

PUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in the village hall on

Tuesday 1st May 2018 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr R Price (Chair) Cllr R Baily (Vice Chair), Cllr K Keatley, Cllr S Folland

DCllr J Binks, CCllr M Squires, F Lowe (Clerk), 6 members of the public

1) **Apologies** None

2) **Chairman's Report**

The Chairman opened the meeting and explained the purpose of the Annual Parish Meeting, followed by his report: "At the end of the year 2017-18, I would like to thank my fellow Councillors; Cllrs Baily, Folland and Keatley for their support and contributions to the work of the Parish Council. We are all grateful to our Clerk, Fiona Lowe for her professionalism and diligence in guiding us throughout the year and providing us with regular information and updates of Mid Devon Council's activities. Fiona has been instrumental in ensuring that the Parish Council is advised of all Planning Applications and decisions which affect our Parish.

The Parish Council remains under-manned and we have not yet been successful in securing another member. We would benefit by having one more Councillor and it would be especially good to hear a female perspective at our discussions.

The Council has considered a few Planning Applications during the year and passed comment to MDDC to reflect opinions passed by the Parishioners.

We have enjoyed the support and advice from Cllrs Judi Binks and Margaret Squires during the year and we were pleased to receive Cllr Peter Heal, Chairman of MDDC at one of our meetings. Cllr Heal accepted some lively questions from the public and undertook to take some issues away for further consideration. My wife and I represented our Parish at the Annual Church Service for MDDC at Morchard Bishop earlier this month, which was followed by a tea in the Village Hall.

Cllr Keatley has been busy ensuring that the Parish footpaths are fully accessible and has arranged for some stiles to be replaced by gates in accordance with current standards.

Our council meetings have not attracted much attention from the public and we would be very pleased to see more Parishioners and hear their opinions on matters affecting the Parish. The Council is committed to supporting the Parish and is looking forward to continuing that work during the forthcoming year. To assist us in that role, we do need close contact with the Parishioners, so I urge the members of our public to come to our meetings and share their thoughts and concerns with us."

3) **Open Session** No parishioners wished to comment

With no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.35pm

Chairman Date