

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD ON  
TUESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> MAY 2023 AT THE ARK AT 7:30PM.**

PRESENT: Mr B Forbes (Chairperson) Mrs S Hughesdon (Vice Chairman)  
Mrs J Forbes Mr G Marsh Dr I Gibson Mrs C Jarvis Mr B  
Theobald, Mrs L Bannister (Clerk) Mrs C Jim (Deputy Clerk) and  
3 members of the public

GUEST SPEAKERS: 8 members of the Fire Service, Terry Flynn representing  
Kent Surrey Sussex Air Ambulance Charity

The Chairman welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending and  
introduced the speakers.

Fire Service

Camilla from the Fire Service gave an informative and useful talk on the role  
of the Fire Service and how they work with the community to prevent and  
protect from fire. They aim to make sure there is a working fire alarm in every  
home as the risk of dying from a house fire increases 8x when an alarm is not  
connected. The team are available to speak to people with risk factors,  
including those over 65, receiving care or socially isolated people to give advice  
on fire prevention. Safe and Well referrals can be made by anyone direct to  
the Fire Service at: [https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/fire-emergencies-and-  
crime/west-sussex-fire-and-rescue-service/home-fire-safety/safe-and-well-  
visit/](https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/fire-emergencies-and-crime/west-sussex-fire-and-rescue-service/home-fire-safety/safe-and-well-visit/)

Kent Surrey Sussex Air Ambulance

Terry gave an overview of the workings of the Kent Surrey Sussex Air  
Ambulance service. They are a totally independent charity, who are funded  
almost entirely by the community – 87%. It costs £16.6m to run their  
operations each year. Crews are highly skilled with many years of experience.  
The majority of their calls are to road traffic accidents, farming incidents and  
people that have self-harmed. They spent a lot of time during the Covid  
pandemic transferring patients between hospitals. Most of the things they get  
called to are preventable and so they do a lot of work to educate in an attempt  
to reduce incidents. However, each year the amount of calls they get increases,  
and that has been the case since they began in the 1980s. They now offer a  
new service of patient and family aftercare as people find it beneficial to  
understand what happened.

We heard about how changes in technology and understanding allow the service to improve upon their responses and emergency medical skills. In Sweden, drones are being used to deliver defibrillators to cardiac arrest patients; the device arrives within minutes of a call being placed. This is in the process of being put in place locally.

The Chairman thanked the Fire Service and Mr Flynn for an excellent evening and thanked members of the public for attending.

Signed .....Chairman

6<sup>th</sup> June 2023