

Freckenham Annual Parish Meeting

25th May 2021

Freckenham Parish Council

Chairman's Report

Year 2020/21

Thank you all for attending this evening.

This has been quite a period we have been going through with this COVID-19 pandemic and it now looks like we are slowly getting back to normal even though there are some traits that are still concerning.

I would also thank for their support my fellow Councillors and our Clerk Mrs Jadi Coe. All of whom do a sterling job in looking after our interests for the village.

Currently there are just four of us Councillors so we hope in the near future to co-opting a fifth member.

Any volunteers for co-option from one of you here this evening!!!

Following on, I would extend our thanks to our outgoing County Cllr Louis Busuttill who decided not to put himself forward again at the recent elections but in the years he was for the grant contributions he arranged for us and helping me in matters to do with our village roads. Also to our District Councillor, Brian Harvey for contributing also from his locality budget towards the costs of items required for the benefit of the village.

We welcome this evening, Louis' successor for the Mildenhall Area Cllr Lance Stanbury.

Following "E" mail discussions with the County Council Highways department in respect of their roads some limited work has been done over this past year. Following changes within their department we now have to report on line rather than have face to face meetings. Their highways inspectors apparently review on a regular basis. However Cllr Stanbury and myself will shortly be doing inspections to cover parts of our roads that need attention also the safety issues. Villagers have mentioned to me about a 20 mph restriction. Unfortunately legislation will not allow these on A or B class roads

We still have a bus service to Mildenhall and Bury St Edmunds which thankfully will continue, although it is a limited service.

The Coffee Caravan will commence its monthly visits to Freckenham Tuesday the 1st June and will continue every first Tuesday of the month until the last one on the 5th of October.

As I have mentioned before the staff members provide information and help, on most matters to do with the public's welfare.

The Parish Pump was again produced three times this last year and delivered to every household.

Any news items that villagers feel should be included in forthcoming issues then still pass to Mrs Marilyn Badger, myself or our Clerk. I will then subsequently pass relevant news items to our editor Peter Taylor- Whiffen. Next deadline for copy covering the summer edition is Monday 7th June.

The circular paths at Elms Road/ Badlingham, as well as in the recreation field, are well used but as you have heard from Sue Cornell's report who looks after and maintains the field for our benefit with her relatives, there are still issues of dog matters that do not go away, despite this problem being stated many times.

As a reminder our telephone box is well stocked with books, CD and DVD's. Thank you to those that have placed items in the box but please anyone when placing do not put them on the floor.

If there is no space then most charity shops will take them.

Neighbourhood Plan

As you have heard this evening from Mr Nicholas Woolley this is well under way now.

Sunnica

You have heard from Andrew who has worked very hard on these issues to fighting against this project.

Oil Purchasing Scheme

How many of you here this evening are on the scheme???

I have mentioned in previous years about the scheme, which county wide has proved successful. As explained at previous meetings a minimum order of 500 litres is required and you will find the discount pricing very beneficial. The annual membership fee of £20.00 is not now required.

If you are not yet on the scheme, do consider. The direct contact is now AFAffinity based in Colton, Norwich. Tel: 01603 881888. who have

assumed responsibility for the scheme from Community Action Suffolk
There are twice a month deliveries.

Police

Crime does occur at times in our village unfortunately, so keep vigilant and report no matter how small direct to the police.

Speeding through the village is still a concern, but our speed awareness team do a sterling job on a frequent basis. The police attend periodically.

Volunteers

I would further thank all those volunteers who assist the parish council, keeping the village nice and attractive.

Rodney Gillington and Jadi Coe continue to keep our village web site updated for which we thank them.

St. Andrews Church

Church services have also re-commenced.

Village Hall

The Village Hall held their Annual General Meeting yesterday.

Their committee works hard arranging weekly hire and events covering dancing lessons, yoga classes, to theatrical events for the benefit of adults and children from Freckenham. Two in particular, the Farmers market and film nights which now we see the easing down of restrictions should start to get back to normal.

Mrs Jane Leitch mentioned they were looking for additional Committee members and volunteers as there is a decline in volunteers. Our representative to their committee is Michael King.

Again, if you the villagers have any thoughts that concern the village, then let the Clerk or one of your Councillors know and it will be considered.

Finally it is pleasing to know our village Golden Boar pub has now been allowed to fully open for business.

Thank you. D E Wheeler 25th May 2021