

North Mundham Parish Council

www.northmundham.org

Skype: northmundham.pc

email: clerk@northmundham.org

Tel: 01243 203050

1 Charlmead East Wittering Chichester West Sussex PO20 8DN

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CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

It was good to see that a few people managed to join us on-line for the 'virtual' annual Meeting of Electors on Tuesday, 9 March. For those of you who missed it, you can find a copy of the [minutes](#) (which are as yet unconfirmed)

We have received some feedback from local residents who would have liked to join the meeting but were unable to make the link. For the future, if there is a meeting you would like to join, you can ask the Clerk to set up a 'rehearsal' for you at a convenient time before the meeting to make sure that the system works for you. To arrange this, contact the clerk at clerk@northmundham.org or by phone 01243 203050, or contact me.

However, the problem of joining virtual meetings may soon be behind us. In normal times, regulations require us to hold our meetings in public and face-to-face, and we have only been able to meet on line because of a specific exemption which ends on 6 May. It appears unlikely that the exemption will be renewed, and so we are looking carefully at how we will manage meetings after that date, and what precautions we need to put in place.

You may remember from my last note that we are looking at what we might do to enhance the facilities at the playing fields. Recently, a small group of us met Jane Reeve from the Manhood Wildlife and Heritage Group to get her advice on what we could do to the wooded area on the east side of the field. The object is to make it a more useable and enjoyable environment for everyone, and at the same time to improve and preserve it as a wildlife habitat. Jane gave us some useful ideas, and a small team of volunteers has already made a start with a small socially distanced litter-picking operation. For the future, we hope to identify someone to lead on the project, and we will be looking for volunteers to assist. If you can help, or know someone who can, please get in touch.

During the lockdown, it has been noticeable how many more people have been walking in the countryside. Please remember to stick to the marked public footpaths, or paths marked as permissive paths, unless you have the landowner's permission. And note that footpaths are for walking, not riding bicycles. If you are on a bicycle, use the bridleways.

Tim Russell, Chairman. 01243 781052. t.russell@northmundham.org

Your Parish Council

Natasha Keulemans t: 0780812537
n.keulemans@northmundham.org

Frances Neave t: 782391
f.neave@northmundham.org

Annie Maclean t: 01243 265804
A.maclean@northmundham.org

Tim Russell t: 781052
t.russell@northmundham.org

Rob Callaway-Lewis t: 07880713159
r.callaway-lewis@northmundham.org

Peter Stephens t: 0774768699
p.stephens@northmundham.org

Paul Chivers t: 789990
p.chivers@northmundham.org

Keith Phillips t: 07980666812
k.phillips@northmundham.org

Hugo Wall t:278542
h.wall@northmundham.org