

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, which took place on Monday 13 May 2013 at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT Cllrs Bishop, Cripps, England, Hallett, Lillywhite, Rowswell, Willoughby, PCSO Ceara Sturt.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllrs Fowler, Wakely, Messrs P Thompson & B Walker (District Councillors).

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Christopher Le Hardy was elected County Councillor and a letter of thanks will be sent to the outgoing Councillor, Paul Maxwell, for all his support.

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 – Kim Fowler, John Hallett, Fiona Rowswell

Charity Trustees – Chris Willoughby

Emergency Contacts – Kim Fowler, Ed Wakely, BlueWalshe

Parish Environment Warden – Elizabeth England

Representative on Cowleaze Project – Roger Cripps

Representatives on Recreation Committee – Ed Wakely, Chris Willoughby

Tree Warden – Debbie Welch

Representatives on Community Shop Committee – Jane Bishop, Roger Cripps,
Elizabeth England, Chris Willoughby

POLICING

The PCSO said she had nothing to report.

She was advised of a speeding motorcyclist at 7 am most mornings and will keep an eye on dangerous parking close to road junctions.

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

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Bishop, as neighbour, declared an interest in preliminary plans for a house on land at Hillside, Shells Lane.

DC REPORT

Mr Thompson had sent a report stating that the Local Plan is currently undergoing an independent examination by the Planning Inspector.

A Full Council Meeting will take place on 16 May, when the Chairmen of the Council and the four areas will be elected.

PLANNING

Cllr Bishop expressed an interest and left the meeting while Councillors looked at preliminary plans for a house on land at Hillside, Shells Lane.

The Councillors would like to know the ridge height of the existing and proposed buildings and suggested asking for the barn to be tied to agriculture.

Permission has been granted for the erection of single dwelling and associated works (amended plans) at Highfield, Lambrok Road.

ACCOUNTS

Cheques were drawn for:

South Petherton Parish Council – Lengthsman’s salary	£750.00
AON – annual insurance premium	620.58

The 2012/13 Accounts and Annual Governance Statement were approved and signed by the Chairman.

PARISH PLAN

Cllr Cripps said the event at Cowleaze Meadow on 4 May went well but attendance was disappointing.

The Recreation Committee are planning the next Whacky Olympics.

Cllr Rowswell said the meeting to discuss a possible community shop was not as well attended as hoped and she will thank the representatives who attended from Thorncombe and Hinton St George. The District Council have offered to print questionnaires and analyse the replies.

LENGTHSMAN

The Councillors are grateful to the Lengthsman for clearing the heaps of gravel near the crossroads.

HIGHWAYS

Cllr Rowswell had received plans of the drains from the County Council, who are aware of the blockage at the far end of Lambrok Road, due to tree roots, which will be rectified. The County Council will be asked to empty the silt traps when they are about half full. Parish Councillors are covered by insurance whilst clearing drain gratings but must wear high visibility clothing.

The Clerk will ask if any thought has been given to the request for a 20 mph speed limit near the School.

ALLOTMENTS

There are one large and two small vacant plots.

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm.