



## EDITH WESTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2024 in Edith Weston Village Hall

Due to a mix up this meeting started earlier than advertised at 6.45pm. Copies of the draft minutes have therefore been posted for the public to read.

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| 1 | No apologies had been received.   |
| 2 | It was resolved to approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 30th May 2023.  |
| 3 | The Chair of Parish Council, Andy Lunn (AL), gave a report as attached at Appendix 1.   |
| 4 | The report from the Neighbourhood Plan Committee (NPC) was included in the Chair's report at Appendix 1. Andy Lunn (AL) is also Chair of the NPC. |
| 5 | There were no questions or points raised by residents or members of the public.   |
|   | The meeting was closed at 7.00 pm.  |

#### Appendix 1

### Edith Weston Parish Council Chairman's Report 29<sup>th</sup> April 2024

I would firstly like to thank Sara for her help and guidance and keeping me in line over the last 12 months and providing invaluable support to the Parish Council.

I would also like to thank Juliet for her wisdom, knowledge, council, and support as vice Chair for the past 12 months.

Lastly but not least I would like to thank Gale and Tim for their continued support as our ward councilors and their guidance which everyone appreciates but personal thanks as a newbie to the world of being a Parish Council Chair.

#### Team changes

During the past 12 months the Parish council has seen a couple of new members join the team and for the first time since I joined the Parish council some 4 years ago, we are presently at our full complement.

Emily Roden joined the team in October 2023 and Joeseph Akak joined in June 2023. We really appreciate their enthusiasm and energy, and both bring a new perspective to the team.

#### Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood plan got off to a slow start for various reasons when the process was started almost 3 years ago., however, I feel that good progress has been made in the

last 12 months. The public consultation on the draft Neighbourhood plan, regulation 14, was held between 29<sup>th</sup> August and 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023. During that time, we held 5 events within the village where villagers could ask question regarding the plan. The best attended was of course the one in the Village Pub! I would like to thank Peter and Juliet who along with myself represented the Parish council at one or more of those events.

We had 19 responses to Regulation 14, - 9 of which were from local villagers and 10 from statutory bodies such as RCC, Police, utilities etc. Peter and I with the help of Hannah Barber our consultant then made some changes to the Neighbourhood Plan based on some of the feedback we received and put a 73-page Consultation Document together that forms part of the next stage of the process, regulation 16.

Our regulation 16 submission was sent to RCC on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2024 and was put to cabinet on 15<sup>th</sup> March who passed this to move forward to Regulation 16 consultation. RCC will start the consultation period on April 29<sup>th</sup> and run for 6 weeks until June 10<sup>th</sup> 2024.

My thanks go to Peter Vickers for his many hours of work and to Hannah Barber and her team that has got us to this point in this complex process. I have certainly learnt a lot on a subject matter I knew nothing about 12 months ago.

### **Speeding/Parking**

Speeding and Parking have been a top topic for some time.

In the first 2 weeks of July, we held Community Speed watch in the village that was well supported. Unfortunately, we recorded the highest number of speeders taken in such an event within Rutland, 629 offenders. – half of which were between 36-39mph, 284 between 40 and 49mph and the remaining 31 above 50mph with one at 75mph.

Thanks go to all those people that took part, in some cases some of them having to take verbal or signaled abuse and silly antics by some drivers.

However, special thanks go to Helen Wood who made all this possible in the first place but then put in an incredible amount of work and hours during the speed watch weeks organizing everyone to be at the right place at the right time and then liaising with Highways and the police that eventually ended with the chicane installed on Manton Road. First impressions look like this has made a difference, but we remain vigilant.

With regards to the parking issue on Normanton Road outside of the carpark entrance. RCC have repainted and extended the yellow lines and made these enforceable. Some people are still parking on the verge, but the issue seems to have lessened but let's see what this year brings, and we are hopeful that RCC ensures the checks for illegal parking continue to happen.

### **Community and engagement**

We continue to support the local community where possible. In the last 12 months we have committed to providing a table/bench for Tommy's Close which has been delivered a couple of weeks ago and will further enhance the hard work the Tommy's close trustees have been doing there with the play area etc. We have also agreed to help by covering the cost of grass cutting the Tommy's Close field except for the play area which

has started this year. Finally, we also continue to commit to helping the Trustees where we can and have one of our councilors attend their Trustees meeting.

We have supported the Village Hall this year by providing a grant for the work that has been going on with the new lighting, heating, and paintwork. Am sure you agree it's made a big improvement to the hall, especially the heating!

We look forward to being able to support the church in a similar way now that the law restricting councils on helping churches has been amended.

In January BIFFA informed us that they were no longer going to be able to cut the village grass areas. We went out to tender with several companies, and we have now have an agreement in place with Emery. Thanks to Sara and Helen for running this process for us.

We continue to participate in the local forums such as the Rutland Water Partnership.

Our regular newsletter is I know welcomed by residents- thanks to Peter for his stewardship of this.

Being Chair for the last 12 months has been a steep learning curve for sure, there have been some challenges, and I am sure there will continue to be challenges. We have some important issues for the village in the coming years, such as the 2 MOD sites, building applications outside the PLD that will need all of us to help with in some way.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone for their support given to me over the past year as Chair.

**Andrew Lunn**  
Chair