

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting on Thursday 9th April 2015:

Annual Parish Meeting:

The Council met in the Village Hall at 7.00pm. There was an attendance of 6 Parish Councillors and 4 Parishioners.

Apologies for absence: Apologies were received from Mr R. Ladkin, Mrs L. Gritton, PCSO Dave Gibson, Mr K. Steer

County Councillors Report: Mr R. Gilbert that budget reductions were still ongoing and that there was a 1.99% increase in the Council Tax. Kingsbridge Library is running well and is not under any threat, Salcombe is back on track. School results in Devon are excellent well within the top 10 in the country, even though their budgets are half of those that cities receive. Pot holes are still ongoing although they are being repaired. There will be no cut backs to the gritting schedules for the winters of 2015-16. Within the NHS Devon spends £1200 per person, this is the national average, life expectancy of women is 88 years and men is 82 years. 27000 bed nights are lost within the NHS during a year due to bed blocking, it is hoped to improve the standard of care in the home etc to help alleviate the problem. The NHS is in a state of Flat Cash, which basically means it is staying put, it will not get better or worse within the next 10 years. That being the end of his report Mr Gilbert thanked everyone and retired from the meeting.

Chairmans Annual Report: The Chairman reported on some of the things that had happened during the last year. We had held 12 meetings during the year, and on two of those occasions the Council had not been quorate. He mentioned that when the Clerk sends out the agendas for the meetings, this is in effect a summons for the Councillors to attend!! The Parish consists of 2736 acres, has 286 properties, 24 of which are second homes. The Parish Councillor is able to consist of 9 elected members. Three planning training events were attended, 2 Super Cluster meetings and 2 Our Plan meetings.

Reports from Parish Organisations:

We have a West Alvington Working Party that has worked on the Homefield Site and now looks set to liaise with any application for the Butts site. The Coffee Mornings are still being held once a month in the Village Hall on a Wednesday, the club now also boasts a lending library. The other events held were the Beating of the Bounds annual event, the Fun Day, the Carols at Christmas, and we had a work party to do jobs in and around the Village. All in all quite a good amount of events for a small parish.

Police Report: In the last year there has been a few crimes. 1 possession of class e drugs, 1 assault, 1 theft, 1 case of criminal damage, & 1 malicious communication. On the whole these figures are down on last year.

Village Hall: The Chairman of the Village Hall Mrs Carol Horton gave the Chairman a report to read out in her absence of the years activities and events during the year.

The Annual Parish Meeting closed at 7.25pm and the Parish Council Meeting followed.

Signed..... Dated.....

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 9th April 2015:

Attendance and apologies as before.

Open Forum: Concerns were raised about the lack of enforcement regarding the on street parking at Phoenix Place, cars are being parked at all times on the double yellow lines. Concerns were also raised about this happening in Lower Street too, especially with vans still parking half on and half off the pavement, meaning that anyone with a buggy or pram has to get off the pavement and walk around. Mrs M Kitt said she had called the police but they said that because they only have two wheels on the pavement nothing could be done! It was agreed that the enforcement officers are not doing their job and it needs to be sorted.

County Councillors Report: This was discussed in the previous meeting.

District Councillors Report: The Chairman reported that virtually everything shuts down at district level at this time so there is nothing much to report.

Declarations of Interest: Mr S. Wright declared an interest on item 11 Planning .
Mrs J. Stevens declared a personal interest should the application for Roke, be mentioned.

Matters Arising:

Playing Field Update: There is nothing to report at present. Mrs M. Kitt is concerned that the work will start and then the Fun Day will not be able to go ahead.

It would seem that the school would be keen to start the work as soon as possible and have it completed before the end of the summer holidays. The Fun Day for 2015 is to be held on Saturday 19th September.

Village Hall Lease: We are awaiting for the solicitors to get back to us.

Chairmans Report: The Chairman commented on how nice the flowers were looking this year. We will get some more hyacinths to go in next year. The website has now received over 16000 hits which is good and means it is being used well.

Representatives Reports: Mrs M. Kitt reported that the Coffee Mornings were still going strong and they even had Coffee and Hot Cross buns for the Easter session. Things are now easier that the Village Hall have kindly allocated a cupboard for storage of the supplies and the books. More books are welcome.

She also reported that once the Elections were over she would be organising the first Fun Day meeting.

It was suggested that we gave the Church a £50 donation towards the floodlight again this year. This was proposed by Mrs M. Kitt, seconded by Mrs A. Smith with all in favour.

It was also suggested that we gave a donation again this year to the CAB of £50. This was proposed by Mrs J. Stevens, seconded by Mrs G. Rossetti with all in favour.

Planning Applications, decisions and updates: The Councillors discussed the proposed application 59/0738/15/F at Cholwells, Woolston. For construction of building for mixed use to include agricultural use and boat/boat trailer storage for Mr Rossiter. The Councillors agreed to ask the planning department for an extension in order to arrange a site visit to see the location of the proposed building.

Decisions: The Chairman reported that the Preston View application had been refused.

K5:

After the Councillors had looked at the plans and discussed their concerns, it was proposed by Mrs M.Kitt and seconded by Mrs A. Smith with all in favour that the Parish Council were refusing the application on the grounds of access.

A statement was prepared and this will be forwarded to the planning department.

“West Alvington Parish Council are objecting on the grounds of access. This is already a dangerous area with extremely poor pedestrian access, which has already resulted in two students that we know of having been knocked over on the crossing.

Extra traffic in this area is only going to exacerbate the situation”

A.O.B

The next work party will take place on Saturday 18th April at 10:00am.

There being no further business the meeting closed. With the date of the next meeting confirmed as a week later than usual due to the Elections, as Thursday 14th May at 7:00pm.

Signed.....Dated.....