

COPYTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - TUESDAY FEBRUARY 8th 2022

ITEM NO. 10 – Annual Parish Meeting - Consideration of a change of format

Whilst researching I found out a few interesting facts. These may be known to all here but I'm sure not everyone within the Parish.

The APM isn't actually a meeting held by or on behalf of the Parish Council, although in most circumstances it is arranged by the council and presented by the Chairman.

It's a meeting of our Parishioners and every Parish, with or without a Council must hold one.

We therefore need to get it out there in the public eye.

The format is one that we follow every year. On looking at APMs held by other councils it seems the same format is followed everywhere. However, saying that other Parishes don't just hold it as a Parish Council event.

I feel we can change our format in several ways and/or by asking different speakers to attend. We want it to be interesting for us too! So we could invite the NFNPA, the local scouts, a District Nurse, defibrillator people etc.

It may be an idea to put something in the newsletter asking for ideas from our Parishioners.

I realise that the meeting must be held by June and this doesn't give us much time.

I think the meeting must be held as late in the year as possible, otherwise it's too near to the last one.

It also gives us opportunities to encourage others to come forward.

Maybe it could be held in carnival week as lots of people are involved with that in different ways.

Held as a more informal social event. And an opportunity to get others involved and step up as future councillors.

I welcome your questions and ideas.

Cllr. Sarah Coombs
January 23rd 2022