

Pidley-cum-Fenton Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting Notes

8.15pm Wednesday 23rd May 2018

Village Hall, Warboy's Road, Pidley

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the APM and asked Mr David Hopkins to read his previous Chairman's report for the financial year 1.4.17 – 31.3.18.

Thanks to Christine Paynter and the community plan team of helpers who have had another successful year keeping the village neat and tidy. Lawns are being kept cut and the village really does look lovely.

Speeding continues to be a problem despite the installation of the speed humps on Warboy's Road in March 2017. Mixed reviews have been shared with the PC and some pedestrians have advised they feel safer walking along the footpath now. Attempts to reduce the speed along the High Street by installing gates and flower boxes and a safer footpath in front of the bus shelter has taken place in this year. While some would like a zebra crossing from bus stop to bus stop CCC Highways have confirmed there just isn't enough foot traffic to justify any scheme. A new buffer zone from 60mph – 40mph ahead of the entrance to the village along the High Street and Oldhurst Road and the introduction of the mobile SID are further attempts to reduce the speeding vehicles. Unfortunately there is no magic fix for speeding.

Footpaths are maintained by HDC and CCC and they have seen further budget cuts in this financial year making the areas appear overgrown much quicker. Any volunteer wishing to cut back any footpath is most welcome.

Drains continue to be a problem despite several communications with Anglian Water. Also the surface water from blocked ditches. Mr David Hopkins advised of several hours spent clearing the ditches adjacent to land he owns discovered old bikes and 2ft of sludge....this ditch now flows much clearer! All land owners are advised of their riparian ownership and their duty to clear any ditches adjacent to their property.

Thanks to Martin Steward and David Bird for continuing to look after the play park. Another great asset to the village which is maintained by volunteers.

The churchyard continues to be maintained by volunteers and thanks go to all of these people.

A housing survey from Cambs ACRE took place in March 2018 and the results can be viewed on the website and a full presentation will be made at the PC meeting on 20th June. All welcome to attend.

Discussion around CIL payments and what to spend the money on include:

- Dredge pond
- Maintain trees
- Hearing loop for village hall
- Additional speed humps (Warboy's Road near church)

Questions raised

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When will the road be resurfaced at the T Junction from Warboy's Road to the High Street/Oldhurst Road. The clerk will ask the question of CCC.

When will fibre be introduced to the rest of the village. BT advised within 6 months fibre will be at the pond, which will make properties in Fen Road within the distance required. All to question BT if interested.

Mr Martin Steward asked for a member of the PC to take responsibility for joint maintenance and inspections of the play park. Mrs Louise Clowery volunteered to represent the PC. The clerk is to obtain quotes for the repairs highlighted on the ROSPA inspection report and will have for the PC meeting on 20th June. Mr Martin Steward asked if a project wish list was looking for further projects to spend the money on then additional equipment for the play park would be gratefully received.

Ms Charlie Lowe advised that Pidley Mountain Rescue Team were struggling and would likely fold due to a shortage of committee members and the ability to put on functions. This charity has been running for several years and it would be a shame to close it. Anyone interested in getting involved no matter how small please contact any committee member via the website: <http://www.pidleymountainrescue.org.uk/>

The next big event is the Teddy jump which is to take place on Saturday 8th September 2018. The AGM is being held on 4th June, any volunteers wishing to attend please do so.

Mrs Christine Paynter advised that volunteers were needed for the flower festival due to take place over the August bank holiday weekend. A pop up café serving hot food is a new addition to this years event.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm