

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING FOR WYSALL AND THORPE IN THE GLEBE HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, WYSALL ON TUESDAY MAY 3, 2016, at 7pm

The meeting was attended by 7 parishioners and were welcomed by parish council chairman, Coun. David Roberts, who was in the chair.

Apologies There were none

Minutes: Minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting held on April 7, 2015 were circulated to the meeting and discussed, and agreed as being correct and signed by the chairman.

Local Organisations: Reports were given to the meeting on behalf of activities of local organisations and were presented to the meeting on behalf of the Luncheon Club, and the Village Hall Committee.

The chairman said there had been two members leave the Luncheon Club due to ill health. There had been a successful activity involving a trip on the Peter Le Marchant Trust boat. Thanks were offered to Julia Savage for providing some wonderful meals for members. The regular leader was Gina Bryans. The club continues to meet on a Tuesday in the village hall.

Coun. Vikki Plant as secretary to the village hall committee, presented a report which is appended to the minutes.

Chairman's Report

The chairman Coun. David Roberts [presented his annual report, saying that after many years' service, including two terms as Chairman, Charlotte James retired from the Parish Council at the May meeting last year. The remaining members offered themselves for re-election, no election taking place due to the under subscription of nominations. As a Casual Vacancy had arisen, Mike Stanley put his name forward and it was unanimously decided at the June meeting to co-opt him as a member. The fundraising for the church roof appeal being already well under way and the Parish Council unable by law to contribute directly to the appeal, it was agreed to take over the cost of the maintenance of the churchyard for the immediate future as a contribution.

Having been unsuccessful in our entry to the Best Kept Village Competition in 2015, it was eventually decided not to enter in 2016, owing to the problems caused by the damage to Disney Cottage.

Discussions took place at meetings for the greater part of the year as to the provision of a defibrillator in the village. It was decided at the April 2016 meeting that one would be purchased by the Parish Council, together with an emergency telephone, both to be installed in the old telephone kiosk on Main Street. After a positive result from an online survey, it was decided to have training classes in the use of the defibrillator and also C.P.R. after its installation. In this matter we have been advised by the Community Heartbeat Trust, who will both provide the equipment and carry out the training.

A separate report has already been provided by the Village Hall Committee on fundraising activities, the emphasis of which during the past year has been on assisting the P.C.C. with the church roof appeal. During the year, Gill Berridge resigned as the Chair of the Village Hall Committee, having taken over at short notice and having carried out a very successful task, for which the Parish Council wish to express their thanks. The Village Hall Committee continues under the joint Chairmanship of Chris French, who is looking after the bookings and Caroline Onions who is chairing the meeting. Councillors Grenz, Plant and Stanley also sit on the Village Hall Committee.

The Parish Council have carried out a number of improvements and repairs to the hall, including the installation of hand-dryers; remedial work to the drainage system has been carried out and further work will be undertaken. A permanent screen has been installed for the use of the Film Club and any other hirers. The Parish Council are in the process of revising hiring fees for the hall and a new computerised booking system has been put in place, which appears to be working satisfactorily.

Councillors Stanley and Stephens are currently working on updating the Wysall website and I would like to thank them for their efforts on our behalf.

I would also like to thank Councillor Grenz for carrying out the onerous task of producing a Village Emergency Plan.

The Parish Council is in a healthy position financially, but recent advice from N.A.L.C. has emphasised the need to keep substantial cash balances against the eventuality of litigation, which is invariably expensive. The Council have made an application to their bank to carry out business online following the bank's imposition of charges for the clearing of cheques.

There has been a steady flow of planning applications during the year, both newbuild and extensions to existing properties. In February 2016, the Council supported a petition to give parish and town councils the right to appeal against planning decisions in the same way as applicants.

In conclusion, I would like to thank our Borough Councillor Reg Adair and our County Councillor John Cottee and our unflagging Parish Clerk, Mike Elliott, for all their help and advice and, of course, my fellow Councillors for all their hard work during the year, similarly all members of the Village Hall Committee and all parishioners who have contributed to the wellbeing and entertainment of the community.

Financial Report

The clerk and Responsible Financial Officer Mike Elliott presented a report in which he said the balance held by the parish council on April 1, 2015, was £24,158 and the council finished the year on March 31, 2016, with a slightly higher balance of £24,715.

Expenditure during the year included items such as grass cutting and maintenance – £1900, insurance – £1,192, village hall power – £891, audit fees - £218, subscriptions – £185, village hall repairs £3,338, street furniture £775 and running costs of the village website were £502.

The total expenditure during 2015/2016 was £14,801, just a few pounds more than in the previous year, while the income was £15,538 including a precept of £8,250.00, village hall rents and events of £6,062, an increase of £1000. VAT repaid was £658. For the current 2016/2017 financial year the council has precepted on Rushcliffe Borough Council for a sum of £8,250, the same as in the previous two years.

No other matters were raised and the meeting closed at 7-20pm.