions by Salhouse residents and representatives of Clubs and Organisations:

Team Salhouse – read by Steve Piper

It has been an unusual year -a well-used phrase, but Team Salhouse volunteers have continued in their efforts to maintain the look of the village with litter picking on an individual basis and flowerbed planting.

As a result, the village continues to be relatively clear of litter and instances of fly tipping reported to Broadland District Council were quickly dealt with.

The flowerbeds around the village have looked wonderful this year and we receive many positive comments from residents and visitors.

We were fortunate to have help from a young person who is working towards his Duke of Edinburgh award and has put in a sterling effort in litter picking, sign cleaning and trimming back overhanging branches along our footpaths. We hope that he might carry on helping this year and, perhaps, become the youngest member of our group.

We continue to plant and maintain the various flowerbeds around the village and will shortly be starting the summer planting. The bulbs in the bank opposite the old Post Office have, again, been disappointing this spring but, hopefully, will improve next year.

Some of our volunteers helped out on the playing field this year preparing the site for the Peter Jefford Memorial Seat and also maintaining the verge alongside the trod close to the hedge along Thieves Lane. Thanks go to all our volunteers and local residents who help with the planting and watering during the summer months.

We are looking forward to an easing of restrictions and, when safe to do so, tackle more ambitious projects.

We have a current team of around 20 people but always welcome new members of all ages. We can promise an enjoyable time in good company whilst making a difference to the village. You would be welcome even if you can only give occasional help.

Afternoon Tea and Mardle – report read by Andrew Peachment

The Afternoon Tea and Mardle had been going for over 10 years until last March when Covid struck and closed us all down. Sadly we have decided that it is still not practicable to recommence the Mardle as long as the Jubilee Hall's Exceptional T&C's apply and without further guidance regarding vulnerable groups.

Many apologies for not being able to be more definite regarding resumption of the Mardle but, as someone who has an underlying health condition which has put me in a vulnerable category for the last 12 months, I am unwilling to resuming the Mardle until able to do so under more normal conditions.

Community Speedwatch – report written by Malcolm Prestwood (Salhouse Speedwatch Coordinator) – read by Steve Piper

The Community Speedwatch service is run on behalf of the Norfolk Constabulary and County Council through the organisation known as Norfolk Safety Camera Partnership. The purpose of this is to reduce accidents deaths and injuries on the roads. Many villages and towns in Norfolk and Suffolk run such schemes with the purpose of monitoring and reporting traffic speeds within their boundaries to improve community safety and the environment. Operating since 2008 the Salhouse teams cover some 8 locations within the parish boundary conducting observations at random times. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic activity has been curtailed during 2020 but is now back in operation. All locations used to carry out such monitoring have been pre-approved by the Safety Camera Partnership as to suitability and safety for the team. Measurements and information of vehicles exceeding the set limits are recorded and provided by way a report to the Safety Camera Partnership for action. Warning sign are deployed covering the zone of operation and any one team comprises 3 persons to conduct the measurement as well as verify and log the information of those vehicles exceeding the specified limits. In addition to the Speedwatch services above Salhouse Parish Council also operates a Speed Activated Message sign (SAM2) that is deployed at specific approved points around the village. The purpose of this device is to warn drivers when in excess of the speed limits and to record information which includes speeds and traffic volumes. This information is made available to the Parish Council and the Police to monitor traffic patterns within the parish. We are always looking for further volunteers to join the Speedwatch group for which training instruction will be provided. Contact Malcolm Prestwood on 721110 or Steve Piper on 720993.

Salhouse United Charities – report written by Bob Cooper (Chairperson) – read by Pauline Garner

Since the last report to the Annual Parish Council Salhouse United Charities have appointed Simon Gay as Trustee and the current Trustees are Martin Murrell (Chair), Simon Gay (Vice Chair), Robert Cooper, Rev Darleen Platten and Pauline Garner. Carol Knell has resigned from her post and we thank her for all she has done to help us. We still have a full complement of Trustees.

Apart from the first meeting in January last year all meetings were held on Zoom.

In addition to holding funds in our bank account, we investigated and opened a charity investment account, in line with the Charity Commission guidelines, which will help to generate further income for the charity to disperse.

As Covid took hold we put new notices offering our help on all the village noticeboards and an article in the Salhouse Saga, but so far no further requests for help were received from Parishioners. We gave help to Salhouse Primary School in the form of a grant to help towards lunches, uniform, etc, and once the school was able to fully re-open we gave a further grant towards the cost of Perspex screens to divide the year groups.

At the Schools' request we were also able to purchase some computer tablets for use with home schooling.

As a token recognition of such a difficult year, the charity was able to provide a number of modest hampers at Christmas to some who had found the year particularly trying.

Salhouse Saga Magazine – report written by Malcolm Prestwood (Editor) – read by Colin McCormick

Salhouse Saga Magazine Salhouse Saga Magazine has been published continuously every 4 months since 1984. It is issued in March, July and November of each year, free of charge to all households in the village including other related locations. Throughout this time the magazine has aimed to provide useful and informative information for the village along with articles of historical interest. Funding of the magazine has been provided through the advertisers for which their long-term support is gratefully acknowledged, particularly during the period of the pandemic. Despite the reduction in activities due to the pandemic during 2020, the contributors still managed to provide reports on their on-line activities and history articles helped to keep the magazine going through this difficult time. Unfortunately, Doreen Dye passed away at the end of August 2020. Doreen had looked after the accounting and advertising for the magazine for over 20 years as well as being a stalwart member and organiser of several village activities throughout her lifetime. At this same time, following earlier requests, volunteers came forward to take on the magazine in 2021. After publication of the Winter 2020 edition the magazine was thus transferred to the new editor, namely Colin McCormick and the accounts/advertising to Richard Flatters. Whilst Juliette Bendy also retired from the editorial team at this time Pauline Garner has continued to handle the magazine distribution. During the previous 20 years the magazine was also pleased to have donated monies into village projects and activities. Therefore in signing off as the previous editor I wish to thank everyone who has assisted with the magazine during this time. This includes those who have previously been members of the Saga team, village distributors, article writers and the advertisers who have all made the magazine possible. In conclusion I wish every success to the new team taking the magazine forward out of this difficult period of the pandemic.

Malcom Prestwood, Editor 2001 – 2020

Having taken over the editorship of the magazine is a great honour following Malcolm's unprecedented stint. The format that he has evolved is very successful and I have no intention of making substantial changes. The Spring 2021 issue was my first and I was afraid that many of our groups would have little to report during the pandemic and the magazine might be a little thin. I needn't have worried, as everyone rallied round, and together with some new contributors, we had a bumper edition! I actually think the editor's job is the easy part, and the hard work is done by our contributors, by Richard in accounts and advertising and by Pauline and her distribution team, so thanks to all of them. You may notice some detailed changes to the magazine in future issues, and we are considering more colour pages, but it is expensive and we have to keep in budget. The next issue goes to print in early July, so it will not be long before I start sending out reminders for contributions. Anyone who thinks they can make a contribution, either as a regular or a one-off, please contact me. Thank you.

Colin McCormick, Editor 2021 -

Village Website www.salhousevillage.org.uk report written by Malcolm Prestwood (Webmaster) – read by Nick Ball

The above website was first implemented on behalf of the Parish Council in 2004 to provide information about the village of Salhouse for the benefit of village recognition by way of resident's information as well as business and tourism. Content also included Parish Council administration and information

about the village, church and community groups. In 2019 as the current web software was becoming dated, it was decided that the Parish Council would set up their own site with direct access for updating and that this website would be phased out. The Parish Council website is now operational, and the original village website is in the process of being switched off.

Gardening Club – report from by Nick Taylor (Chairman) – read by Martin Nudd

Our last meeting was held in February 2020. With the beginning of the pandemic we then made the reluctant decision to suspend the Garden Club for the foreseeable future and cancel the speakers and visits planned. Whilst we initially hoped to restart later that year, this obviously did not prove to be possible. We still had hopes of resuming our activities in March 2021 and again this fell by the wayside.

At the present time we do not know when, where, or whether we will be able to restart. We will, of course, be carefully watching government guidelines and act when we are able. In the meantime, we have been working on a possible programme for next year. Whilst some speakers have been happy to re-book, others are reluctant to commit until things are clearer. We have always had our garden visits in June, July and August but we are not in a position to be able organise these this year although one of our members has kindly offered to open their garden for a visit in August if this is permitted.

It is looking increasingly likely that it will be at least September before we can realistically think about restarting the club although we cannot make any definite arrangements at this stage. If we are unable to use the school as our meeting place, (which is a possibility), we may have to change our meeting days as the Jubilee Hall is not available on our usual dates.

Not a very positive report, I am afraid. Hopefully things will continue to improve and enable us to get up and running again before too long.

Salhouse Bell Reading Group – report read by Julie Redburn

Since starting in 2018 to date we have, to date, read 34 books. We meet once a month on the first Thursday of the month at 7.00 p.m. at The Bell.

As everyone else has discovered it has been challenging to carry on, but we have. It has got a little complicated with the various lockdowns as we have tried our best to keep meeting in order to support our local pub but also to comply with the restrictions imposed on group gatherings, the weather, when we have had to sit outside, and even changing our meeting day.

We have, since lockdown number two, resorted to Zoom. Whilst the meetings are considerably shorter, we are managing to still meet up. The choices we make are varied and at times we have also managed to get DVDs of books we have enjoyed so we can critique the actual book the film and give opinions.

We look forward to resuming our social gathering, hopefully in June, and also to rejoice in the opening of hairdressers. Much amusement was generated by appearing on Zoom with luxuriant wild locks, and that was just our gentlemen readers.

Tree Warden Report – report by James Cleaver - read by Lynn Yallop

Within the Salhouse Parish I am very pleased to write, this winter we have planted 27 trees at the playing field, 2 at Upper Street pond, 6 along footpath #14, a 0.20 acre mini-woodland of 39 trees plus shrubs and 150 meters of new hedgerow with 30 trees. That's a total of 104 trees and 150m of hedgerow. Also, a local 850 tree fruit orchard has been planted by a private individual which will cover 0.35 ha when established. Without the fruit orchard we met 19% of the government's aspiration to plant 30,000 hectares per year by 2025.

Sadly, the flip side is that many mature trees have been cut down and natural habitats destroyed for development and along railway margins.

The playing field trees have been mulched, are regularly checked and all are coming into leaf. They will be watered in the summer.

The nursery has started with the help of 29 registered volunteers and we hope to produce many precious trees and shrubs for planting winter 2021/22 throughout the Broadland Tree Warden Network.

A unique tree planting campaign across the United Kingdom known as The Queen's Green Canopy will be officially launched in May to mark The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. Proposals will be sought and provided for consideration by the parish council, parishioners and local landowners.

Salhouse Rovers Football Club – report by Jim Blyth

Although the football club has been running this year there have still been ongoing issues relating to covid restrictions in respect of using the clubhouse. Four teams have run this year and the same is expected for next year.

Works have been taking place on the pavilion including its repainting and refurbishment thanks to grants received.

The football club is happy for other users of the recreation ground and multi-use games area to use the clubhouse if they would like (by arrangement). Tennis nets and netball posts are available.

If anyone has any old photos of Salhouse Rovers football club they can share they would be greatly received so the history of the club can be displayed in the clubhouse.

7. Open Session

A question was raised regarding the number of calls the police reported and the number of incidents listed not agreeing.

Colin McCormick responded that the report was received from the Police and therefore this would need to be raised directly with them.

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Everyone was thanked for attending and presenting their reports.

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Meeting closed 8.09pm