

## **Stockton on Teme Parish Meeting/AGM**

**St Andrews Church, Stockton on Teme, 7.00p.m. 4<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

**Apologies:** Richard Whiteman, Ken Pollock, Coral Gaunt, Susan Dufton, Ursula and Colin Bancroft, Sally and Bill Webb, Lesley Beesley

**Attendees:** Margaret Danby (Chair), Sioux Breeze-Derrigan (Clerk), Joe Gaunt, Councillor Chris Dell (Malvern District Council), Brian Marsh, Paul Danby, Sheila Craig, Mary Holloway, Kathy Edwards, Derek and Sandra Jabbett, Terry May, Hazel and Paul Marsh, Liz and John Sinnott

**1. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising – copies issued to those present. Read and endorsed by show of hands.**

**2. The chair read out Ken Pollock's report highlighting Worcestershire County Councils priorities:**

- Vulnerable Adults – keeping people safe and with the people they know and love through the use of assistive technology.
- Children – supporting the increase in the number of children in care, finding more foster carers.
- Environment – better recovery of waste (Tenbury new facilities), Hartlebury new site.
- Highways – Increase in satisfaction ratings for this service. £12 million pounds earmarked for this service over the next two years.
- Open for business – Worcestershire is the 4<sup>th</sup> fastest growing economy in the country. Both residents and business BT are committed to the delivery of high speed broadband (BT have launched a 'never say no' campaign).

**3. Update from Chris Dell (Malvern Hills District Councillor) on issues relating to the five parishes he represents:**

- Impact of the cuts on services, now share Chief Executive with Wychavon District Council, top three paid staff have now gone and in general terms they have lost 1/3 of staff.
- Local initiatives – Freedom Leisure have now taken over Tenbury leisure facilities and installed a new gym. Currently exploring the option to outsource refuse collection, more efficient way of operating routes and sharing vehicles. Scoping the possibility of sharing planning service with Wychavon.
- Broadband – next month Eardiston and Clows Top will be receiving an upgraded service. Councillor Dell has written to the local M.P. regarding the possibility of mobile network providers enabling a roam service to improve coverage in remote areas.
- Malvern Hills is the only District Council to have assigned funding to carry out its five year plan.
- Tourism – development of the 'Teme Valley Way', the development of six walks and cycle tracks is currently being planned.

#### 4. Update from PCSO Ness Snape

- 3 incidents reported in Stockton in the past year – criminal damage to a tractor, theft of a trailer and an attempted theft from a vehicle attending an event.
- There are increasing numbers of burglaries from sheds in the surrounding areas. Padlocks which have an audio tamper alarm fitted are now widely available. Malvern Hills District Council use a website called SALON but there are many sites from which this type of equipment can be purchased.
- Residents were encouraged to make sure that items stored in garages and sheds were marked with ownership details with Cre Marks or Smart Water as stolen items which get recovered cannot always be returned to their owners as there is no way to confirm the owner identity.
- The local safer neighbourhood team are now based back at Tenbury Police station, although there are discussions about them sharing the fire station building. The team of three is made up of PCSO Ness Snape, PCSO Teresa Howells-Brown and PC Richard Foxall.
- West Mercia police now offer a security marking and advice to residents and can also mark horse tack. There is also a free service from Ian White, the Rural Crime and Business Liaison Officer for Malvern Hills and Wychavon District Councils. Ian can give security advice for domestic dwellings as well as businesses. Anyone interested in either of these services please leave a message on 01905 725780 or email [mt.snt@westmercia.pnnpolice.uk](mailto:mt.snt@westmercia.pnnpolice.uk)

#### 5. Chairman's Report

- The Chair read out her report highlighting:
- The consultation issues that the Chair/Clerk had received including changes to the South Worcestershire Development Plan, the Minerals Plan and Community Infrastructure Levy, responding to those that effect our area. Where these were public as well as parish and town council consultations, notification of them had been circulated to residents on the village email list.
- We had received information from Worcestershire and Malvern Hills about events and services available to residents. These had been circulated via the village email list. Where appropriate, notices had been displayed on the village notice board.
- There had been several planning applications during the year on which we had been consulted and submitted responses. These were :
  - Black Pear Barn conversion – appeal approved by Government's planning inspector.
  - Lower Ridings Farm garage, store and music room – initially refused by MHDC but approved after re submission.
  - Stockton Solar Farm – refused by MHDC but there may be an appeal.
  - Black Pear Barn widening of access track – outcome pending.
  - New House, certificate of lawfulness for change of use of a small area of land from agricultural to garden – outcome pending.
  - New House side and rear extension – outcome pending.
- A discussion regarding the newly installed kerbs on Pensax Lane and the issues they were causing. Several people cited 'near misses' and issues with the speed of traffic and there being limited space to pull over to let oncoming vehicles pass safely. It was noted that a meeting had been held with Highways who asserted that they had placed the kerbing at the edge of the original road.

## **6. Clerks Report**

- The clerk reported that all monies provided by Worcestershire County Council (WCC) for the lengthsman scheme had been spent within the 2015-2016 financial year.
- The monies allocated by WCC had been confirmed as the same for 2016-2017.
- That following a recent recruitment process that Richard Whiteman had been appointed as our new lengthsman and taken up the post as of April 2016.
- That the annual audit had been completed and returned to the auditors as required.

## **7. Appointment of Chair and Clerk for 2016-2017**

- Margaret Danby was nominated for the role of Chair by Joe Gaunt and seconded by Sandra Jabbett. Sioux Breeze-Derrigan was nominated for the role of Clerk by Paul Danby and seconded by Brian Marsh.

## **8. Queens Tea Party**

- The Chair asked those present if they had any ideas/proposals that they would like to make in relation to the village organising a tea party, there were no suggestions. The chair confirmed there had been no responses to an email sent out some weeks ago regarding this subject.

## **9. Any Other Business**

- Jamie Probert had reported that the mower, used by the volunteers who cut the grass in the churchyard and church entrance, needed attention and would anyone volunteer to have a look at it? Paul Danby volunteered to do this and would look at it during the next month.
- It was recognised by all those present that Paul Danby had done an excellent job as Stockton on Teme's Parish Lengthsman with everyone expressing their sincere thanks and wishing him a long and happy retirement.

At 20.05 p.m. the Chair thanked all those for attending and the meeting was declared closed.