

THORPE MALSOR ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting of Thorpe Malsor Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Monday, 1st June 2015.

Present: Cllr N Roberts (Chairman), Cllr Mrs F Pope (Vice Chairman), Cllr Mrs Z Powell, Cllr R Walton, Cllr Mrs H Sharp, Clerk Mrs J Smart.
Also present were 5 parishioners.

1. Apologies: None
2. Cllr. Roberts welcomed everyone to the meeting.
3. Minutes of Previous Meeting were read, confirmed and signed.
4. Matters Arising: None
5. Reports from Village Organisations

5.1 Social Club

The Club has had another successful and profitable year.

Sue Walton continues to manage the club staff and events in her usual excellent manner, and encourages new business which is vital in the current crisis.

A number of very enjoyable events for the children and families in the village and friends have been held during the year, and these continue to enhance village life.

Jazz on a Sunday was popular and well supported, and will be held again this year on Sunday 2nd August.

The monthly coffee mornings, again run by Sue, have proved to be a great success with many villagers attending.

The Club has three skittle teams; the winter side have claimed a shield this year by winning their league.

The Annual Golf Day was held at Stoke Albany and ended with supper at the Club. All ages were involved and proceeds were donated to the Air Ambulance, along with the normal book sale contribution.

The Club is closed on a Wednesday evening but seldom empty as it is available and used by many local organisations for private functions.

Colin Thompson

5.2 All Saints Church

A service is now held each Sunday of the month taken either by Canon John, Margaret Mossman or Steve Heygate. Margaret and Steve, both retired, take excellent services and provide very good support. Each Sunday we have a different form of service namely 8am Prayer Book communion, 9.15 Parish Communion, 10.45 Family Service aimed mainly at the young, and Messy Church – the latter run by Kathryn Evans is an inspirational idea of hers to introduce children to Church in a fun atmosphere.

Attendances at the more formal services have been poor as some of our supporters from the past no longer come to Church. These services are still viable thanks to our loyal supporters from Broughton. We will be conducting a survey in the village shortly to see if the monthly 9.15 service would be more popular if held at a different time. Special services on the other hand have been well attended, namely Christmas crib service with cameo, Annual service and picnic at Thorpe Reservoir and Blessing of Animals.

Recently we held a Bridge Drive which was a great success thanks to an excellent lunch provided by supporters in the village. This is our main fund raiser. Another successful fundraiser was a party with live band held around Christmas which will probably be repeated.

Income from Church collections, donations and special events is sadly insufficient at present to pay our levy to Peterborough plus normal expenses (insurance and electricity) and maintain the fabric of the Church; for instance fairly urgent repairs to the nave roof are being planned at present.

In the long term, if the Church is to remain open for regular services, baptisms, weddings and funerals those living in the village will have to give more support.

Lastly, thanks to the two people, Stephanie Roberts and friend, who kindly clean the Church each month.

5.3 Village Tote

Mrs Sue Walton submitted a report for 2014.

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|---------------|--------------|
| Tote Income | £791.00 |
| Prizes given | 268.00 |
| Licence | <u>20.00</u> |
| | £503.00 |
| Leave in cash | <u>3.00</u> |
| | £500.00 |

Share out: £250.00 each to Village Hall and Church.

Left in Bank £692.00

5.4 Thorpe Malsor Village Hall Management Committee Report

The Village Hall had a fairly quiet 2014 given that the Parochial Church Council did not organise a festival during the year which we would normally have joined up with. We have, however, supported various Church activities by lending equipment to Messy Church, the annual Bridge Day and, of course, hosting the Harvest Lunch.

We continue to have regular hall hire from the Model Railway Club and the Shiatsu Group in addition to occasional birthday and christening parties etc. The Watercolour Group have now moved next door to the new art studio.

Thanks to the efforts of Joan Smart, we were successful in obtaining a grant from Kettering Borough Council towards the cost of replacing the rotten windows.

Unfortunately this has required planning permission which is proving to be a fairly tortuous process but nonetheless a progressing one.

The Committee is pleased to note the upcoming activities for young people from the village to be held in the Village Hall, initially on a monthly basis. Equipment purchased by the Parish Council is supporting these activities and is an example of partnership working.

The Committee continues to be grateful for the support of Mr Rod Page as our general caretaker, and also Joan Smart as our diary keeper and treasurer.

5.5 Painting Group

We have two Watercolour Groups a week for people from Thorpe Malsor and surrounding villages on Tuesdays, and from Rothwell on Fridays.

For years we have painted here in the Village Hall but this was becoming less suitable with other groups using the facilities – as they should - as the Hall is a community centre. With furniture moving twice a week, ceiling high heaters and other issues, I decided to relocate.

I had long wanted to use the old Dairy building next door and we set about cleaning it up, opening up existing doorways, reconnecting water and electricity and painting the walls. We also put in a stud partition – all of which did not need planning permission.

Change of Use was questioned but, over the years, the Old Dairy has had many uses and none needed permission. We have also painted in other barns without planning permission!

The now finished Studio is a great bonus and joy – I don't have to move furniture, a still life can be set up for one group and left undisturbed for the next.

The room is very much lighter than the Village Hall and there is an old concrete area if we wish to paint outside and a rough area which I plan to have as a wildflower meadow – already seeds planted. Also a Barn owl box has been installed on an existing protruding beam outside. In the future, we hope to hold exhibitions and Open Studio; our artists range in age from young mums and oldies to experts and novices and people who paint for pleasure and company.

Cllr Roberts thanked all who had compiled the reports.

6. Any Other Business

6.1 Date of Next Meeting was fixed for Monday, 7th September 2015.

There being no further business, Cllr Roberts closed the meeting.