

North Cadbury & Yarlington Parish Council

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“Draft” Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting
Held on Wednesday 11th May in North Cadbury Village Hall,
Following the Annual Parish Council Meeting at 7.00pm

Councillors Present:

Diane Rickers (Chairman)

Susan Gilbert

Andy Keys-Toyer

Alan Rickers

Maria Viney

Malcolm Hunt

Bryan Mead

John Rundle

In Attendance: The Clerk and ten members of the public.

1. **Apologies for Absence.** C.Cllr Lewis, D.Cllr Hobhouse and D.Cllr Messenger tendered their apologies.
2. **Minutes of the North Cadbury Annual Parish Meeting held on 14th April 2021** were received, agreed and signed as a true record.
3. **Parish Council Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022.** Copies of the Draft Receipts and Payments Accounts (unaudited) were previously distributed for information with comment by the Clerk.
4. **Reports from District and County Councillors.** None present.
5. **Parish Reports:**
 - a. Parish Paths Liaison Officer (PPLO). Mrs S Fone presented her report as follows:
“As with my report from 2021, numbers of regular local walkers and from further afield have continued to increase. This is evidenced by the well-worn paths and frequency of reporting on the www.roam.somerset.gov.uk site of faults. This has been very useful for me as PPLO and for Eve Wynn our SSDC Ranger. Unfortunately, there are only a very few contractors available to do the remedial work. This has led to a hold up in the repair of faults as listed in the monthly Rights of Way reports to the Parish Council. We have prioritised those faults which are on the circular walks. The Parish Council has committed £500 to maintaining and repairing paths, but it would be very helpful if landowners could assist and rebuild broken stiles and correct other faults on Rights of Way which cross their land. Some do this and save the public expenditure and for this we are grateful. Some landowners are very conscientious about cutting out paths through crops, as this prevents walkers from deviating from the correct route and trampling crops. Again, we are grateful for this.

The circular paths project has become very popular and has introduced many to paths they were unaware of. The four boards are installed around the combined Parishes and hard copies of the routes are in various public locations. The QR codes detailing the walks are on the boards and on the Parish web site. We are indebted to various Parish Councillors and Parishioners who have researched the paths, organised printing etc. and made the wooden signs for each walk.

Councillor Sue Gilbert has volunteered to be the Parish Council Rights of Way officer as Councillor Katherine Vaughan, (after substantial Rights of Way support), has resigned. We are very grateful to Katherine for all her hard work.

There are training opportunities for volunteers to gain the required certificates to use trimmers and other tools to keep up-growth to a minimum around stiles etc. If anyone is interested, please contact Councillor Sue Gilbert.

It is good to bring to people's attention the fact that an estimated 10,000 miles of historic paths – the equivalent of the distance from London to Sydney – are thought to be missing from the map in England and Wales. These historic paths are a vital part of our heritage, describing how people have travelled over the centuries, yet if they are not claimed by 2026, we risk losing them forever. By visiting the web site [Don't Lose Your Way www.ramblers.org.uk](http://www.ramblers.org.uk) much more information is available.”

b. North Cadbury Village Hall (NCVH). Mr Robin Russell, Chairman NCVH, presented his report as follows:

“After many periods of lockdown a gradual re-opening of hall started from 12th April 2021 mainly for Parent and Child Groups. Gradual easing of these rules continued through the early part of the year and we are now fully functional.

Throughout the year we continued weekly cleaning and playing field grass cutting. In April 2021 the play equipment was upgraded by a small team of volunteers and this brought the whole play area to life again. Two new picnic tables were delivered to us in May 2021.

Several children's parties have been booked in and the 200 Club coffee mornings resumed in the main hall from May 2021.

Most of our groups and clubs also resumed although some of them decided for varying reasons to discontinue.

A Race Night was held on the 14th August 2021 and this was the first full public function since the first lockdown. Our programme of monthly films resumed in October 2021.

We tried unsuccessfully to resume our stage productions during 2021, the school play had to be cancelled after many rehearsals and our winter pantomime suffered the same fate. Covid was still having a great effect on large gatherings.

We hosted the annual Harvest Lunch 2nd October combined with St. Michael's church.

Installation of new play equipment took place in November 2021 and the planting of Platinum Jubilee Copse January 2022.

Thatching of Cottage ridge during September 2021.

We have been fortunate through the year to continue to receive various government grants and we endeavour to make good use of it.

Since the turn of the year activities have started to pick up again. We had two very successful Take Art productions and performances of Canterbury Tales in late March 2022 performed by our in house drama group the Camelot Players.

We followed this with a fund raising event for Ukraine, a Quiz night and Folk nights.

Currently we have 14 committee members (Trustees) and I wish to thank them all for their support during the year.”

c. Galhampton Village Hall (GVH). Cllr A Rickers, Chairman GVH, presented his report as follows:

"For the vast majority of this reporting period the Hall was closed due to Covid, but behind the scenes the committee remained busy ensuring that when the Hall and playing fields could reopen they did so in accordance with the Government guidelines.

During the Covid period there were a number of substantial grants available to organisations from central Government. The committee successfully applied for these grants, which have helped to financially secure the future of the hall.

The committee agreed that as the grant money was given to support Halls during a period of loss of revenue, and was designed to support them during the transition back to normality, then Galhampton would use it to help clubs and organisations that support the villagers of Galhampton re-establish themselves by giving the Hall for free until the end of this financial year and with incremented increases thereafter. It is also this grant money along with existing funds and a generous grant from Emily Estates that the committee intend to use to refurbish the playing field for use by our younger generation.

Throughout Covid the playing field remained an integral part of village life and the committee reopened it at the earliest opportunity Government guidelines would permit, to allow those villagers locked down with small children a welcome escape from being stuck indoors.

During the pandemic as well as the Hall being closed we unfortunately had to cancel outdoor events such as Bonfire night and Carols around the Yew tree. However, to give the villagers some form of normality the 200 Club continued which was a welcome respite and it continues to go from strength to strength and the Christmas raffle is always well received. Our kitchen remains the beating heart of the Hall and it is worthy of note the excellent 5 Star Hygiene record given to the Hall by the South Somerset District Council, food hygiene inspector.

During the closed period the committee took the opportunity to revise its operating procedures, which led to the decision to move from a Charitable trust to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

Whilst the Hall was closed it still required maintaining with regular inspections, Covid cleaning and servicing of equipment, so I would like to say a special thank you to the numerous volunteers that give their time freely to ensure the Hall is clean, open for users and that events run successfully.

d. North Cadbury Primary School. The Clerk presented the report on behalf of Mrs Lisa Thompson, Head Teacher and Mrs Janet Montgomery, Chair of Governors as follows:

"The school is thriving and everyone working very hard, particularly this week as pupils are sitting SATs!

Apart from teaching a strong and solid curriculum, the school also provides a wide range of extra curriculum activities.

The ethos at North Cadbury is "To be the best we can be" with the aim for all children to leave the school as happy, confident and independent individuals with a positive Christian outlook on life and the resilience to take on their next challenge.

We are excited with our new building project. Planning permission has been granted for the replacement of the main "temporary" classroom buildings with a permanent stone-built structure linking-in to the existing main school building. We are currently negotiating with various contractors both in respect of costings and timescale for construction."

e. North Cadbury Tennis Club. The Clerk presented the report on behalf of Janet Montgomery, Secretary and Jane Braybon, Chairman as follows:

"The Tennis Club have recently held their AGM and reports for the last two years were given. Over the last two years there has been more public access to the courts given with a key being able to be picked up for members of the public with a small fee to be paid, from Bob and Jackie at the village shop.

Club membership has remained fairly static with not all fees being collected during the periods that the courts were unable to be used.

The Club has committed to repaint both courts which will take place in the next couple of weeks and the fencing will be repaired. It is regrettable that there has been some damage recently to the Club House with a break-in to it. This will be repaired shortly.

Club Nights will recommence after the repainting works have been undertaken and we will publicise what day this will be in the week on the Club Notice Board and locally.

There is a Men's Team entered into the Yeovil and District Tennis League and it is hoped that Club Nights this year will be well supported."

f. North Cadbury Allotment Association (NCAA). The Clerk presented the report on behalf of Lorraine Malton, Chairman NCAA as follows:

"There are 16 members are working a mixture of double, full and half plots amounting to 19 Plots in total. There have been 2 resignations in the year April 2021- April 2022: Plot 2, and Plot 7. As there is currently a waiting list these plots were taken over by 2 new members at the AGM around the same time. (Awaiting contracts to be signed and returned)

Vacant plots - We currently don't have any vacant plots and the waiting list for plots has increased to 4.

Site Maintenance - An allotment inspection took place 13th April with Sam Davey and Andy Keys-Toyer and work has been started on all allotments for the year ahead, it was discussed that the IPCs around the perimeter of the plots are no longer needed, and they have been allocated to plot holders wanting an extra one.

Chris Davey has been looking after the grass surrounding the allotments for the past 2 years, it has been agreed that plot holders are now to manage the grass outside of their own plots. If the use of the communal mower is required, then it is available and is currently stored by Chris and Sam Davey.

There has also been an issue regarding dog fouling around the allotments and how this could be controlled. Signs have now been placed around the perimeter of the site to try and combat this.

Site Security - There has been one known incident during the year and some items have been taken from one holder's shed. This was discussed at the AGM and agreed that thefts from allotments are inevitable and that the best way of combating this is site presence with as many plots being worked as possible. It was also suggested that sheds be left unlocked and that nothing of value be stored within.

Miscellaneous - We would like to thank our previous officers, Sam, Nick and Daphne for all their efforts ensuring the NCAA runs smoothly over the past few years. The allotments are such a peaceful escape for all that tend them."

g. North Cadbury and District Gardening Club. The Clerk presented the report on behalf of Sarah Newsom, Chairman as follows:

"2021 was a different year for everyone and like other clubs and societies across the country, North Cadbury and District Gardening Club was unable to meet on a monthly basis until September 2021. Since then we have held our monthly meetings in the Village Hall and even managed a Christmas lunch for the Club in December 2021.

During the summer of 2021 the Club held a social evening in the summer and on a rather wet day in August, we had an Open Gardens afternoon with cream teas in the Village Hall.

Volunteers continued to maintain the wildflower patch, the rose garden and the stone trough in the village during 2021 but sadly the club is no longer able to maintain the trough in 2022.

To date this year, the Club has been able to hold the monthly meetings in the Village Hall starting in January 2022 when the AGM was held at which Mrs Sarah Newsom was re-elected Chairman and Mr & Mrs Graham Jennings were re-elected jointly as Secretary.

The club has moved the date for its annual plant sale to Saturday 4th June as part of the North Cadbury Jubilee events and the cake sale will be held separately in the Village Hall on Wednesday 18th May.

We are very grateful to the North Cadbury Village Hall for the use of this great facility and look forward to doing so in the coming months.”

h. Chairman of the Parish Council. The outgoing Chairman, Cllr Hunt, previously circulated his Annual Report, which he presented and is included at Attachment 1.

6. **Matters Raised by Members of the Public.** None.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.05 pm and was followed by the ordinary PC meeting.

Signed

Dated

Chairman

