

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**  
**HELD ON THURSDAY 18 MAY AT 7.00 PM, IN THE PARISH PAVILION**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Foot, Cllr Needham, Cllr Ames, Cllr Osmond, Cllr Perrett, Cllr Baker  
Clerk  
7 parishioners

**2024/1 - APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr Townsend, Cllr Manny, Cllr Haynes, Helen Squibb, Andy Waring, and Jeremy Collins

**2024/2 - WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

Chair Cllr Foot welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2024/3 - GUEST SPEAKER – ROB NOLAN – DARK SKY INITIATIVE**

Mr Nolan gave a very interesting and informative talk and presentation on the Dark Sky Initiative. Topics covered were what is light Pollution? Causes of light pollution in our area, how does it affect human health and animal behaviour? What can we do about it?

**2024/4 - BUCKLAND NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT**

Cllr Foot read his annual report; he thanked all the retiring Councillors for their hard work over the years, welcomed new Councillors Brad Perrett and Nick Baker and thanked all the returning Councillors for volunteering their services again. Appreciation and thanks was noted for volunteers - Doug and Kevin Morse (Flood Wardens), Stephen White (Rights of Way Liaison Officer) and Jeremy Collins (Website Administrator) who give their time and expertise in the above mentioned roles. Thanks was also given to the Clerk.

Councillor Foot said that Councillors should take pride in what has been achieved over the past year and looks forward to the Parish Council further benefiting the local community.

Clerk has produced an annual report covering the year ending 31.3.24, which is available on the website and notice boards by the shop and in Parish Pavilion.

Co-option – Cllr Foot advised that there is a vacant seat on the Council. If anyone is interested in becoming a Councillor, they should contact the Clerk for further information.

**2024/5 - CLLR JILL HAYMES, CHALK VALLEY WARD, DORSET COUNCIL**

Cllr Jill Haynes was unable to attend the meeting, but she provided a report giving results for the recent elections and information on post-election activities, such as inductions and information meetings, training, appointment of roles and responsibilities within the new Council.

**2024/6 - REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS**

Reports were received from the following (attached):

- Parochial Church Council
- Environment Group
- Village Hall
- Bellringers
- Lydden Vale Magazine
- Youth Club
- The United Charities of Buckland Newton
- Community Car Scheme
- Allotments
- Knit and Natter

Cllr Foot thanked community groups for providing reports, as it gave an insight into what was happening within the village. Buckland Newton is vibrant and neighbourly, offering a wide range of activities and services which bring people together. Thanks should be given to all volunteers and parishioners involved.

**2024/7 - MATTERS RAISED BY PARISH RESIDENTS**

- Parishioner advised that the Wayfarers group were organising a General Election Hustings which will take place on Thursday 13 June at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.
- Parishioners concerned about the recent road works carried out through Duntish
- Parishioner requested an update on Hydro Scheme

**2024/8 – VOTE OF THANKS AND CLOSURE OF MEETING**

Cllr Foot thanked everyone for attending the meeting.