

THORPE MALSOR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Thorpe Malsor Parish Council held on 23rd May 2016 in the Village Hall.

Present: Cllr N. Roberts (Chairman), Cllr Mrs F Pope (Vice Chairman), Cllr Mrs Z Powell, Cllr R Walton, Cllr Ms H Sharp, Clerk Mrs J Smart.
2 Parishioners

1 Apologies: None

2 Cllr Mrs Pope opened the meeting.

3 Minutes of the previous meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

4 Matters Arising: None

5 Reports from Village Organisations

5.1 Church Warden's Report

Services:

Canon John has organised a good variety of services once again for all age groups here at All Saints. Margaret Mossman and Steve Heygate continue to provide an excellent backup by taking services here regularly and supporting our events despite being retired.

Our Annual Service and supper at Thorpe Malsor Reservoir and the Blessing of Animals service were both well attended once again. Our Crib service with cameo held on Christmas Eve was very popular as usual with a lot of people from outside the Parish attending.

'Messy Church' continues to flourish under Kathryn Evans and her Helpers attracting both children and their parents to activities in Church.

A monthly lay led service has been started by Steph Roberts, assisted by Julie Bozicek to replace the traditional Parish Communion which had lost its appeal in the village. This new informal service starting with a gathering for tea and toast in the Church is a great success. The congregation has increased by more than threefold. We now have only two priest led services each month which should take a little pressure of Canon John's heavy workload.

Fundraising:

A successful Bridge Lunch was held once again in Thorpe Malsor Hall making a profit of £1500, this being our main Fundraiser for Parish Share and essential Church running costs. Our other major fundraiser was a Christmas party with live band held again in Thorpe Malsor Hall organised by Kathryn Evan and Louise Holborrow. This was a most successful evening enjoyed by all, making £1326.

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Maintenance:

The priority work shown in the Quinquennial Report which was mainly on the roof has now been completed. However our income is insufficient to enable us to do any further restoration work of a lower priority because most of the money raised by our fundraising events goes towards payment of our Parish share which goes up year on year.

Accounts:

Our levy of £3534 to Peterborough was paid in full. Although the main fundraising events brought in £2826 the account made only a small credit balance of £60.

Cllr Mrs Pope thanked Major Powell for his report.

5.2 Social Club Report

Throughout the last year at the Club we have had several functions which incorporated village events e.g. Easter Bunny Hunt, Jazz by Dave Johnson & Co, Christmas for the children which included a sleigh ride.

We still have Wednesday nights free for anyone to book for their own functions. Also during 2015 we had two wedding receptions held at the Club already this year we have held another with one booked for September.

Financially we are sound. Membership is still only £3.50 per year; everyone is welcome to join or just visit.

As usual our Christmas draw sold over 120 sheets. The money is converted into prizes so, at £10 per sheet there are many to win. A BBQ for all will be held on Sunday 29th May and Jazz is booked for August 7th plus Tea and Chat on the 3rd Wednesday of the month in the morning.

5.3 Thorpe Malsor Village Hall Management Committee Report

Our major project in 2015 was the replacement windows and having finally received planning permission we were able to proceed with the project. Unfortunately KBC insisted that the large window should be replaced with hardwood, not uPVC. Given that this was going to cost 4 times as much, we did not have the fund to do this. We did however proceed with the uPVC replacements and applied to KBC for a grant towards the cost of the wood window. This, like the planning application, was a fairly tortuous process but we were successful in obtaining £3000 toward the cost, and so we were able to complete the work at the end of the year.

Accounts: We continue to be thankful to Joan for all her work on the Accounts, and dealing with hirings, which continue to be steady, but we are always happy to hear from anyone else.

We also have income from the Village Tote thanks to Sue, and we have had several fundraising events such as the Big Breakfast in September and

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Wimbledon Tea Party. We have renegotiated with our energy supplier and hopefully the new windows will help towards heat retention.

Committee Members: Mavis and Peter Mobbs retired from the Committee due to their ill health but we were joined by Jo Massaro who has been a great support.

Young People: In order to encourage young people living in the village to engage in structured activities we have purchased a table tennis table and other equipment and there is an opportunity once a month to meet up under the supervision of Steph or Jo. Again all are welcome to join in.

My thanks to everyone on the Committee for their support and hard work to keep the Village Hall as an important part of our community.

5.4 Painting Groups

Cllr Mrs Powell gave a brief report in which she stated two groups meet on Tuesday and Friday mornings. The current project is to produce an illustrated book of Sue Walton's poems about the village.

6 Newsletter

Cllr Mrs Powell proposed that a copy of the Newsletter be produced to advertise the current vacancies for a Councillor and a Parish Clerk. Cllr Mrs Pope undertook to do this although the vacancies would be advertised on the Parish Council Noticeboard as is customary, and also the website.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.