

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday, 12th May, 2010.

Present: Mr. A.G. Wilkins (Chairman), Messrs. M.T. Robinson, D.V. Sabin, R.P. Scott and M.P. Taylor (Parish Councillors) and some 21 parishioners.

Apologies were received from Mrs. P.J. Maguire, Mr. Dick Shurey and the Rev. Chris Goble.

MINUTES

The minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

MATTERS ARISING

1. Village Website. Mr. Scott reported that the original provider, the Local Channel, had either gone or was going out of business, but that Mr. Bruce McFarlane had taken over the running of the site. If anyone had any comments would they please let him know.
2. Refuse Collection. Mr. Fred Edmunds asked whether the Chairman still had a permit for taking rubbish to Shipston. The Chairman said that he did not have one as he no longer had to take rubbish from the playing field, but he thought that if the only vehicle you had was a van, then you should be able to obtain a permit. He said that he would ask District Cllr. Saint about this.
3. Trees on Upper Green. The two leylandii and a large horse chestnut had at last been removed, and a bronze birch had been planted on the corner of the Green.
4. Flood Prevention. The Chairman reported that a further £20,000 had been allocated to Ilmington for this work.

ACCOUNTS

1. Parish Council. These had been circulated, and the Clerk explained that she had only just received the documents back from the Internal Auditor. The accounts would be available for inspection by any parishioner at the end of May, and a notice to that effect had been put on the notice board. Col. Bird asked why the reserves had been reduced so much. Mr. Robinson explained that the Precept had been increased to provide a larger reserve, and to cope with possible repairs to the pavilion roof. Some alterations had already been made, but unfortunately it still leaked. Mr. Scott now had a key to the pavilion, and would take the expert to inspect it when it next rained.
2. Village Hall. The Clerk reported that as Mr. Dick Shurey was away on holiday he had sent a brief report on the state of the hall. Some fairly urgent repairs were needed. In particular the kitchen needed an update to bring it to a satisfactory

standard, and he hoped that each club or society that used the hall would have some fundraising activity this year. Mr. Shurey had taken over as Chairman for a year, and there was now a strong and positive Management Committee. Mr. Keith Moule was co-ordinating a regular work party every few months to remedy routine problems. The Chairman said that Mr. and Mrs. Rob Hawkins had done so much work for the Hall over many years, and the village owed them a great debt of gratitude.

3. Charities. An account of the finances had been sent by Miss Rene Sabin.

4. Sports & Social Club. Mr. Sabin said that this was running well, and that there was around £3,500 in the bank. At the next meeting he would ask for curtains or blinds for the pavilion in time for winter.

5. Multi Sports Club. Mr. R. Leadbeater gave an account of the activities of the club. There were 142 memberships, with 299 members. Donations from the Parish Council and Ilmington Show had enabled them to carry out necessary work. There were thriving junior football, floorboard and tennis teams, and the Chairman congratulated him for all the work the club was doing for young people, and thanked him for his report.

6. Playing Field Committee. Mr. Leadbeater also gave an account of the activities of this committee. They had not been able to raise any money yet for improvements to the car park, but had carried out improvements to the new storage shed. They had decided that it was not necessary to sand the field this year, but it had been cut. He was thanked by the Chairman.

DEFIBRILLATOR

Mr. Robinson reported that they were continuing the work as best they could, but they needed more volunteers. They were called out about once a month, but the actual defibrillator had only been used once. One of the problems was that there should be a central collection unit, or everyone would have to be full first aiders. The possibility of using the former men's outside toilet at the village hall was being investigated. Mr. Robinson was thanked by the Chairman.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. A petition signed by 18 parishioners had been received, complaining about the extensive amount of leylandii that had been planted in the village recently, both at Orchard View along Whitehouse Lane and at Middle Brook House on Front Street. It was pointed out that the Whitehouse Lane trees would make the lane very dark and would encourage moss and algal growth. Also the roots of the trees would damage the wall along the lane. The Chairman said that this would be considered at the next Parish Council meeting.

2. Col. Bird asked what progress had been made over the green lane at Compton Scorpion. Mr. Sabin said that County Cllr. Seccombe had reported that the County Council were not going to pursue a traffic regulation order, nor were they proposing

to construct a bridge at the cost of £40,000. The Chairman said that the ideal would be to downgrade the lane to a bridleway, and that if this was done Mr. Andrew Knight would build a bridge across the stream that would take horse riders and walkers. Mr. Stephen Wright said the lane should be made a restricted byway. This would prevent its use by any motorised vehicles.

3. Mrs. Carr asked what could be done about the damage to verges by vehicles involved in building works. The Chairman said that this would be discussed at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

4. Mr. Tony Merriman asked again about cars parked on footpaths in the village. Mr. Stephen Wright said that in recent months parking at Lower Green had been getting quite dangerous. This was because the staff at the Howard Arms were parking on the public road instead of in their carpark

5. Mr. Fred Edmunds proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs. Sylvia Gardner for serving as Clerk for 30 years. The meeting agreed wholeheartedly and gave her a round of applause.

6. Mrs. Murray-White complained about people exercising their dogs on the playing field. Mr. Scott said the difficulty was that you could not stop people from taking their dogs on a public footpath. This would be discussed again at the next Parish Council meeting.

7. Mrs. Murray-White asked about the potholes along the Mickleton road. The Chairman said that these were caused by a collapsed culvert, and that the County Highways were waiting for another department that dealt with smallholding land to clean out the ditch before they could put the culvert back. Mr. Robinson said that it was possible to report potholes on the County Council website.

8. Mr Wright thanked the Parish Councillors and the Clerk for all their work over the past year.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

Date

Chairman