

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH HELD ON 15 MAY 2014 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7PM

Present: Mr D Aldridge, Mr L Cammack, Mr S N Jackson (Chairman), Mr A Leary, Mr B McClymont, Mr B Wright

Mr D Barthorpe, Mr P Foden, Mr D Richardson
Clerk and Finance Officer – Miss S Tomlinson

1. Apologies for absence:

Mrs M Dobson
Mr G Thompson
Mr B Allen

2. Declarations of Interest:

None were received

3. To receive and accept:

- a) Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 16 May 2013

The Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Mr Wright and seconded by Mr Cammack.

4. Matters arising from the minutes:

- a) Reference 8b, investment. The option of investing some of the Parish Property Trust money was looked into. Unless the Parish Council were willing to tie the money up for a considerable length of time then the option to invest would not be practical for what would be a relatively a small sum when considering investment opportunities.
- b) Reference 7, Brewer's Trust. Mr Foden clarified the correct name of this trust to 'The Charity of Thomas Brewer'; this would be amended on all future correspondence.

5. Chairman's Report

- a) The chairman gave a verbal report on the years activities. A relatively quiet year. The Parish precept had remained frozen this year; however the accounts showed that the precept was satisfactorily in line with current expenditure. There had been several planning applications submitted throughout the year, some of which had required further information and compromise.

6. Langford Matters

- a) There had been some anxiety amongst the Langford residents following recent correspondence from a developer looking to submit a planning application for a wind turbine within the village. No formal planning application had been submitted at this time however.
- b) Mrs Dobson had successfully secured funding for two interactive signs for the village of Langford. This was gladly received, with thanks to Mrs Dobson for her help.

7. The Charity of Thomas Brewer Accounts

- a) Mr Foden and Mr Barthorpe presented the Accounts for the year ending March 31st 2014. Dividends and field rent made up the income received into the trust. No further investments had been made during the year; however a good annual return had been received. It was reported that it was becoming increasingly difficult for the Trust to find beneficiaries and options were currently being explored to possibly widen the remit of the charity. The Charity was approaching its 500th anniversary, therefore it was felt that this was a good time to assess and reflect on the charities objectives.

8. Presentation of The unadopted Parish Council Accounts/Property Trust Account

- a) The unadopted accounts were presented to the council. Mr Leary, Chairman of the Finance Committee, talked through the accounts activity throughout the year. The expenses were relatively low for the year. The Clerk was asked to add a note to the bottom of the events account to explain that £931 was being held on behalf of the Events Committee and was not Parish Council money.
- b) Following numerous communications between the Parish Council and the internal Auditor the decision was made to run two accounts rather than the four that had been used in recent years. In doing so this would simplify the accounts and aid transparency. The Holding account and Savings accounts were used until Oct 2013, after which the balances left in these accounts were transferred to the current account.
- c) The accounts relating to the summer festival and the village bonfire would now be requested in a specific form to ensure that all income and expenditure was dealt with correctly and in line with the Parish Councils Financial Regulations. The Clerk would work with event organise to assist.
- d) The Parish Property Trust accounts were circulated. Low activity within this account. Income received from the allotment holders and a small amount of interest. It was recognised that the Community Centre rent had been paid into the Parish Council current account rather than the Property Trust. The clerk had made a transfer to correct this which would show in 2014/15 accounts. The Community Centre would be informed of the correct details for future years.
- e) The issue of grass cutting was raised during this discussion, it was suggested that the Community centres' grass cutting commitments be added to those the Parish Council and the Parish Council then invoice the Community Centre for the relevant amount. The Parish Council could see no immediate issue with this. The Community centre would formalise this request in writing so that it could be dealt with correctly.

Meeting Closed 7.44PM