

The Annual Parish Meeting was held on Monday 8 April 2013 at the Village Hall at 7 pm.

PRESENT Cllrs Rowswell (Chair), Cripps, Hallett, Lillywhite, Willoughby, Messrs P Thompson & B Walker (District Councillors), P Maxwell (County Councillor) and 5 parishioners.

APOLOGIES Cllrs Bishop, England, Fowler, Wakely, Messrs I Hawkins, B Walshe, Mesdames S Bacon, N Hawkins, S Humphreys, D Welch.

MINUTES The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Rowswell spoke of another eventful year, the highlight being the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

The very wet weather during the year had caused flooding and silt problems and, in order to try to alleviate this problem, the gullies will be cleared more regularly and the Parish Council hopes to put together an Emergency Plan.

Following Blue and Jo Walshe's decision to retire from the Village Shop and Post Office, an extraordinary meeting will take place on 17 April to look at the possibility of a community shop.

The Parochial Church Council will be holding a meeting in May to discuss the proposals to extend the Church to provide servery and toilet facilities.

During the year, Toby Lewis and Malcolm Rivers had resigned from the Council and their seats had been filled by Clare Lillywhite and Chris Willoughby.

The Chairman concluded her report, thanking fellow Councillors, the Events Committee, all other organisations and the Clerk for all they have done over the year.

PARISH PLAN

A report was received from Sharon Humphreys on behalf of the Events Committee, who had organised the Annual Village 10k and Fun Run, Bonfire Party and two markets as well as the four days of events for the Diamond Jubilee Weekend. A lottery grant of £3,900 was received to cover the costs of events, and fund raising including a Diamond Ball had also taken place. A free event was held in January to celebrate the success of the various events which had been put on and donations were presented to the fund raising groups in the village.

The Bank balance stands at £4,001.57 and, in addition to the usual events, "Mayhem in May" will take place at Cowleaze Meadow on 4 May with picnic, treasure hunt, drumming workshop and live music.

RECREATION FIELD

A report had been received from Blue Walshe on the year's events, which included the Jubilee Weekend, Shep Fest, the Fun Run and an Italian Evening.

The revamped children's play area is well used and plans for the rest of the field are moving slowly forward.

COWLEAZE MEADOW

Cllr Cripps reported a fairly quiet year. The sustainability grant had been received in order to purchase equipment and arrange events. The Group is committed to five years' maintenance from the completion date and will not need to call on the Parish Council for funds for several years.

FOOTPATHS

Cllr Cripps said the County Council is still maintaining the service of two cuts per year. Piece Lane has now been confirmed as a public footpath.

LENGTHSMAN

Cllr Cripps confirmed that South Petherton Parish Council has applied for the Community Warden grant towards the cost of the Lengthsman and six parishes are still involved in the scheme.

RAMBLERS

Unfortunately the Secretary, Penny Warman, had passed away so Roger Cripps is temporary Acting Secretary. There are approximately 40 members.

SCHOOL

Karen Brooker, Headteacher, spoke of a very successful year with a good OFSTED report.

CHARITIES

Cllr Rowsell said that all the land is rented out. Education grants were paid in October and the over 70s received their £7 Christmas bonus.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Mary Clark reported that meetings are held three monthly and a crime report for the South Petherton area is available each month. The new PCSO, Ceara Sturt, is seen walking around the village and is keen to attend village events.

TREE WARDEN

Debbie Welch sent a message that the hedging which was planted at the Recreation Field is doing well, although some bits have been eaten and she has put guards around it. The section from the pavilion to the tree has suffered and she has some willow which can be planted there and would be pleased if anyone has anything else to fill the gaps.

SHEPTON SENIORS

Muriel Callow reported that Barbara Allen had stood down after running Shepton Seniors for many years and it is now run by Muriel, Stella Lock and Daphne Rawlings. There are 25 members, who have enjoyed interesting talks, a coffee morning and a Christmas lunch. They have placed a memorial plaque to Pat Pearce at the old pump trough, which they keep planted with spring flowers in her memory.

MATTERS RAISED BY PARISHIONERS

A vote of thanks to the Parish Council was proposed by Mr Wylie Carrick.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed.

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council which took place on Monday 8 April 2013 at the Village Hall.

PRESENT Cllrs Rowswell (Chair), Cripps, Hallett, Lillywhite, Wakely, Willoughby, Messrs P Thompson & B Walker (District Councillors), P Maxwell (County Councillor) and 4 parishioners

APOLOGIES Cllrs Bishop, England, Fowler.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Karen Brooker, Headteacher, spoke of the possibility of moving the Pre-School onto the School site. She said the Village Hall may not be suitable in the long term as OFSTED require the children to play outside as well as in. A feasibility study would need to be carried out. Cllr Cripps would be happy to advise on applying for lottery funding. Cllr Rowswell said the move would facilitate the transfer from Pre-School to School but the Village Hall would lose its most frequent hirer.

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

MATTERS ARISING

Community Shop Flyers have been delivered, inviting parishioners to the extraordinary meeting, when names and contact details of interested persons will be taken and a date arranged for a further meeting to form a committee.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Wakely declared an interest as owner/occupier of land over which footpaths run.

DC REPORT

The District Councillors spoke of the possibility of parishes getting together to pool services to maintain the level of provision.

CC REPORT

Mr Maxwell said the No 81 bus, which goes to South Petherton Hospital/Surgery has been saved for another year.

The traffic calming scheme at Watergore is to be put in place shortly.

PLANNING

The Councillors had no objection in principle to the erection of a dwelling on land at Highfield, Lambrook Road, but felt the design was not in keeping with other houses in the area.

PARISH PLAN

The next event will take place on 4 May at Cowleaze Meadow.
A letter of thanks was received for the village sign given to the School Auction of Promises.

LENGTHSMAN

The Lengthsman's request to have the strimmer replaced each year was turned down by Merriott Parish Council.
Cllr Rowswell wondered if the gravel could be cleared from the verge at the crossroads and used at the entrance to Cowleaze.

HIGHWAYS

Cllr Rowswell had reported the loose edging kerbs to Mike Fear and will inform him of blocked drains.

FOOTPATHS

Cllr Cripps said the Lengthsman had replaced the bottom tread on one of the stiles.
Notices have been posted in the shop and on the noticeboard about the dog fouling problem.

ALLOTMENTS

A complaint had been received that horses had been on the Allotments, leaving hoof prints.

The meeting closed at 9 pm.

SHEPTON BEAUCHAMP PARISH COUNCIL

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Monday 13 May at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

AGENDA

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 Election of Officers
- 3 Public Participation
- 4 Approval of minutes of last meeting
- 5 Matters arising from minutes
- 6 Declarations of Interest
- 7 Reports from DC/CC
- 8 Correspondence & Planning
- 9 Accounts – Approval of 2012/13 Accounts
- 10 Parish Plan
- 11 Lengthsman
- 12 Highways
- 13 Footpaths
- 14 Allotments

2012/13 Officers

Chairman – Fiona Rowswell

Vice Chairman – Kim Fowler

Planning – Jane Bishop, Clare Lillywhite, Fiona Rowswell

Allotments – Roger Cripps, Elizabeth England

Footpaths – Jane Bishop, Roger Cripps

Highways – Kim Fowler, John Hallett

Charity Trustees – Fiona Rowswell

Emergency Contacts – Kim Fowler, Ed Wakely, Blue Walshe

Parish Environment Warden – Elizabeth England

Representative on Cowleaze Project – Roger Cripps

Representative on Recreation Committee – Ed Wakely, Chris Willoughby

Tree Warden – Debbie Welch

