

Chapel Allerton Parish Council

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Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting on Monday 11th April 2022 at the Old School Room Stone Allerton

Present: Cllrs M. Wallach (Chairperson), Cllr. F. Torrens-Spence, and
Cllr. J. Blakemore

19 parishioners were in attendance and the clerk, John Augustus

Police and Crime Commissioner Mark Sheldon
PCSO'S James Brunt (Supervisor) and Georgina ?

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr P. Duggan-Rees and Cllr. R. Williams
2. Minutes of meeting held on the 19th April 2019 were not read but were agreed as a correct record of the meeting. Proposed by Cllr. J. Blakemore and Seconded by Cllr. F. Torrens-Spence.
3. Presentation by Police and Crime Commissioner, Mark Sheldon
 - Police and Crime Commissioner introduced himself and the two PCSO's.
Police and Crime Commissioner has three main roles:
 - a. To have a single focus on Policing and Crime
 - b. To have a Police and Crime Plan
 - c. Funding the plan which is managed by the Chief Constable Sarah Crew
 - Focus
 - a. Reassure the population that the police are visible, but the main focus at the moment which is on cyber-crime, which has the highest crime rate at 50%.
 - b. Refocus on crime within house crime, rural crime, burglaries, drug dealing and domestic abuse.
 - c. The focus is also on improving morale of the police force and software is being used to support police officers in their role.

- Worry Beads
The Police and Crime Commissioner mentioned his worry beads and these focus around the areas of:
 - a. The Sarah Everard case where the general public have lost faith in the police and feel that they can't turn to the police for their own safety.
 - b. Domestic abuse, that there has been a significant number of reported cases of domestic abuse, which has also been exacerbated by the Covid pandemic.
 - c. Drugs, the increase in drug trafficking and dealing on the streets. It is everywhere and they are trying to set up hubs and educational support for offenders and those in prisons where it is also rife.

The Police and Crime Commissioner ended his presentation with an question and answer session but also reassured people to continue to report any incidents of crime either by calling 101, on-line reporting or by visiting the local Police Station in Burnham-on-Sea which is manned 24hrs a day. The question and answer session involved the local PCSO's as there were some local operational questions.

It was agreed at the end of this session to invite the PCSO's to all Chapel Allerton Council Meetings

For the PCSO's to provide the parish with a spot map showing all the local hubs and police stations that are open in the area and when.

4. Chairman's Report
Unfortunately Cllr. P. Duggan-Rees was not able to be present due to ill health and so the Chairman's report was read out by Cllr. M. Wallach (Annex A)

5. Open Discussion of areas affecting the village.

One parishioner wanted to highlight the conditions of the roads locally and is there anything that the Parish Council could do to try and get these sorted. Cllr. F. Torrens-Spence highlighted that we do report such cases to County Highways but due to the lack of resources and funding available that they have to prioritise areas of greatest concern and we are in a rural area with secondary roads are not seen as a major priority.

Another parishioner raised concerns over the speeding traffic along Notting Hill Way and what is being done about it. Cllr. M. Wallach explain to everyone that the speed limit signs of 30 mph are going to be erected from the A38 all the way along Notting Hill Way but we are waiting for County Traffic Management to organise a start date.

The Chairperson Cllr. M. Wallach thanked the Police and Crime Commissioner, the PCSO's and parishioners for their time and interest in the Village and closed the meeting. The meeting closed at 8.45pm

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John Augustus
Clerk to Chapel Allerton Parish Council