

GEORGE NYMPTON & QUEEN'S NYMPTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON APRIL 27TH 2017

The meeting was opened at 7.30pm and was chaired by Trudy Herniman, Chair of George Nympton & Queen's Nympton Parish Council.

Trudy Herniman. Trudy opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. A collection of photographs taken locally were shown to demonstrate our area and the activities and achievements of some of the parishioners. Trudy encouraged everyone to celebrate our community and thanked all the community groups for their contributions.

The annual village fete was a huge success last year and the funds raised went to the Church, Village Hall & the fireworks display/ Halloween party. Trudy thanked Mark Dean and all the volunteers and supporters who made such a success of both the fete and the fireworks /Halloween party.

Trudy offered huge congratulations to Lizzie Kelly for her achievements this year, including being the first female jockey to compete at The Cheltenham Festival for 33 years.

The Castle Inn, George Nympton continues to be a real asset to the village and is enjoyed by locals and visitors. Trudy thanked Ian & Debbie for all they do for the village and recognised all the ongoing refurbishments of the pub.

Trudy also spoke about the success that Great Frenchstone Farm have had with their prize winning Frenchstone Herefords and reminded the meeting that an open day is planned for Sunday 11th June at the farm.

Trudy reminded everyone that there are new groups being organised within the village and many people are enjoying the craft club, painting classes and other activities. She provided information for anyone who would like to sponsor the team of 12 ladies from the village who are planning to do the night walk in aid of North Devon Hospice. She also spoke about the Alswear Shoot and Richard & Adele Poole's success in completing their barn conversion for holiday lets at East Trayne Farm.

Village Fete. Trudy welcomed Mark Dean to speak about the plans for this year's fete on July 1st. Mark said that he had already had many volunteers to help and more people volunteered at the meeting. The regular and popular events at the fete like the wacky races, dog show, cake stall, bottle stall, raffle, children's activities, bar and hog roast will continue. Mark asked for ideas for other fund raising and fun activities. Anyone willing to help will be very welcome. This year's fireworks and Halloween party will take place on 4th November.

Nymet St George Church. Carole Hurst, member of the District Church Council, was welcomed to the meeting. She reported on the past year's church activities. Last year's quinquennial inspection recommended an inspection of the church bells. This has been done and the very interesting report can be viewed in the church. There is a need for constant fundraising for the church. Carole thanked The Parish Council, the fete organisers and the villagers for their support over the past year. Carole reported that Ian Bateman, Church Warden and Treasurer, advises that the church income is down by 21% for the last year. This is due in part to there being no major fundraising events. This year there will be a 3 day flower festival in August and a crib festival in November.

The major expense is the common fund contribution of £8132. The DCC has recently been discussing the long term future of The Church. Reducing the number of services and combining services with other churches have been discussed.

The average Sunday congregation is 14. This swells on special services like Rogation, Harvest Service, St Georges Day Service and the carol service at Christmas. There have been 1 baptism and 2 funerals this year and there is a wedding booked for next month.

Carole told the meeting that helping those in need is a demonstration of faith and £880 raised during 2016 was shared between several charities.

The church members involve themselves in village social activities and produce a monthly newsletter. Carole concluded by thanking everyone for their support.

Trudy thanked Carole for her update and also thanked Ian & Pat Bateman for their contribution and for the newsletter.

Horticultural Society. Jon Ride was welcomed to represent the society. This year's summer show will be held on August 5th. Last year's 50th anniversary show enjoyed a record number of entries.

Anyone who is interested in helping at this year's show would be very welcome.

Social Club. Muriel Price reminded the meeting that the social club continues to meet on the third Friday of every month. The group enjoy the hospitality and food at The Castle. Menus are chosen up to 24 hours before the date of the get together. Anyone interested in going along can contact Muriel on 572497.

Village Hall. David Byers, Secretary to The Village Hall Committee, gave an update on the activities in the Village Hall.

A full refurbishment of the inside of the hall is planned, funds permitting.

Five new members have recently joined the Village Hall Committee. There are 12 fundraising events already planned.

The recent bingo night held in the hall was a great success.

Trudy thanked Dave and everyone who is working towards fundraising for the hall.

Broadband. Adele Poole has done a great deal of work exploring the options to secure an improved broadband service to the area. Trudy invited Adele to speak to the meeting. Adele gave a comprehensive update on the work she has done so far. She asked for as many people as possible to let her have details of their address, landline number and current broadband speed to help her to make further progress.

Open forum. Trudy invited comments from anyone at the meeting. County Councillor Jeremy Yabsley and District Councillor Eric Ley attended the meeting. Eric Ley said that he enjoyed the positive atmosphere of the meeting.

Minutes of Previous Meeting. The minutes of the Combined Parish Meeting of 14th April 2016 were proposed as an accurate record by Mark Dean & seconded by Trevor Allen. Signed by Trudy Herniman (Chair).

Trudy brought the meeting to a close by thanking everyone for attending and for the contributions of everyone who works toward making our community what it is.

She also thanked the Parish Councillors for their support, Nan Maxwell, Parish Clerk and Mary Burbidge for her work as Responsible Financial Officer.

