

**MINUTES OF THE KILMINGTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD AT WHITESHEET CEVA PRIMARY SCHOOL
ON THURSDAY, 10 MAY 2018 AT 7.30 PM**

Present: Cllr G Cotton (Chairman), Cllrs. Curtis, Flower, Mrs Hames, Hunt, Meeker & Reeves and Mrs R Burrows (Parish Clerk)

14 members of the public

Apologies None but Mrs Burrows said that George Jeans, the Unitary Councillor was expected to attend the meeting but would first be giving his annual report to the Zeals Annual Parish meeting which started at 6.30pm this evening; this was an unfortunate clash of dates but he would get to our meeting as soon as possible.

1. WELCOME

Mr Cotton welcomed everyone to the Annual Parish Meeting, and introduced himself as the Chairman of Kilmington Parish Council. This is the annual parish meeting for you all to make any comments or suggestions on matters that concern the village.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APM HELD ON 11 MAY 2017

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 11 May 2017 (displayed on noticeboard and website) were taken as read and approved without amendment.

The Chairman signed the Minutes.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The P.C. has been kept extremely busy with a larger than usual number of meetings to consider new planning applications and revisions to submitted plan. Cllrs Reeves and Flower together with myself attended a half day Planning training session last autumn at which we had hoped to learn more about the process linking the comments made by parish councils on planning applications and the planning decisions made by Wiltshire Council's (WC) planning department. Sadly, all three of us left the meeting without gaining any knowledge at all about this important subject.

I attended a meeting in Salisbury hosted by WC's Planning department at which the proposed revisions to the Wiltshire Structure Plan were discussed. All present representing Mere and our local area were shocked to learn of the proposal to link our area to Trowbridge instead of Salisbury which has been the link to date. Mere Town Council, Kilmington and other local villages wrote to express their objections to the proposal.

The state of the roads within the Parish area is a source of constant concern and complaint. This year we have, at last, seen the re-surfacing of Druley Hill completed and Wiltshire Highways have indicated that they are hopeful of being able to carry out substantial work on The Street during the current financial year.

Together with Cllr Reeves and Flower, I have co-ordinated a Speed Indicator Device (SID) project which will provide a SID unit which will be shared with Stourton and Zeals.

I have been active in resolving or attempting to resolve surface water drainage problems during the year.

I attended meetings, by invitation, to learn of the future plans for Kilmington School.

I have been active recently on the parking problem in the Brookside area and will provide more detail later in the P.C. meeting.

Finally, I would like to thank Barry Paul, who looks after the Sheepcote, Ian Cameron who looks after the defibrillator. Peter Sansom and Georgina Muir for all their work around the village pump which made a real improvement to the area.

4. TO RECEIVE THE UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

Copies of the PC's Receipts and Payments for the year ending 31 March 2018 were distributed. The meeting noted that they showed an income of £8,326.30, expenditure of £7,311.88 (+£1,014.42) with a balance at the bank of £6,720.05. Mrs Lindsey Wood (out-going Clerk) said it had been agreed with the new Clerk that for the sake of continuity it was better for her to prepare these, along with the other necessary financial papers. Mrs Wood gave a short summary of the significant variations in receipts and payments. She said that the P.C.'s internal auditor – Mr Eugene Read – had audited these and all was found to be in order. The accounts will be approved and signed during the Annual Parish Council meeting.

5. see below

6. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM KILMINGTON PARISH AMENITY FUND, THE JOHN HOOPER CHARITY AND KILMINGTON NEWS

Kilmingon Parish Amenity Fund : Cllr Mrs Hames said that there were now 164 subscribers paying monthly and that last year it had been possible to increase the monthly payouts by £10 for each of the three prizes. The balance of the account at year end was £2,011.98 .

John Hooper Charity: unfortunately there was no specific report for this old, small fund which distributes money to a few people within the village, as Neville Meeker who administers it, is away on holiday. However, Cllr Reeves said that the fund remains stable and would be showing a balance the same or very similar to this time last year of less than £100.

Kilmingon News: Cllr Mrs Hames reported an income of £332.00 with expenditure of £202.88 giving a surplus of £129.12. She said all postage and stamps continue to be generously donated which saved a large amount of money.

7. ANNUAL POLICE REPORT

Mrs Burrows said that no report had been received from Wiltshire Community Policing team. Cllr Cotton said he thought at the very least an annual report should be given to the Parish Council and then she was requested to contact Peter Tscherniawsky to request this.

8. PUBLIC SESSION

A member of the public asked why all the money received from the Section 106 R2 funds had been given to the Kilmingon and Stourton Cricket Club and how was it decided to do this. He felt that the villagers should be allowed an input into how this money is allocated. Cllr Cotton explained that this money is paid to WC by developers of any new housing which has been built in the village but there were restrictions on how the funds are used. Mrs Wood said that basically this meant that it had to be used within a recreational open space. However, the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) has now replaced R2 funds and there are slightly different regulations on this.

Cllr Cotton said that the resident's comments would be looked into.

The meeting was concluded at 20.10 hrs

5. REPORT FROM Cllr George Jeans

Cllr Jeans apologised for arriving after the Annual Parish Meeting had actually concluded but he had got here as soon as he could. The main points from his report were:

A planning application in Kilmington for 5 shepherds huts for tourist use has been very controversial, probably more so than many other larger applications in my division. The problem of alternative uses for agricultural land can often be challenging, especially when many villages are losing their local services, housing development boundaries etc., becoming little more than dormitories. Whatever the outcome I have found it is true you can never get a hundred percent agreement.

I have been encouraging, as have my fellow Area Board Councillors, the local parish and town councils I attend, to allow and promote very small social housing schemes in the same vein as that developed in recent years at Gasper to house local workers and those with local connections. In my opinion Gasper has been very successful. In decades to come, if such housing is not allowed, it is unlikely any key workers will be able to afford to live in our rural area. The Wiltshire Council housing needs survey is so complex in my opinion it does not give an accurate picture. Others and I locally are aware of the situation and a locally developed housing needs survey is required, which I will encourage Mere Town Council and other parishes to do. To make it clear all I am promoting is very small schemes that are controlled for local workers or those with local connections.

The South West Area Board has helped finance two minibuses which are mainly for youth use, however can be used for other community functions. I have taken some sheltered housing residence and young people (Brownies and Guides) plus "Youth Club" members by minibus. Community busses in Europe are not possible without an operator's licence, the UK has an exception. This has been questioned at national level, I have sent letters of support for our UK system, it appears common sense may prevail.

There are changes to recycling in Wiltshire and you now need a utility bill or like when attending recycling sites, therefore you will need stay in your own county, Warminster now being the nearest. The good news is from July I am informed, your black box will be for glass only, however most plastics except black plastic will be able to be placed in the blue recycling bin. The collection days or times may change.

I still attend the broadband project board which has enabled fibre cables to be installed along the Common in Kilmington.

I attended a passing out function of Salamander last July at Mere Fire Station. The primary aim of Salamander is to work with young people in Wiltshire and provide them with experiences that will help them to learn new life skills and gain confidence. However, in recent years, the remit has been expanded and now works with a variety of organisations across the public, voluntary and private sectors. The South West Wiltshire Board helped provide funding and I was very impressed how in a week, a group of young people had been brought together to function as a team, operating professional equipment, working at heights and so on. This is a well worthy use of public funds and services in my opinion.

Thank you and any questions please.

1 Question by a member of the public:

A member of the public asked why fibre optic broadband had been installed along "millionaire's row" in Kilmington whilst the remainder of the village had to accept much slower speeds. It seemed very much a case of the wealthy being given priority over the rest of the village and he asked who had made this decision. A discussion ensued and Cllr Cotton said his understanding was that the Common had received fibre optic because the copper cable quality in place was so bad, it had to be replaced and it was decided to do that with fibre. He also said that the PC had spent ten months looking into the possibility of a wireless broadband only then to find that BT had installed a green cabinet in the Street with a fibre connection to the Maiden Bradley exchange.