



# KIRBY BELLARS PARISH COUNCIL

22 Rockingham Road, Mountsorrel, Leics LE12 7UJ  
Tel: 0116 4311943

## Minutes of Kirby Bellars Annual Parish Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 7.30pm in Kirby Bellars Village Hall

Present: Cllr Ingham (CI) (Chair), Cllr Browne (RB), Cllr Lovegrove (EL), Cllr Davies (DD)

Absent: Cllr Campsie, Victoria Webster- Clerk

	Agenda Items	Action By
1.	<b>Apologies</b> Apologies were received from Cllr Campsie and Victoria Webster- Clerk	
2.	<b>Minutes of the Previous Meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> May 2022</b> The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate account. Proposed by DD, Seconded by CI.	
3.	<b>Chairs Report</b> In May 2021 history was made when I was elected as the first female Chairman of the Kirby Bellars Parish Council. This followed the announcement from Angus Smith that he wished to retire, to the sunnier climate in Spain, after many years of supporting the village in various guises for which we are all most grateful. Whilst the Council had all coped with the Zoom meetings, ably assisted by Victoria our Clerk, it was good to finally be meeting in person again.  A number of village litter picks took place, instigated by David Davies, with help from willing villagers and ably assisted by Melton Wombles. In one of the litter picks alone over 40 sacks of rubbish, plus a number of car parts, were retrieved from our hedgerows and grass verges.  During the summer of 2021 we welcomed the Rural Coffee Connect Van to the village, half a dozen times, to allow the villagers to have a free hot drink and a chat. This seemed to go down well with those that were able to attend, as some of the restrictions of lock down eased slightly, and we were able to socialise albeit at a social distance.  After a stable Parish Council, for a while, we suddenly found ourselves with a couple of vacancies. In September we welcomed both Neil Campsie and Emma Lovegrove, to the Parish Council, both of whom I am sure will be great assets.  In December we heard that the Melton Mowbray Distributer Southern Road had finally been agreed, with the North Eastern part of the Road due to start in the	

	<p>spring of 2022.</p> <p>The villagers, and Parish Council, continue to express concern regarding the A607 traffic situation – mainly due to speeding through the village. Thanks to Ronan Browne our local MP, Alicia Kearns, visited the village to listen to our concerns to see what we can do to try and eliminate or reduce some of the issues.</p> <p>Sadly, in March 2022 Alan Batten advised us that it would be his last meeting as a Parish Councillor. He has been a stalwart of village life, having contributed so much during his years as a Councillor, and we wish him and Olive all the best in their new home in Asfordby.</p> <p>I look forward to working alongside you all again next year and thank you all for your help and support during the last year.</p>																			
4.	<p><b>Finance</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="272 696 1126 1099"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Current Account</th> <th>Reserves Account</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Opening Balance</td> <td>£3,000.31</td> <td>£12,035.01</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Precept</td> <td>£9,250</td> <td>£0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Receipts</td> <td>£269.20</td> <td>£7.27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Payments</td> <td>£5691.05</td> <td>£0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Closing Balance</td> <td>£6,828.46</td> <td>£12,042.28</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Current Account	Reserves Account	Opening Balance	£3,000.31	£12,035.01	Precept	£9,250	£0	Other Receipts	£269.20	£7.27	Payments	£5691.05	£0	Closing Balance	£6,828.46	£12,042.28	
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5.	<p><b>County Councillors Reports</b></p> <p>2021/22 has been a difficult year as we came out of COVID-19 restrictions. Despite the constraints much work has happened in the ward and positive interactions on local issues to Kirby Bellars now seems to be progressing.</p> <p>Over the past year I have represented the Ward and Borough sitting as Cabinet lead for Council Housing, Planning Committee and Full Council.</p> <p>I will list the key areas that have been progressed and issues work on below.</p> <p><b>A607 Road</b> Kirby Bellars Parish Councillors rightly raised concerns about the speed of traffic and other safety concerns from the A607 which runs through the village. After representation from Parish Councillors to myself and County Councillor Joe Orson we facilitated a meeting with our MP Alicia Kearns. This was a positive meeting which has now resulted in more in-depth discussions with Leicestershire County Council Highways. Access has been given to the Parish Council to access the speed data that is recorded by new electronic signs. This will enable the Parish Council to establish the speeding issues factually. In addition, our County Councillor Joe Orson has agreed to fund with support from the parish Council for the placement of rumble strips on the A607 entrance and exit to the village. This is currently as design at option stage and will be presented to the Parish Council. Further dialogue and discussions will now be required with Leicestershire County Council Highways regarding safety issues on the A607 section that goes through the Village.</p>																			

#### MMDR

Finally in 2021/22 financial year Leicestershire County Council, Melton Borough Council and Government agreed funding and a strategy to now build the Eastern Relief Road in Melton Mowbray meaning that the Northern and Eastern will be build with initial work recently started.

#### Levelling Up Funding

Melton Borough Council recently received £1.1m in funding to help grow business, tourism and skills for people. We are currently working on our plan so we can get agreement to draw down the monies. Our Growth & Regeneration Team are also working on a Levelling Up bid circa £10m to grow business and tourism in the Borough with a strong focus on Melton Mowbray but also rural areas will hopefully benefit.

#### Climate Emergency

Melton Borough Council is currently rolling out schemes to help those on the lowest incomes access energy efficient products such as insulation, PV Panels, and more efficient heating products. Details are on our website and funding available to qualifying households. The Council also continues to support the Melton Wombles and is also carrying out environmental improvements in Melton Mowbray Country Park with the planting of trees, grasses, and flowers. A campaign to crack down on Fly Tipping was launched last year and several prosecutions have taken place. We have also secured some covert cameras and will deploy were required going forward. The Council is exploring with partners the opportunities to collect food waste and we hope to announce options soon.

#### Planning

Having listened to residents we have changed the way we now engage with Parish Councils, Developers and Public. For any significant application in a Parish there will now be direct dialogues between the PC, Officers, and Developer. The planning committee has been changed and is much more robust in challenge, use of policies and listening to local communities. We recently agreed at Full Council to review our Local Plan. By doing so we will not open ourselves up to unnecessary development. The Council currently has a 11.5 year land supply meaning unlike neighbouring Local Authorities we are not as susceptible to speculative development. The majority of development is already what has been agreed in our Local Plan.

#### Council Housing & Affordable Housing

We have made further improvements to our Council Housing and Landlord Services. We are now in the process of agreeing a new Council House Development Strategy for purchasing and building new Council Housing. This is very much needed so people get rent affordably and will be a step onto the housing ladder. In the Frisby on the Wreake Ward we have also delivered a mix of affordable housing meaning younger people and families have been able to remain in the villages. This has seen 18 rented, 4 shared ownership and 3 Market discount built in the ward in 2021/22. Planning has been agreed for further affordable housing on 2022/23 with 9 Market discount and 6 shared ownerships being built. One market discount home is being built in Kirby Bellars.

#### COVID-19 Support for Business & Individuals

In total during the pandemic Melton BC has administered grants over £20m to businesses and community groups. Over a further £5m additionally has been given to individuals and families on top of DWP benefit support. All villages and parishes have been very effective in support of rolling out various programmes and thanks

	<p>must go to all the volunteers who helped neighbours and their community. I hope as we come out the other side that people recover, and business can bounce back.</p> <p><b>Cost of Living</b>  Cost of living has been very much on the minds of Councillors at Melton Borough Council. We have been lobbying our MP and Government for more support for residents and hope to soon see further support announced. Locally I have requested officer to produce a menu of support and grants available to help people with the cost of living especially energy. Melton BC is now populating our website with this information, and you will see as the year progresses ore information made available and guidance given. If any resident is struggling or needs advice, please contact Melton BC on 01664 502404 or e-mail the Council for advice and guidance.</p> <p><b>Crime &amp; Anti-social Behaviour</b>  Melton BC continues to invest in trying to prevent and reduce crime and anti-social behaviour. We have several initiatives running including rural crime awareness. If anyone has any queries, please contact our Community Safety Team at Melton BC. We are currently working up proposals and a funding bid to hopefully upgrade the CCTV system in Melton Mowbray.</p> <p><b>Rural Pub Initiative</b>  Melton Borough Council committed to support our rural pubs. We were able to do this during the pandemic and since I have been delighted to see we have been successful working with our MP to secure the future of the Bell Inn, Frisby. I am currently working with the community in Grimston to try and help them bring it into community ownership and am delighted to say an offer has been accepted. In the Frisby on the Wreake Ward we also have the Blue Bell Hoby and in Kirby Bellars, The Flying Childers both of whom we were able to support during the pandemic with funding.</p> <p><b>Health &amp; Leisure</b>  Melton BC is currently working with the CCG to establish a business case for a second doctors' surgery for Melton Mowbray and we hope to be able to announce the next stages soon. There are also plans to increase services to be offered at St Mary's Hospital. The Council announced last week our intention to redevelop the KEVII Sports Village and look at replacement options for our swimming pool. A vision to have state of the art facilities in one location is our plan and I look forward to helping to help shape our offer over the coming 12 months.</p> <p>It has been good to work more closely with Kirby PC since the pandemic has ceased to have such a large impact on all our lives. I am looking forward to delivering with Cllr Orson the start of the road safety improvements for your village over the next 12 months.</p> <p>RB explained the consultation was now needed for the location of the rubble strips and NC was reviewing the speeding data.</p>	
6.	<p><b>Public Participation</b>  A villager asked if the councillors knew why sprayed-painted yellow arrows had appeared in front of his driveway? DD believed these were in relation to the drainage requirements for the 3 new houses being built on Main Street.</p>	
7.	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b>  To be confirmed.</p>	

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_