



**P.O. Box 86, Petworth, West Sussex, GU28 8BG.**

**Clerk: Mrs. S. Dack**

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## **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 16<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2018**

1. Apologies: None Received  
Public Attendees: 7
2. Declarations of Interest. None Received
3. Approval of Minutes: The Minutes from APM 2017 were duly approved and signed.
4. Chairmans Report. The Chairman gave the following report:

Good evening and welcome to the 2018 Annual Meeting of Electors for Kirdford.

Firstly, I would like to thank all the Parish Councillors, as well as our District and County Councillors for their continued support and unfailing commitment throughout the year. On behalf of us all; I would like to thank our clerk who has worked so hard to keep us on track through rather a difficult year.

The past year has of course been as busy as ever – the usual collection of potholes, ditches, drains, floods, footpaths, 106 money, planning applications, Operation Watershed and our Winter Management Plan was ready to be implemented.

For a small parish council we have had a number of major projects which have taken up a significant amount of our time and energy. Crouchlands BioGas and Farm Fuels have gone into administration. I would like to thank Plaistow Parish Council for their tremendous achievement at the Planning Enquiry and thank the community in supporting our objection to this application.

The proposed replacement of Boxal Bridge has been a worry and I am delighted to report we were successful in having the bridge listed for its historic interest by Historic England.

Cala Homes proposed development on the Plaistow Road is moving closer to the planning application being approved. Phasing of the development has caused much disagreement with the developers but we are quite determined to remain true to our Neighbourhood Plan and have the site developed over a number of years.

The expansion of Gatwick and the Noise Management issues are ongoing. We are kept well informed and are updated regularly.

Butts Common water leak has continued to be a mystery! We have increased the pressure on Southern water to work with us so the play equipment can be replaced. The National Trust are supporting our application to obtain a license as Butts Common is registered as an Open Space.

The annual Bonfire Night celebrations were once again a huge success. Thank you to everyone for your participation, support and contributions.

Both of the village pubs have changed hands this year and I am delighted to report that they along with our village shop are often very busy.

The cuts being made by Central Government to local councils has resulted in many services being reduced or cut. We have received requests from local organisations who have had their grants reduced or removed and we are doing our best to support them in order to protect the services we value.

Attending the Parish Council meetings is only one part of the duty a parish councillor undertakes. There are a number of committees that they are representatives on; some meeting within the parish and others within the district. On behalf of the parish your councillors work with enthusiasm, dedication and tireless commitment. They donate their time, expertise, energy and support which makes Kirdford the village we love and care about and that is why we so very much enjoy living here.

There is a vacancy on the Parish Council so if you are interested please do contact the Clerk. On behalf of the village I would like to say thank you once again to our County, District and Parish Councillors, we really do appreciate all your hard work and support.

Lastly, I would like to invite all parishioners to join in with the village and celebrate the marriage of Prince Harry to Meghan Markle on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> May.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.40pm.