

**THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE ELECTORS OF POTTO HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 19 MAY 2021 AT 7.00 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

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

Minutes of Last Year's Meeting

No meeting in 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The minutes of 2019 AGM's meeting were circulated and were unanimously agreed at the May 2020 meeting as per the regulations, the minutes were then signed by the Chairman as a true record.

Matters Arising

None

Chairman's Annual Report

The chairman read out the PPC Chairman's Annual Report, some of the projects highlighted included;

- Improvements to footpaths and bridleways
- Installation of the new footbridge over Swainby Ellers
- Traffic speed reduction project
- Defibrillator
- Stell system

Annual Report from County and District Councillors

This has been a most difficult year for the County Council and I am both pleased and proud of the way our staff have stepped up to the challenge of trying to deliver services in unprecedented conditions. Not one has refused to adopt new ways of working. Over 3000 now work from home, this was a huge effort from our IT people to facilitate this. The IT department also had to facilitate the change for us members to meet remotely and vote with virtual hands instead of our own paws.

We have worked well with a range of partners, other Local Government people from Parishes, Districts, National Parks, blue light services, NHS, the Army, businesses and especially our great volunteers. There are now 25 formal Community Support Organisations, and we have helped hundreds of smaller more informal groups. All with the same aim of helping those who need it.

The County's Public Health teams have been very busy managing outbreaks wherever they occur, and leading on helping set up test and trace activity.

There are 235 care settings in the County and we are in daily contact with them and have set up Infection Prevention and Control teams also helping them access PPE and mobile testing .We continue to implement our flagship Extra Care Housing with 2 schemes opening this year in Great Ayton and Scarborough with 3 on course for next year at Skipton, Bentham and Filey.

Moving on to Children and Young people. Our children's services have been rated as Outstanding by Ofsted, the first in the country to get this rating. We are transforming our Healthy Child programme to make it work even better. 82% of our children attend good or outstanding school and have we have seen a decrease in fixed term and permanent exclusions. Our Schools have been supported throughout the difficult and challenging times of Covid. Investment has been made in areas of under achievement on the coast.

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We rolled out a scheme of supermarket vouchers for families in need over Christmas and this will be extended for now, supported by government cash and topped up by ourselves. The music service has changed to online and does over 1000 lessons a week this way.

Despite record investment in road repairs this year we could do with more particularly as we manage the largest road network in England. Look out for new in-house company NY Highways which will go live this summer.

We continue to invest heavily in broadband provision, edging ever nearer to 100% coverage. This year should see us achieve 97%. However, we know the final 3 % will be the most difficult, and we are determined not to leave them behind. We are also supporting increased provision of mobile phone coverage, trying to get from 60% to more than 90% of this huge county's area. Go to www.superfastnorthyorkshire.com for an interactive map to see where our new Phase 4 broadband will be rolled out.

We are striving to keep Council Tax as low as possible, 1.99% increase this year, and an Adult Social Care levy of 1.5%. This represents an increase of around £50 pa for an average sized property. We don't like increasing Council Tax at all but we have experienced extra spending this year of £75m on Covid activities alone. The Government have supported us but with all the pressures they are facing, we could not expect 100% reimbursement.

Village Hall

The Chairman's report from the Village Hall Committee was discussed

Views and Comments of Parishioners

The continued vexatious behaviour of a single member of the public was discussed, it was noted that this individual was costing the electors of Potto a great deal of money and diverting time and efforts from potential projects and services within the parish.

Those present wished to thank the Chairman for all his efforts over the past year.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed AGM closed at 7:30pm