

# DRAFT DOCUMENT

## TENDRING PARISH COUNCIL

### Annual Parish Meeting

Monday 27th March 2023 at 7.30pm in Tendring Village Hall

#### Minutes

##### 1. Minutes of last year's Annual Parish Meeting

Last year's minutes were agreed and signed.

##### 2. Chairman's address

The last year has been the busiest I can recall since joining the Parish Council nearly seven years ago. Maybe part of that is because the world got going again after Covid – but mostly I think it is just that a lot has happened.

In June, we celebrated the Queen's platinum jubilee, hosting events for the whole village. And in September, a much sadder commemoration of the death of Queen Elizabeth II. I know that many, many people around the village were touched by everything we did for this commemoration – the condolence book, the flowers in the church, the moment of reflection in the memorial garden the evening before Her Majesty's funeral. It was a sad and moving time – but also uplifting as it brought people together and there was a shared realisation of just how much the Queen and what she stood for means to all of us.

This year, after many years of thinking about it, we finally got the new older children's swings installed at the playground – as well as carrying out a lot of necessary and overdue resurfacing and refurbishment work. We were supported in the latter by a grant from the National Lottery, for which I am very grateful. And on top of all that, we have also designed and placed the order for some further play equipment, in the form of an adventure trail for children of all ages. We are still waiting for confirmation on when this will be installed but I am very pleased that we have finally been able to deliver on these things we have talked about for so long.

My thanks very much go to our clerk, Rachel, for all her work put in to all these things – from the Queen’s memorial planning and flowers to the inner workings of National Lottery and Section 106 funding applications. She has achieved so much in her first full year as our clerk and it would be wrong for me to take any of that credit.

Our finances are in very good shape and we have a properly planned and managed budget against which we can both plan for expenditure but also respond to emergencies as they come up – things at the playground will continue to break! And good progress has been made in building our relationship with the school, particularly in resolving serious issues with parking. Again, Rachel has been at the forefront of that, by building relationships with the both the school staff and the FOTS team.

Some things have not gone so well – for example, the Community Speedwatch group we set up four years ago was wound up as there were not enough volunteers to make it viable through the whole village.

However, that cannot take away from what has been a highly successful year – one which the Parish Council should be very proud of.

### **3. Public questions**

None

### **4. Meeting closed at 7.34pm**