Minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on Monday 26th April 2021 at 7.20pm via Zoom

1. **Present**

Mr B Froggatt (Chair), Mr D Walford (Vice Chair), Mr J Christie (JC), Mr S Smith (SS), Mrs S Christie (SC), Mrs S Lowes (SL), Mr P Metcalf (PM), Mrs E Brooks (Clerk to the Council).

Mr B Froggatt welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Mr M Clarke (MC)

1. **Chairman’s report**

*As reported in last year’s report it has been a difficult year for everybody, but I feel that the Parish council has responded in a positive way and look forward hopefully to returning to normal in the coming year. We have managed to hold all our normal meetings in “zoom“ mode and although not entirely satisfactory due to time constraints have concluded the business that needed to be done. In my view, while digital meetings are useful they do not give members the opportunity to fully express their views on the subject under discussion. It is anticipated that meetings held after the 7th May 2021 will be held as normal.*

*Our village newsletter the Beacon is now firmly established, and we are grateful to our Vice- Chairman David Walford who took on the role of editor together with other council members who help with production and distribution. The purchase of a new printer out of council funds has been a great help in streamlining the production process and keeping costs down. The Beacon served the village extremely well during the Coronavirus pandemic in publishing details of contact points where help was available for residents who were unable to move out of the village or needed help with transport. Several members of the Council offered their help in this respect and we feel that we did our best in difficult circumstances.*

*In spite of a large article in the local newspaper regarding damage to our local Green lanes by four wheel vehicles, largely initiated by the editor of the Beacon, ERYC continues to ignore local opinion on seasonal closure to restrict damage to newly planted trees and the environment. We shall continue to press for partial closure and hope that future environmental policies may help in this respect*

*We have had numerous planning proposals put forward which in the main we have been agreeable to. However, there is a general theme running through all the proposals in that once planning permission is obtained, applicants apply to change certain aspects of the original application. We have written to ERYC pointing this out and hope that has been noted*

*The Parish council finances remain stable and we are not aware of any commitments that have not been budgeted for. We have received generous donations for our sponsorship of the Beacon which have been gratefully received.*

*Finally, I would like to thank our Parish Clerk whose advice and attention to detail is greatly appreciated, and to all members, volunteers and helpers, who gave their time during this year*.

DW Acknowledged the work of the Chairman through this difficult year. A vote of thanks was noted for his continuous hard work

1. **Matters raised by the residents of the parish**

None

1. **Close of meeting**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.23 pm