

## RUDBY AND SKUTTERSKELFE PARISHES

### **DRAFT** MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE ELECTORS OF RUDBY AND SKUTTERSKELFE HELD ON TUESDAY 4 MAY 2021 AT 7.00 PM ONLINE VIA ZOOM Zoom Meeting ID: 865 3581 5586 Passcode: 797886

In attendance: Councillor E Foden (chairman), Councillors K Clifford, A Collingwood, T Jopling, A Mortimer, M McCluskey, D Simpson, S Tate, N Thompson, A Voke, District Councillor Fortune, one member of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence.** Councillor Saxton, County Councillor Hugill.

2. **Approval of the minutes of the meeting in 2019.**

Councillor Foden proposed that they be approved, seconded by Councillor Mortimer, all in favour.

3. **Finance.**

Councillor Thompson confirmed that the audited accounts from 2019-20 are available on request. The accounts for 2020-21 to be available in next 2-3 weeks. Noted.

4. **Chairman's Annual Report.**

Councillor Foden gave her annual report. This will be available separately on the Rudby Parish Council website <http://www.rudbyparishcouncil.org.uk>. Noted.

5. **Annual Report from County and District Councillors.**

Councillor Foden gave thanks to both Councillor Fortune and Councillor Hugill for all their hard work and support during the year.

Councillor Fortune reported that this has been a very difficult year for many people. The isolation endured by many has been a huge challenge. She wished to give thanks to the NHS, the local shops, the Community Care Association, the Hub and the isolation support groups who have all been a lifeline to local residents. The Covid grants helped to keep a band of dedicated, kind people together to assist and be available to those who needed help. She herself was due to undergo long planned surgery that was booked and cancelled three times. This meant three lots of isolation before it was able to go ahead although the treatment and care in hospital was as fantastic as ever.

Councillor Fortune has kept out of the national debate on the future of local government; her priority is to ensure that Hambleton residents maintain the same or better levels of service without having to pay higher Council tax charges.

The area remains besieged by fly tipping, some of which has been traced to as far away as County Durham and West Yorkshire, even some covert cameras erected by Hambleton officers were stolen! Any incidents of fly tipping should be reported as soon as possible please.

The Hambleton Local Plan is being finalised. The Hutton Rudby Neighbourhood Plan has also been worked on and thank you to all the teams for their persistence in pulling together such important work. Now is the time for residents to speak up so that their views can be taken into account.

Many thanks to those involved in the Christmas tree and lights on the village green – they looked spectacular.

Finally, thank you to Ann Pyle who has been brilliant. She has always been a very supportive Clerk and has kept me abreast of everything that needs to be done – Happy Retirement! Welcome to Emma Wiles who has taken over. Thank you to the Volunteers, the Parish Councillors who give so much of their time to keep the spirit of the village alive. Very well done in such trying times and circumstances.

Councillor Hugill reported that this has been a most difficult year for the County Council, and he was both pleased and proud of the way NYCC staff have stepped up to the challenge of delivering services

in unprecedented conditions. Not one has refused to adopt new ways of working. Over 3000 staff now work from home, this was a huge effort from NYCC IT people to facilitate this. The IT department also had to facilitate the change for members to meet remotely and vote with virtual hands instead of our own paws.

NYCC have worked well with a range of partners, other Local Government people from Parishes, Districts, National Parks, blue light services, NHS, the Army, businesses and especially our great volunteers. There are now 25 formal Community Support Organisations, and we have helped hundreds of smaller more informal groups. All with the same aim of helping those who need it.

The County's Public Health teams have been very busy managing outbreaks wherever they occur and leading on helping set up test and trace activity.

There are 235 care settings in the County, and NYCC are in daily contact with them and have set up Infection Prevention and Control teams also helping them access PPE and mobile testing .NYCC continue to implement our flagship Extra Care Housing with 2 schemes opening this year in Great Ayton and Scarborough with 3 on course for next year at Skipton, Bentham and Filey.

Children's services have been rated as Outstanding by Ofsted, the first in the country to get this rating. NYCC are transforming our Healthy Child programme to make it work even better.

82% of NYCC children attend a good or outstanding school. We have seen a decrease in fixed term and permanent exclusions. Investment has been made in areas of underachievement. The music service has moved online and delivers over 1000 lessons a week this way.

NYCC rolled out a scheme of supermarket vouchers for families in need over Christmas and this will now be extended, with both government and Council funding.

Despite record investment in road repairs this year NYCC could do with more. NYCC manage the largest road network in England. The new in-house company NY Highways will go live this summer.

NYCC continue to invest heavily in broadband provision, edging ever nearer to 100% coverage. This year should see us achieve 97%. However, we know the final 3 % will be the most difficult, and we are determined not to leave them behind. We are also supporting increased provision of mobile phone coverage , trying to get from 60% to more than 90% of this huge county's area. [www.superfastnorthyorkshire.com](http://www.superfastnorthyorkshire.com) has an interactive map showing where our new Phase 4 broadband will be rolled out.

NYCC are striving to keep Council Tax as low as possible, 1.99% increase this year, and an Adult Social Care levy of 1.5%. This represents an increase of around £50 pa for an average sized property. We don't like increasing Council Tax at all but we have experienced extra spending this year of £75m on Covid activities alone. The Government have supported us but with all the pressures they are facing, we could not expect 100% reimbursement.

## **6. Views and comments from Parishioners.**

None wished to speak..

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.11pm.