

**Minutes of the Annual Electors Meeting  
held at Kirdford Village Hall on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025 at 7.15pm**

**Present:**  
Cllr Mrs A Gillett  
Cllr Mr T Piedade  
Cllr Mr P Flint  
Cllr Mrs N Goddard  
Cllr Mr T Brooks  
Cllr Mr A Persson

**In attendance:**  
Cllr Charles Todhunter  
Members of public: 1  
Parish Clerk

1. Apologies: Cllr Janet Duncton, Cllr Gareth Evans, Cllr A Campbell, Cllr A Vernon
2. Declarations of Interest. None Received
3. Approval of Minutes: The Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024 were approved.
4. Chairman's Report. The Chairman gave the following report:

Good evening. Welcome and thank you for attending your 2025 Annual Meeting of Electors for Kirdford. This meeting provides you with an opportunity to actually hear which issues and projects the Parish Council have been involved in over the past year.

Most importantly this evening, I would like to thank all our Parish Councillors, as well as our District and County Councillors for their continued hard work and support.

On behalf of all parishioners, a really big thank you to Lynne our Clerk, who goes above and beyond her duty to keep us on task and ensure we are compliant.

This past year, we have had the usual issues of water neutrality, potholes, ditches, drains, speeding, footpaths, planning applications, Gatwick, inspecting playground equipment, Winter Management Plan, Health and Safety and traveller encampments. As a Parish Council, we have also discussed and worked on numerous projects over the past twelve months, all of which have taken up a tremendous amount of our time and energy.

I am delighted to report that the refurbishment of the Recreation Ground pavilion has now been completed. Our planning application for a replacement pavilion on Great Common has been approved and the reroofing of the village hall was completed last summer. We continue to monitor all planning applications carefully, especially the one on the land south of Townfield. We continue to strongly object to this development as it is contrary to our Neighbourhood Plan. The expansion of Gatwick and the Noise Management issues are still ongoing. We are kept well informed and are regularly updated on any relevant issues.

This year has proved to be extremely challenging. The criticism received via social media from a very small number of uninformed residents has proved to be extremely unhelpful. Especially so when

residents do not attend our meetings and do not bother to check the facts before they post their messages. The public can attend all of our meetings, the minutes are published on our website and the Clerk's telephone number is readily available. I consider, the posting of nasty comments on social media completely unacceptable and uncalled for. I am sorry that as Councillors, you have been subjected to this abuse, and I am not sure why people feel that it is acceptable behaviour but sadly I fear we now have some rather disrespectful residents.

Attending Parish Council meetings is only one small part of being a parish councillor. To support our parish your councillors volunteer, giving their time, with enthusiasm and dedication, their expertise, energy and support makes Kirdford the lovely village we care to call home. I would like to thank each and every one of you, (along with the three Councillors who have resigned this year) as well as our Clerk.; your tireless commitment is valued and much appreciated. We also all thank Janet Duncton, Gareth Evans and Charles Todhunter for their continued advice and support.

Thank you.  
Amanda Gillett  
22nd April 2025

There were no questions from members of the public.

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Chairman

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Date