

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in the Manor Hall, Berrynarbor on
Tuesday 11th April 2023 at 7.00pm.**

Present: Cllr A Stanbury as Chairman of the meeting.
9 electors, Mrs Victoria Woodhouse – Parish Clerk

1. Minutes

The minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on 12th April 2022 were accepted and signed as a correct record.

2. Matters arising from the Minutes

No matters were raised.

3. Chairman's Report

The Chairman's report was circulated and is attached as Appendix A.

4. Berry in Bloom Report

A representative from Berry in Bloom provided the meeting with a report. They explained that the group is rewilding a part of the field (which used to be the small dog walking area) which volunteers are looking after, however, the pathway is unsuitable for use and slippery. A number of flowers have been planted and the message the group would like to promote is patience, the area will need time to re-wild, it was suggested that a sign could be investigated.

Litter picks around the village have been organised along with tidying of bus stops, strimming and trimming of bushes and other vegetation. New bulbs have been planted along with bedding plants for the summer and the hanging baskets are being planted for the Manor Hall, Church and Shop. It was noted that the hedge around the car park is dangerous as it is too high and agreed to take up with NDC. There had been issues with dogs escaping through fencing in the dog walking area onto the road and Berry in Bloom asked about the cleaning of footpath signs and cutting of the footpaths.

5. Primary School Report

No report received.

6. Manor Hall Report

The report from the last AGM for the Manor Hall was circulated and is attached as Appendix 2.

7. Berrynarbor Pre -School Report

The meeting was informed that sessions had been reduced due to funding cuts and an increase in costs, the pre-school would appreciate support with fundraising.

8. Comments and Questions from Members of the Public

No comments or questions were raised.

9. Matters raised at the discretion of the Chairman

None.



Meeting ended at 7.25pm.

Signed  Dated 9/4/24

Chairman's Report
April 2023

Berrynarbor parish council started the year with a full compliment of 9 councillors. Throughout the year we had resignations from councillors Barten, Beer, Coppin and Burch.

We Co-opted councillors Cornell and Thorp. Councillor Cornell was voted in as vice chairman.

We end the year with 2 vacancies and going forward to the May election only : councillors have applied for the role of councillor creating 6 vacancies.

The main event of the year was the Queen's platinum jubilee which was celebrated in the parish with various events well attended by parishioners.

Sadly the Queen passed away on the 8th September with a period of mourning observed nationally and the cancellation of the September parish council meeting.

Meetings throughout the year were addressed by various bodies including representatives of 2 potential housing development sites, one at Pitt hill and another at Moules farm. As yet neither have submitted a planning application for council consideration.

The planned bouldrome facility at the recreation field has been slow to progress. The council applied for section 106 funding to fund the project and this was officially approved in March this year.

The contractor has been requested to commence the works as soon as weather permits.

Various donations have been made throughout the year including Berry in bloom, CAB, the records office and Berrynarbor newsletter.

The council continues to negotiate the lease of the public car park and freehold of the public toilet from NDDC.

The process is frustratingly slow but hopefully the process will conclude in the forthcoming calendar year.

Sadly our Clerk Victoria tendered her resignation in November.

Vicki first joined us as a temporary locum clerk and we have been incredibly fortunate that she was persuaded to stay for the past 7 years!!

We are in the process of recruiting a replacement clerk and wish Vicki all the very best for her future and thank her for such a positive impact she has made on Berrynarbor parish council. You will be very much missed.





B e r r y n a r b o r

MANOR HALL TRUST

AGM held on Wednesday 15th June 2022

Chair Report

Finally, after two difficult years with us all having to deal with a dreadful pandemic, the hall welcomed groups and activities back in. The first of these events being our summer fete. It was still unable to be totally back to normal but none the less it was another successful fundraiser for the hall. In September the hall looked resplendent in fairy lights and flowers as it hosted a beautiful wedding for a village couple who had patiently waited almost two years after their intended date. In October we held another successful fashion show in conjunction with the Ilfracombe clothes shop Clathers. Lots of happy ladies enjoying a glass of Prosecco with friends while watching the local models strut their stuff! In the half term the preschool had a face lift with some new flooring, repainting and some general updating. Having had a few years without a Christmas fayre it was decided that we would run our own, so on Sunday 5th December the hall had several craft and gift stalls, refreshments and even a visit from father Christmas. It was an enjoyable and well attended event particularly as covid restrictions and concerns were still present, and so it is hoped to repeat it again this year.

December also saw the return of a wreath making session in the hall with many a splendid wreath and table decoration created with the skilful help of Sue Neal.

It was a quiet start to the year with a handful of bookings outside of the user groups. In April Pam very kindly offered to start a monthly coffee

and cakes afternoon, it has proved very popular and a fantastic fundraiser so it is hoped to continue throughout the summer months. With the sad closure of our village pub Karen came up with the good idea to have the Sunday night pub quiz in the hall instead, this has also been very popular enabling people to get together for some light hearted fun whilst raising funds for the hall.

The queen's platinum jubilee celebrations saw the hall as the main venue for the celebrations. The organising committee did an excellent job at devising a weekend that enabled all ages of our community to come together to celebrate this unique jubilee.

The extortionate rise in utility bills will unfortunately be a testing time for community buildings such as our hall but I have no doubt the continued hard work and dedication by the hall's trustees along with the fantastic support of the village it will continue to provide a safe and pleasant place for all the residents to enjoy.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'S' or 'Q' shape with a horizontal line extending to the left and a smaller loop below it.

Appendix 1: Berry in Bloom Report

Dear Victoria and Parish council members

Last year Berry in bloom once again won GOLD for the village. The judge loved the fact that everything that we planted (apart from the spring bulbs) was grown in the village. This was thanks to Gill Eade who grew all the plants for the tubs around the village and Sally's boys Dan and Ollie from Barn cottage who grew and put together all the hanging baskets. Many thanks go to them. We have cut back the wild flower area in the dog walking field and added more seeds including rattle seed to keep the grass down. The judge was given a tour round the whole village including the harbour. We know we live in a special village and it's nice to show it off.

Andy O'Reilly and some of the men worked really hard to create the preschool new wildlife area and approximately £800.00 was spent on this.

We extended the watering system both at the shop and at the manor hall.

The group suffered a huge loss when Alan Eales suddenly passed away in June. Alan was our main 'go to man' and had everything we needed in the way of gardening tools and a very willing heart. He will be sorely missed and we have bought a plaque to remember him.

We have continued our own fundraising efforts but we had a huge donation from Jean Lashford who grew and sold plants at her gate raising £2000.00 for berry in bloom and another £2000.00 for the local hospice. This has given our finances a huge boost. Gill and Andy O'Reilly also made a donation from the sale of plants from their gate in the Sterridge valley. We are very grateful to both of them. Other donations have raised approximately £1000.00. Our finances are really healthy and we are deciding where our next project will be and how we will manage another project with our dwindling team of OAP's.

In fact, we are not going to ask for a donation this year. We feel that because of the time and expense of the Queen's platinum jubilee celebrations (and the loss of Alan) that we won't enter the competition this year, although we will still do the planting and litter picks and continue to 'love ' the village.

Let's hope that next year we will be re-energised and asking for a donation again and that you will look favorably on us once more.

Yours sincerely

Wendy Applegate



Appendix 2: Manor Hall Report

1/ Chair Report

Unfortunately, we have had a further 12 months of off and on covid restrictions which have naturally caused disruption to the hall's normal activities. No fundraising events have been possible and just a handful of user groups have been able to continue during the non-lockdown periods. Once again, we are grateful for donations, and the continued rent from the pre-school, Men's Institute and the school along with the successful grant applications which has enabled us to remain financially secure.

Our thanks go to Gary our caretaker for keeping an eye on the building whilst long periods of closure. The H&S issues around Covid have been long and laborious and my sincere thanks go to Alan and Caroline for continuing to ensure that we have been "Covid Secure" throughout the pandemic, I sincerely hope that this task is soon to be unnecessary.

We say goodbye and thank you very much to Karen for all her contributions to the hall over the past few years and I know that life has been very busy for Karen.

Thank you to all my fellow trustees for all the help and support you give me and this lovely hall.

Hopefully our summer fete next month will be a great success, and I look forward to welcoming back our user groups and many more events this Autumn and beyond.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.