

Minutes

*Please ensure you practise Social Distancing*

**1. Apologies for absence** – Andrew Abbott, Graham Abbott, Emma Hewitt, Pat Kelly, Adrian Smith.  
**In attendance:** chair, Mike Ager; clerk, Janet Norman-Philips; treasurer, Jeanette Brierley; & Katie Abbott, Matt & Helen Cook & son; Sam Rose-Freitas & Alex.

**2. Reports from guests:** none.

**3. Minutes of last meeting:** read & approved.

**4. Matters arising:** none.

**5. Chairman's report (Mike Ager):**

To start off I would like to say a few words about the sad loss of village stalwart Russell Kerry. Russell was at various times chairman and treasurer of the parish meeting. He was an integral part of Redlingfield. Along with his good friend Allan Chapman he worked tirelessly for the church and village putting in paths, putting up play equipment and working on the Doorstep Green shed and much more. He went to every village event and was first in line when anything needed doing – unless he'd fallen asleep in front of the fire after his tea. We'll miss him.

Last year was one of the best I can remember in the village with wonderful new events organised by the church – the Dog Show and Produce Show were brilliant. The usual round of regular events go from strength to strength with the Pub on the Green and Coffee Caravan visits helping keep people in touch. We've welcomed many new faces into the village over the last few years and thanks to all our efforts to keep Redlingfield a vibrant living place we're attracting people who really want to live here and join in. Which is great for the village's future.

Obviously, times have changed but the village has rallied round as I knew it would. When we asked for volunteers to help other villagers through these strange times we were inundated with offers. We had many more volunteers than people needing help.

Every villager has received a "Cheer Up Bag" thanks to our collective efforts. We had grants from Suffolk Community Action, Mid Suffolk District Council, Redlingfield church and Redlingfield parish council, as well as donations from individual villagers. Businesses also helped, supplying items at cost or with sizable discounts – notably the Bruha Brewery and The Handyman, both in Eye and a host of other online businesses and eBayers who helped out getting some hard to find things. During this crisis the local shops have really stepped up and I would like to thank all at Horham Post Office and all the shops in Eye – the Co-ops, butchers, green grocer, Handyman etc who have been invaluable and helpful.

So far the only village event we've had this year is what was a very enjoyable picnic. Although we seem to be moving to slightly more normal times – next month we've got a Pub on the Green coming up and the Coffee Caravan is restarting its visits – I'd ask everyone to continue to be the brilliant and not just good neighbours. We need to continue to look out for others whenever we can. The Pub on the Green will obviously look a little different and the Coffee Caravan have asked people to bring their own chairs and mugs for their Wednesday August 5th visit. They also want a villager to

be “mother” and do all the pouring out of teas and coffees. But at least people can now get out to events and catch up – obviously from an appropriate distance.

Sadly, we are losing Stuart and Jeanette Brierley soon who are moving to be closer to family. Jeanette has been treasurer for almost as long as I can remember. She replaced Russell Kerry and has put us on a sound financial footing. This meant that even if we didn’t get any income from village events for a year we would still be solvent. I’d like to thank her for all her hard work and wish her well. We now need a new treasurer ... any volunteers.

I would like to thank everyone on the village committee, the PCC and all who volunteered their help when the COVID crisis hit for the community spirit and hard work. Redlingfield is a lovely village but it is you the villagers that make it a great place to live. Many thanks.

**6. Treasurer’s report (Jeanette Brierley):** Parish Annual General Income & Expenditure overview  
April 2019-March 2020

**Opening Balance** in Bank April 2019 £6,825.08

**Closing Balance** in Bank April 2020 £6,422.33

**Movement in year** -£402.85

**Events**

Pub on Green Sales Income (7 events) £2,033.20

Pub on Green Sales Expenditure £870.03

**Pub on Green Net Income** £1,163.17

BBQ Income 51 Tickets at £6 each £306.00

Games income £246.50

**Total BBQ Income** £552.50

Other Income

Magazine adverts (Note:\*) £389.50

Interest £2.70

Total Other Income £392.20

**Total All Income** £2,107.87

**Other Expenses**

Insurance £522.95

Suffolk Association of Local Councils membership £35.77

Dog Bin emptying £42.00

Grass Cutting £175.00

Village Magazine Printing Costs £687.00

Data Protection registration fee £40.00

Donation to Church repairs (match funding) £1,008.00

**Total of other expenses** £2,510.72

-£402.85

Note: \* Some advertisers have been slow paying – adverts would normally cover all the printing costs.

a. Accepted and minuted Accounts and Governance (AGM250720/TRS1)

b. Adopted 2020 Financial Risk Assessment and Management Actions document

c. Accepted 2020 Assessment of the Effectiveness of Internal Audit report

## **7. Village committee membership:**

a. Existing committee members are: Andrew Abbott, Graham Abbott, Katie Abbott, Mike Ager, Jeanette Brierley, Susan Chapman, Allan Chapman, Will Edwards, Lesley & Tony Rose-Freitas, Emma Hewitt, Pat Kelly, Manday Miller, Adrian Smith and Janet Norman-Philips.

b. New member Helen Cook co-opted on.

## **8. Election of officers**

**a. Treasurer:** Jeanette Brierley resigned as she is moving away but agreed to help out. Janet will be interim acting treasurer while we look for a new treasurer. Jeanette was thanked for her years of hard work and help – she will be missed.

**b. Secretary:** Janet Norman-Philips re-elected.

**c. Chairman:** Mike Ager re-elected.

**9. Neighbourhood Watch:** Adrian Smith volunteered to become Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator at the 2019 AGM.

## **10. Report from Redlingfield Village Amenities (Doorstep Green) & Church project.**

Currently some children are playing on the roads and that is extremely dangerous. Helen, Matt, Sam & Alex proposed a BMX track be built on the new Doorstep Green extension.

It was agreed to investigate the feasibility, as part of a village-wide exercise to find out what improvements were wanted by everyone in the village. Over the next few weeks and months, we will get out questionnaires and canvas all villagers, including children, for opinions on what facilities are needed on both areas of the Doorstep Green.

It's important that we are able to cater for all ages of children and young people as well as adults. We will also look at how we raise funds to do this. (Bedfield have recently spent £40,000 upgrading their play area and they have offered to help us make funding applications to improve ours).

## **11. Any other business.**

Coffee Caravan returns on Wednesday 5th August – 11pm till 1pm - with full social distancing- with your own mug and chair. Now on the Doorstep Green.

Date of first 2020 Pub on the Green is Saturday 22nd August from 6pm till midnight. Social distancing measures will be in place.

## **Date of next village committee meetings:**

a. Via email as needed during 2020.

b. Wednesday 10th February 2021. To set dates for the 2021 year. 8pm. Venue to be agreed.