

Ellington Parish Council

Minutes of Ellington Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting
Held 16th May 2018 at 7:15 at the Village Hall, Ellington

Present:

Councillors: Cllrs Chapman, Lumbers, Palmer, Porter, and Walters.
Clerk/Dist Cllr: Darren Tysoe
Public: None

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr McCutcheon, and for the late arrival of Cllr Elliott.
2. The Minutes from the previous Annual Parish Meeting were agreed as an accurate record.
3. Chairman's Report. Cllr Chapman thanked former councillors King and Woods for their public service on the Parish Council. The Clerk was asked to write to both to thank them. Cllr Chapman reported that there were 9 candidates for 7 positions on the Parish Council, which resulted in two new councillors joining the Parish Council (Cllrs Palmer and McCutcheon), the loss of former councillors King and Woods, and the re-election of Cllrs Chapman, Lumbers, Porter and Walters. Cllr Chapman also congratulated the Clerk, who was also elected as the District Councillor for the Ward. The previous year had brought a number of issues to the village. These included the lack of a planning application for Buffaload Logistics, the news that the loss of the woodland at Grove Lane would not result in a prosecution, increased traffic resulting from the A1/A14 works, including HGV traffic. Other issues included litter on the verges near the slip roads and speeding. On a more positive note, last year's Gala had been a huge success, the playing field association had installed a Shelter, and the village had continued to be successful with receiving grants, which helped to reduce the cost to the local taxpayer. The street lamps along Thrapston Road had been replaced. Cllr Chapman wished the incoming Chairman and Vice Chairman well for their new term of office.
4. Clerk's Report. The Clerk reported on the finances of the village, including the balances in each of the accounts, which were healthy, as a result of prudent management and the receipt of grants. The biggest change for the Parish Council was the preparation for GDPR, which would require a new website and changes to Parish Council email accounts. All put together, it was unfortunately necessary to raise the precept for the first time in 6 years, from £9,000 to £9,270, a 3% increase on the previous year. Increased costs in the future will make further precept rises likely – including the costs of running the election. Major works in the previous financial year had included a new Shelter at the Playing field. The balances on 31 March as per Bank Statement (a/c no 0074467 Sheet 92) was £9,470.06, the balance on 31 March as per Bank Statement (a/c no 2973434 Sheet 48) was £10,362.32, and the Fixed Term Deposit was £11,000.00. The Clerk suggested that further Parish Council Annual assemblies could involve other village associations, clubs and societies providing updates and reports. He agreed to contact them to determine the interest.
5. The scheduled date for the 2019 APM is May 13th, 2019.