**GERMANSWEEK PARISH MEETING**

**The next Annual Germansweek Parish Meeting will be held in the Village Hall at 7:30pm on Wednesday 18th May 2022**

The press and members of the public are welcome to attend.

## Cllr Jackie Theobald, Chairman

Wednesday 6th May 2022

**AGENDA**

1. **Parish Council Chairman’s Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed attendees to the meeting

1. **To approve and sign the minutes of the last annual parish meeting held on 5th May 2021** ***approved and signed***
2. **Parish Council Chairman’s Report**

This past year has seen a continuation of erratic meetings due to the Covid 19 virus. We returned to face to face meetings in June 2021 but we were told to call a halt at our last meeting in December 2021 as advised by health officials. Following the law we were not allowed to hold zoom meetings and we were unable to make decisions although through the Clerk we could make our views known.

This brought our many plans and visions to a grinding halt although work continued behind the scenes as parishes sought Councillors out to express their point of view on matters and Councillors continued to work on various projects, eg. High speed broadband, policing matters, celebrations amongst them. All are to be congratulated on their continuing motivation during a difficult time. Here, the Council must give praise to our Clerk who kept us informed of the wider world of local initiatives and issues and to the RFO who continued to mentor our finances, our thanks to both. Mention must also go to our parish groundsman/ maintenance man who has kept the village tidy, despite the fact that stuff keeps on growing!

Despite the reality of Omicron( a variant of Covid19) looming we did manage to have a get together at Christmas and admire the new Christmas tree , have a sing-a-long with the Germansweek singers and have a meet and greet with Mayor of WDBC who opened the proceedings. Again our thanks to all who attended and organised the event and were brave enough to come out on a very wet, cold December night. Councillor Carlie again designed a December walk about and quiz which was a fun activity during the darkest time and confusing Omicron period.

We were finally able to have our last meeting of the Council’s year in April so now all these erratic times are finally over hopefully. We have much to look forward in the coming months, the Jubilee celebration kicks off the year and I am pleased to report that we have managed to draw together various lively groups within parish so we are looking forward to seeing everyone together in June for the activities planned.

Finally I would like to thank the stalwarts of the Council, Loveday, Jamie and Rachel for their work as well as Cllr Terry Southcott who comes to every meeting we hold and keeps us updated with the goings on within West Devon and beyond. We are very grateful for their interest and support of the parish. This will be my final year as Chairman of the Council and I hope I have served you well. Thank you for the support I have received over the past years, it’s time to hand the baton on so new ideas, and visions of the future can continue to develop for this beautiful parish of ours. Again thank you for the privilege of being the Chairman …….. Jacky Theobald.

1. **Parish Council Finance Report**

During the financial year 2021/22 the Council managed its finances effectively with total precept expenditure slightly under budget. Staff costs were above budget, primarily due to a local government pay rise greed in March 2022 and backdated for the financial year. This was offset by underspends on repairs and hedge trimming, grass maintenance, training and incidentals. The Council also has significant ring-fenced funds (c.£6.2K) for contingency, election and maintenance purposes, as well as further work in Jubilee Woods, transparency grant spending and support for parish community events.

There are no further transactions that would have a financial impact on the year end accounting statements.

The budget for 2022/23 was agreed in January 2022 and included a 12% increase in the precept to fund expected rises in staff costs and increased spend on hedge and tree trimming, training, website support and general maintenance. These are partially offset by a reduction in the Council’s contribution towards maintenance of the churchyard grounds.

1. AOB.

Close of meeting 19:42