

The Annual Parish Meeting for the parish of Bridford was held on Monday 5th June 2023 in the Village Hall at 6.30pm.

The meeting was attended by Cllr. Padgham (Chairman) Cllr. Purser (District Councillor) and Cllrs. Marriott, Gallagher and Topley. Also in attendance were 11 members of the public and Locum Clerk Penny Clapham. Refreshments were served.

Apologies were received from those representing the Wives, Church ,Village Hall Committee and Twinning Association.

Cllr. Padgham as Chair opened the meeting thanking everyone for coming. The councillors and clerk introduced themselves.

Topics discussed included the gritter used to de-ice Bridford Hill and its repairs which are proving difficult to achieve at this moment in time. The flow meter which allows the grit onto the road is stuck. There was a hope that Highways could help out but apparently not. It is invaluable to residents to know that the hill is safe to go down in ice weather conditions. Lucy Smerdon, wildlife warden informed that the verges are looking very good and that the 'rattle' has taken.

The notice board in the bus shelter is now decorated with paintings.

Swift boxes are coming to be sited on the Church.

Climate change and Bridford resilience came to the fore – this has not yet happened.

Mention that Action on Climate in Teignbridge (ACT) may come and give an open talk to all interested.

The tree warden updated all on his monitoring of the woodland and trees in the parish. It has been established that some 30% of the parish has tree cover of which some 60% is broad leaved. Noted that in the Woodland Park some of the trees have been felled, particularly willow which can be overbearing – this is because of over-crowding in some places. Ash die -back is being monitored in Rowden Wood. There is a scheme to plant trees in the play park, probably this autumn.

Mention was made of the Larder, based in the Church foyer. It is being used and can be used by anybody whether they are in need or not.

Volunteers for the forthcoming fete in July are needed to help run the stalls.

Cllr. Topley mentioned that she has been told some 45 people have accessed the parish plan now on the website, but few have attempted the questionnaire.

More '20's plenty' signage is needed for the village.

Cllr. Marriott took a photo of all those present and the meeting closed just after 7pm prior the Council meeting commencing.

Signed.....

Date.....