



TAKELEY PARISH COUNCIL

Full Council Meeting

Minutes of the ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PARISH OF TAKELEY held in the Old School Community Centre on Wednesday 18th May 2022 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Pat Burnett (Chairman), Carol Pratt (previous Chairman), Linda Steer, Patricia Barber, Phill Bodsworth and Jim Backus

In attendance: Jackie Deane (Locum Clerk) Cllr Susan Barker (ECC), Cllr Maggie Sutton (UDC) and 28 members of the public.

Listed speakers:

Martin Peachey – Neighbourhood Plan and Stansted Airport Watch

Revd Dr Fairweather – Takeley & Lt Canfield Church

Eric Rogers – Takeley Sports & Social Club

Anne Regeli – Helen Rollason Cancer Charity

ECC Cllr Susan Barker

UDC Cllr Maggie Sutton

Linda Cole – Takeley Christian School

Graham Thompson – Takeley History Society

Item	
1.	Chairman's Welcome Cllr Burnett opened the meeting and welcomed guests.
2.	Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from Anne Regeli, Eric Rogers and Cllr Jackie Cheetham.
3.	Minutes of the 2019 Parish Assembly Due to the Covid 19 pandemic the last Parish Assembly was held in 2019. The minutes of the meeting held on 26 th June 2019 were agreed as a true record of the meeting.
4.	Report from the Parish Council Cllr Burnett started by acknowledging the difficulties for everyone during the past 2 years and for the Parish Council, how business was conducted remotely for much of this time, with members gaining new skills such as Zoom meetings. Sadly, two longstanding councillors, Trevor Allen and Richard Cheetham, had passed away during this period and they had both contributed so much to the parish. Trevor Allen was renowned for his interest and immense knowledge of the village history and wildlife. He had played an active role in planning matters. As an active member of the community he assisted those in need of help with GP appointments and prescriptions.



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Full Council Meeting

	<p>Richard Cheetham, a former Chairman, took a keen interest in the parish finances, using his wealth of financial knowledge. He was also active in planning matters and campaigning against further airport expansion.</p> <p>Cllr Burnett thanked Councillor Pratt for her dedication as a long-serving Parish Council Chairman and working on behalf of the residents over so many years.</p> <p><i>Members of the public joined Cllr Burnett in thanking Cllr Pratt for all her hard work on behalf of the parish.</i></p>
5.	<p>Reports from District and County Councillors</p> <p>Cllr Susan Barker reported on her continued work liaising with residents and the parish council on various matters and to follow up on road repairs.</p>
6.	<p>Reports from Local Organisations</p> <p><u>Stansted Airport Watch</u> - Martin Peachey reported on the outcome of legal challenges where UDC was unsuccessful in its objection to maximum use of the runway and had incurred a substantial cost award to MAG. SAW is continuing to respond to consultations on night flights and noise and publishes guidance to residents and parish councils wishing to respond to consultations. They also become involved in occasional campaigns regarding climate change, air quality and tree planting.</p> <p><u>Takeley and Canfield Churches</u> – Revd. Fairweather gave a report on his work within the churches, which include Stansted, Birchanger and Farnham, and their efforts to contribute to form bonds and support within the community.</p> <p><u>Helen Rollason Cancer Charity</u> – The Takeley group representative reported that in 2021, the charity celebrated its 25-year anniversary, and that the past year’s fundraising revenue was over £2,000 to fund counselling and alternative therapies for those living with cancer and support for their families.</p> <p><u>Takeley Christian School</u> – Linda Cole explained on the make-up of the small independent school, with 50 junior and secondary age children.</p> <p><u>The Chapel</u> – Simon Knight reported on the charity’s work to promote Christian education and how the proceeds from the sale of Broxted Chapel have been used to refurbish their other buildings, one of which is leased by the Christian School. He reminded residents that the charity is not part of any specific congregation and has regular groups including the Sunday morning meetings for scripture-reading, a Wednesday evening meditation group and a gardening community project at the Little Canfield allotments.</p> <p><u>History Society</u> – Graham Thompson spoke on the loss of two key members, Trevor Allen and Steve Hazon, who will both be sadly missed. The archive is held in the Old School Community Centre and numerous publications are available to purchase online and from the Community Café.</p>



TAKELEY PARISH COUNCIL

Full Council Meeting

	<p>Priors Green Hall – Alan Cormack reported on the full programme of community activities held in the hall and how the trustees work together to keep it well-maintained and run.</p> <p><u>Cricket Club</u> – Mike Phillips reported that weekend teams are looking for more members and the club is active in the local league. Recent fundraising in memory of Malcom Brown raised £15,000 which was donated to a hospice charity and a new score board is being erected in Malcolm’s memory.</p> <p><u>British Legion</u> – Brian Baldwin gave a brief account of the history of the charity and its current activities.</p> <p><u>Silver Jubilee Hall</u> – Paul Burnett gave an update on the resumption of a busy bookings diary and that the hall had received government grant funding during the pandemic. Grant applications would be completed, to fund refurbishment of the toilet block. Three large flower planters were made by the Men’s Shed, to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee.</p> <p><u>Takeley 10k Race</u> – Paul Burnett reported that the race no longer runs through Hatfield Forest and now uses the Flich Way. Now in its 13th year, the last race had over 400 participants.</p> <p>Rotary Clun – Jenny Versey reported that the Takeley Branch is being formed and is currently part of the Dunmow Branch, which meets fortnightly. They are keen to become active in the community and would welcome ideas for community projects.</p>
7.	<p>Report from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group</p> <p>Martin Peachey reported on the work done so far to research the heritage in the village and make a questionnaire for consulting the community on the topics to be included in the plan.</p>
8.	<p>Open Questions</p> <p>An enquiry was made about the walking and cycling route to Stansted Airport, if it could be better lit by streetlights and if the route could be improved. There is a particular concern about the lack of a safe crossing point or footpath at the Cooper’s End roundabout and access to the airport.</p> <p>Residents raised their concerns for road safety in Parsonage Road and inconsiderate lorry drives on this road.</p> <p>A question was raised on whether the Community Speed Watch initiative could be restarted and there was a brief discussion on the criteria and number of volunteers required to get it running again.</p> <p>The Parish Councillors were thanked for all their hard work and specific mention was made to recognise the work of Cllr Pratt and Cllr Sprules for maintaining the village planters.</p> <p>The re-starting of the Youth Club was discussed and taster sessions were being planned, with activities to include Cinema nights.</p>



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Full Council Meeting

9.	Date of the Next Meeting The next Annual meeting will be set in April or May 2023.
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Meeting closed at 21.17.

Signed by the Chairman

Date