

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, which took place on Monday 12 May 2014 at the Village Hall at 7 pm.

PRESENT Cllrs Bishop, Brunt, Cripps, England, Finlay, Hallett, Lillywhite, Messrs P Thompson (District Councillor), C Le Hardy (County Councillor).

APOLOGIES Cllrs Rowswell, Wakely, Mr B Walker (District Councillor).

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Officers were elected as follows:

Chairman – Fiona Rowswell

Vice Chairman – Roger Cripps

Planning – Jane Bishop, Clare Lillywhite, Fiona Rowswell

Allotments – Roger Cripps, Elizabeth England

Footpaths – Jane Bishop, Roger Cripps

Highways – Elizabeth England, John Hallett, Fiona Rowswell

Charity Trustees – Sarah Brunt

Emergency Contacts – Roger Cripps, Innis Finlay, Fiona Rowswell, Ed Wakely

Parish Environment Warden – Elizabeth England

Representative on Cowleaze Project – Roger Cripps

Representatives on Recreation Committee – Innis Finlay, Ed Wakely

Tree Warden – Debbie Welch

MINUTES The Minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed and signed.

#### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

#### DC REPORT

The Local Plan hearings are to be resumed on 10 June.

The Annual Meeting of the Full Council will take place on 15 May, when a presentation will be given by Yeovil Hospital about proposed changes to stroke services.

A Police Public Forum is to take place on Tuesday 27 June at Chard Guildhall from 6.15 pm and the Police & Crime Commissioner will be present.

The next meeting of Area North will be at Chilthorne Domer on 28 June and representatives from the Highway Authority and Chris Cooper from the District Council's Street Scene will be there.

#### CC REPORT

Mr Le Hardy apologised that he had been unable to attend meetings for the last two months due to illness. He said a great deal of budget cutting had been going on at the County Council.

The 20 mph speed limit outside the School had been agreed but he did not know when this would be implemented.

Cllr England asked if the drains could be cleared, particularly those where the grids cannot be lifted.

## PLANNING

455

Permission has been granted for the following:

Erection of single storey extension to side and rear with bi-fold doors along the rear of Highfield, Lambrook Road.

Alterations to property to include erection of replacement side extension and new porch together with replacement roof at increased height at Tara, Wash Cross.

## ACCOUNTS

Insurance quotes were considered and it was agreed to change to Came and Company.

A cheque was drawn for the annual premium of £390.77.

## PARISH PLAN

Cllr Rowswell and Mary Clark met representatives from the Princes Trust on 1 May as the Cowleaze Project had been shortlisted for a grant. The winner will be announced at the Bath & West Show.

Sharon Humphreys had asked if a decision had been made regarding financial help towards a projector. The Parish Council felt a Cinema Club would be of benefit to all ages and the showing of War Horse using borrowed equipment will be a good opportunity to gauge support before the Parish Council commits to helping with funding.

Cllr Finlay said that help had been offered with setting up a Facebook page to advertise events.

## LENGTHSMAN

The Councillors were sorry to hear that the Lengthsman had tendered his resignation and are grateful for all he has done. A meeting of the participating parishes will take place to consider the way forward. Mr Thompson said the District Council Ranger Scheme provides a similar service and it was agreed to invite Chris Cooper, Street Scene Department, to the next meeting to advise what is on offer.

## HIGHWAYS

Cllr Rowswell had received a message from Mike Fear that the order for the silt trap had been re-issued and it should be completed during the summer.

A BT manhole cover in Robins Lane appears to be caving in.

## FOOTPATHS

The County Council should be carrying out a cut shortly.

## ALLOTMENTS

Three of the four vacant allotments have now been strimmed.

## DOG FOULING

Cllr Cripps had calculated the cost of providing bags for dog waste and said the Parish Council supplies approximately 8,300 bags per annum at a total cost of £315. Dog owners will be asked to use their own, where possible, and only use the Parish Council ones in case of emergency.

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm.