

WEST HENDRED PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 20th May 2014

Present

Julia Evans (Clerk), Amanda Axel-Berg (Parish Councillor), Robert Clayton (Parish Councillor), Richard Evans (Parish Councillor), Sarah Lloyd (Parish Councillor), Julian Taylor (Parish Councillor), Denise Clements (PCSO), Stuart Lily (County Councillor) from 8.15pm

1. Election of Chairman

SL nominated Richard Evans as Chairman. AAB seconded. The meeting voted in favour. The meeting thanked Julian Taylor for all his work as Chairman

2. Outgoing Chairman's Annual Report

The Chairman reported:

- That the biggest issue facing the council is the proposal for very large quantities of new houses in the Vale. There is a lack of infrastructure to support this level of building.
- The A417 safety committee has been formed to resolve the problems relating to the A417. The initial aim is to get a petition together from all the affected villages to present to Oxfordshire County Council.
- The petition regarding access to the brook was presented to the council the September 2013. Deciding how to proceed with this has been a major issue for the Parish Council this year.
- There have been fewer planning applications within the village this year.
- There have been a number of issues with equipment in the playing field, which the council is working to resolve.
- A new dog waste bin has been purchased and is waiting installation.

JT handed the meeting over to RE who thanked him for his work during what has been a busy year for the council.

3. County Councillor's Annual Report

This was heard after item 5. Cllr Lily reported that:

- There was a full council meeting today and a new Chairman had been elected.
- Commitments have been made to the A417 parishes. This will form part of the County Council's policies. Proposals for the A417 will be published in August. The next hurdle will be funding.
- The County Council's responses to the Vale Local Plan are not complimentary. The proposals do not allow for changes in the demographic. There is no balanced infrastructure.
- Science Vale is an economic growth area. This will lead to funding for improvement to the A34 and Featherbed Lane.
- There are now more children in care in Oxfordshire as a result of Operation Bullfinch. Children's issues are present in rural as well as urban locations. The county is seeking additional foster parents.
- Going forward:
 - There will be interesting situations due to the electrification of the railway line. This will have an impact on the A417.
 - There will be a planning application for a new school at Great Western Park.
 - The Local Transport Plan 4 will be developed.
- The new commercial development director for Harwell Campus has made presentations to Harwell and East Hendred Parish Councils regarding proposed developments there.
- Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue has been recognised as the most efficient in the UK.

Cllr Lily left the meeting at 20.40pm.

4. District Councillors Annual Report

This was not available.

5. Parish Plan Chairman's Annual Report.

This was read by SL on behalf of the Parish Plan Chairman. It was reported that:

- The data from the questionnaires has all been analysed. The response rate to the questionnaires was over 85%.
- People have been assigned to write various sections of the Parish Plan report.
- It is hoped that the plan will be published by the end of the year.
- The transport section of the plan must be complete by August. SL to inform the relevant team.

Action: SL

6. Presentation of the accounts for 2013/14

The Clerk presented the accounts, which the meeting resolved to approve. The external audit report was also presented and approved.
The Clerk presented a budget proposal to the meeting. This was carried forward to the next meeting.

7. Parish Council meeting dates for 2014/15

The meeting agreed to maintain the frequency of meetings, so the council will continue to meet every other month on the 2nd Thursday of that month. Therefore the following meeting dates were agreed for the forthcoming year:

- 10th July 2014
- 11^h September 2014
- 13th November 2014
- 8th January 2015
- 12th March 2015
- 14th May 2015

8. Date of Next Annual Parish Meeting

The next Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 14th May 2015, immediately before the ordinary Parish Council Meeting.

The meeting ended at 20.50pm

Signed.....

Date.....