

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 12TH MAY, 2015, 7PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE ROOM

Present : Cllrs Smith (Chairman), Coates, Eassom, Eldridge, Knott, Moore, Tunkle, C/Cllr Mrs Compton, D/Cllr Mrs Gallagher, D/Cllr Peter Whiting and the Clerk.

1. At the recent District and Parish elections, there was an uncontested Parish election, 7 Councillors, names as above, being elected for 8 vacancies. For the District, Councillors Mrs Gallagher and Mr Whiting were elected. Councillors were reminded that they need to return their election expenses to WDC -even a nil return.

2. There were no apologies.

3. Appointment of Officers.

a) Election of Chairman – it was unanimously agreed that Cllr Smith be elected as Chairman for the year 2015/16.

b) The Chairman then signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

c) It was unanimously agreed that Cllr Coates be elected as Vice Chairman

d) Councillors then signed their Declarations of Acceptance of Office witnessed by the Clerk.

There were no changes to Councillor's Interests.

It was also agreed to reappoint Mrs Katy Kingston as the nominative trustee of the Leigh Foundation. Cllr Knott will continue as the trustee for LEEK WOOTTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND VOLUNTARY AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL TRUST, Charity No 1049693. This will be for a further three years.

4. No public present.

5. The previously circulated minutes of the meeting held on 14th April were approved.

a) Matters Arising – The playground is now fully completed, and very successful.

A meeting with village representatives and the Trustees of the Memorial and Recreation Ground has been arranged for Wednesday 20th May 7.30 pm in the Sports Club.

The next WRW Forum meeting is on 14th May. Cllr Eassom will be attending. It was felt that there are fewer heavy vehicles coming through the village, but speed restrictions are regularly ignored by motorists and this will be raised at the meeting.

6. Finance.

a) The Annual Audit Return for 2014/15 together with the yearly accounts have been scrutinised by the internal auditor, and the Return was approved by the Council, signed by the Chairman and Clerk. The Clerk will provide Councillors with scanned copies of the Return. Clerk will complete the required "boxes" as advised, explaining the significant variations.

b) Status report previously circulated. Balance in No 1 account at beginning of May = £9601.50. Still keeping the No 2 account open with £25 balance. First payments of precept and concurrent now received, and first payment made to Ludus for the playground renewal. VAT has been received re the £4000 grant, and a vat return submitted regarding the playground invoice has not been received

to date. It was resolved that the annual grants to the PCC, Sports Club, and RBL would remain the same for 2015/16, as budgeted.

Cheques were approved for Sundries £63.24, Annual Hire of Village Hall £120, Fairways May maintenance £278.10, and refreshments for Annual Parish meeting £22.25.

Insurance 2015/16. Annual Insurance premium has increased due to the new equipment in the playground – it was agreed to accept the quotation from Came and Co of £658 reduced to £626 for a three year term and this cheque was also approved. A revised asset register will be circulated.

7. Other items for discussion –

Comments received from a local resident regarding access to the Hamlet from Hill Wootton Road when the occupants of the corner houses park cars both sides of the road, particularly weekends and evenings, causing lack of visibility. A photograph was provided highlighting this problem, and Cllr Eassom will consult the PCSOs at the WRW Forum for their advice, hopefully further action can be taken.

It was reported there is a lack of visibility when crossing Warwick Road, near the entrance to Tidmarsh Road and the crossing island caused by overhanging trees. This will be reported to the relevant county or district department for action.

Traffic has recently been re-routed through the village when there are incidents on the A46, causing congestion, particularly when children are walking to school, it was suggested that these facts should be included in the Neighbourhood Plan.

It is with regret that the recent deaths of Mr Bernard Dee and Mrs Catherine Sandwell are recorded. Both Mr Dee and Mrs Sandwell were Parish Councillors and Chairman of the Parish Council for many years, contributing a great deal to the community. Letters of condolences have been sent.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm.

8. Date of next meeting – 9th June 2015.

Signed.....Date.....