

# **Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting for Boddington**

**Wednesday 2 April 2025 at 7:30 pm at Boddington Village Hall**

## **Present:**

16 Members of the Public

Visitors from: West Northants Council, Kier, EKFB

## **1. Introduction and Welcome**

The Chairman of Boddington Parish Council, Cllr D Ramsden, welcomed parishioners to the meeting and outlined the formal and informal formats for the evening.

## **2. Approval of Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held 3 April 2024**

The minutes had been posted to the Boddington Parish Council ('BPC') website prior to the meeting and were approved by those present.

## **3. Receive a report from West Northants Council**

Cllr. Eastwood presented a verbal report, her written report had been posted to the BPC website prior to the meeting. Any enquiries for Cllr Eastwood can be sent directly or via the clerk. The Chairman thanked Cllr Eastwood for her support.

## **4. Friends of Boddington**

Philip Freer presented the report from Friends of Boddington which had also been posted to the BPC website. Thanks to Stuart Andrew MP for his involvement with Boddington. Special mention of WNC Cllr Alison Eastwood who has worked diligently and is committed to support Boddington and helped FoB to raise the profile of Boddington. The parish council will follow up on the empty properties owned by HS2. Thanks were expressed to Philip Freer and Friends of Boddington members for all their hard work.

## **5. EKFB**

Chris James from EKFB gave a brief presentation to update on HS2 works and if there are any questions they can be passed on via the Clerk or FoB.

## **6. WNC Highways, Sam Simons**

Sam Simons was unable to attend the meeting. Kier's Leon Jolly, who is responsible for the delivery of maintenance, gave an update on road repairs and his colleague Joe Mayes noted down areas of concern raised at the meeting and will respond via the parish Clerk. Leon is working on improving the Fix My Street service and following the delivery of a roadmender and JCB pot hole pro, improvements should be noticeable by April/May. Repairs will increase from approx. 6k per year to 18K per year, faults reported to Fix My Street can help increase the budget for repairs. WNC are now investing more in the roads network and the next budget will allow for these improvements to continue. Working with a Rights of Way volunteering group and looking at allowing parish council's to undertake some works. Question asked if the roads are due to be resurfaced: capital funding is small, heat tool scans condition of roads and produces a condition survey, will report back on the results of the latest scan.

## **7. Annual Reports Received** (available to download from the parish council website)

- **St John the Baptist Church**

A brief report was provided by Christine Copeman who confirmed that the Church will remain open for another 5 years as a new rector has been appointed. The report has been posted to the pc website.

- **Village Hall/Joint Recreation Working Group**

Caroline Sheers reported on the activities of the Village Hall committee and the Joint Recreation Group working in conjunction with the Parish Council. Grateful thanks extended to those who attend events and volunteer to help at events. The extension to the village hall is work in progress and funds will need to be raised, the MP has some ideas to assist with this, if anyone else has ideas of fund availability please let Caroline know. A report has been posted to the pc website.

- **Boddington Sustainability group**

Mark Thompson gave an update on behalf of the sustainability group and a report has been posted to the pc website.

- **Boddington Historical Society**

A report has been posted to the website.

- **Police Liaison Representative**

A report has been posted to the website.

- **JFCG**

A report has been posted to the website.

## **8. Any Other Matters**

Anglian Water were invited to attend the meeting, however, the water mains replacement into Lower Boddington has not changed since last year. They are unable to commence any mains laying while HS2 have road closures in place that may affect or clash with any diversion routes and are awaiting contact from HS2 before proceeding.

The Chairman thanked all those who attended and advised of the informal session to discuss local issues with individual councillors and representatives from other organisations.

**The Chairman closed the formal part of the meeting at 21:38.**