

**THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE ELECTORS OF POTTO HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 31 MAY 2017 AT 7.00 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Councillor Mr A Wilde (Chairman), Councillor Mr S Agar, Councillor Mrs E Griffin and County Councillor Mr D Hugill

Apologies for absence were received from: Councillor Mrs V Williams and Councillor Mr I Macpherson

Minutes of Last Year's Meeting

The minutes of 2016 AGM's meeting have been circulated via email to councillors and there were no comments, it was proposed that the minutes were accepted and this was unanimously agreed, the minutes were then signed by the Chairman as a true record.

Matters Arising

None

Police Report and Neighbourhood Watch

No report has been received from the Police this month, In general the last year has been relatively crime free however it has been reported to residents that a house on Butcher Lane had been broken into at the weekend.

Financial Statement

The chairman read out the PPC Financial Statement.

Chairman's Annual Report

The chairman read out the PPC Chairman's Annual Report.

Annual Report from County and District Councillors

District Councillor Hugill reported that he has been elected to become a County Councillor. He has also been appointed to the planning committee and elected as chairman of Hambleton District Council – Congratulations from all at PPC.

Councillor Hugill discussed what has happened within Hambleton District over the past year. He discussed the community governance review, which cost Bedale council over £20,000.

Discussed the new green waste recycling scheme which has successfully been rolled out across Hambleton.

The North Northallerton development including; 900 homes, employment uses, a neighbourhood shopping centre, extra care facilities, a primary school and community uses - sports pitches and allotments, as well as a new bypass link road has now started.

The 'making a difference fund' was also discussed.

Village Hall

The Village Hall Committee AGM was held on 16th May 2017, minutes were circulated to Councillors.

Views and Comments of Parishioners

Two members of the public were present, the members of the public expressed concern over the costs expended on the formal objection to the 2014/15 annual report and its effect on the parish precept. The parish council were asked to explain the audit process and why the charges were so high?

Councillor Wilde explained the formal requirements of the internal audit process and the external audit of the annual return which the parish council undertakes each year. He explained that any individual may raise an objection to the annual return if they have a genuine concern, the external auditor will then investigate the objection and any charges incurred must be paid by the parish council.

Councillor Wilde explained that a member of the public had raised a formal objection against the 2014/15 annual return which the external auditors PKF LittleJohn investigated, the costs for this investigation were £5365. The findings of the investigation are available to view on the Annual Return for 2014/15 on the parish website

It was noted that the same member of the public has also submitted a formal objection to the 2015/16 annual return, and subsequently stated that he would drop his objection if the clerk resigns. It was explained that Potto Parish Council has a duty of care towards all its members and does not condone intimidation of any member of the parish council and is currently seeking advice on this matter.

The members of the public expressed concern that the behaviour of one individual could have such a large impact on all the residents of Potto and roundly condemned his actions. The residents also expressed their support for the Parish Council and asked what residents could do to support the Parish Council further.'

An email was received from a member of the public expressing his views, this was discussed by Councillors and a response will be issued by the Parish Council.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed AGM closed at 8pm