

BROADWAY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES
of ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
held at 5 Russell Square, High Street, Broadway,
on Thursday, 16th March 2017, at 8.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillors B.M.Parmenter, (Chairman), N. Robinson (Vice-Chairman), D. W. Folkes G. Franks, Miss D. Hardiman, A.A.L.Holmes, G. Love, G. O'Brien, Mrs. R. Rogers, Mrs. S. Stephenson, Mrs. C.C.B.Wilson
Also in attendance: County and District Councillor Mrs. E. Eyre, Mr R Goldsmith/Broadway Trust.

1) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: District Councillor B. Thomas, Councillors Dr Clements, F.L.Penny, West Mercia Police

(2) MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 17:03:16
Following a proposal from Councillor Mrs. Rogers, seconded by Councillor Miss Hardiman, and unanimously agreed, the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 17th March 2016 were signed and dated as a true record.

(3) CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:
"I would like to welcome everyone here this evening, and would also like to thank members of the Parish Council for their commitment and input to all of the Parish Council meetings and the various sub-committees on which all of you serve. I feel this has greatly helped in achieving a more positive and active Parish Council. I would also like to thank PC Lewis and CSO Schoenrock for their active role in policing the village, members of the Business Association for their efforts in making the village so attractive and welcoming last Christmas, the Activity Park maintenance team which is still such a major attraction, and also Maurice Parkinson, for carrying out various works under the Lengthsman Scheme.

At the start of this Council's term it was agreed to focus on a number of issues of major concerns within the village, and I would like to give a brief summary of progress to date as follows -

Car parking continues to be a major concern particularly at specific times of the year when major events are being held - e.g. Late night shopping - The Parish Council has met with officers of the District Council but, unfortunately, there does not appear to be land available at present to resolve this situation.

Concerns were raised regarding the effectiveness of the two CCTV cameras in the High Street, and discussions were held with the District Council who could give no guarantee that any improvement to the cameras or the surrounding lighting would lead to any significant increase in detection of criminal activity, and it was decided to leave the cameras as they are.

As you will have seen from the recent news item on local television and in the local press, work on the long-awaited flood alleviation scheme is about to start. This is fantastic news especially for the owners of the properties which have previously flooded. There has been a fear that flooding may reoccur each time there is a major downpour, and this project will help to alleviate such fear. I would like to thank everybody involved with the scheme for their commitment and would encourage everyone to support the ongoing fundraising which will still be required.

The Neighbourhood Plan is now starting to take shape and a steering group is now in the process of engaging the help of experts to help produce a robust plan which Broadway needs in order to shape its future. I would once again encourage as many residents as possible to participate in this project particularly by completing a questionnaire and attending proposed meetings.

As you are aware, work has begun on the developments in Leamington Road and Kingsdale Court, and having met District Council officers, the Parish Council and Broadway Trust have been promised an opportunity for an input into the proposed development in Station Road over the next couple of years, which will hopefully see provision made for affordable housing for younger residents of Broadway.

The Parish Council continues to support local organisations through various grants and donations, and in the last twelve months has given £2,000 to the Lifford Hall to help fund its cinema project, £500 to Broadway History Society to fund a projector screen, £1,000 to Broadway First School to help fund its computer project, £500 to both Broadway Youth Activities and Broadway Pilots to help finance activities/trips during the holiday periods, £2,000 to the Business Association to assist with the late night shopping event and replacement Christmas lights, and £2,000 to Broadway Museum, together with annual donations of £1,000 to Signpost, £500 to the T.I.C., £1,000 to Evesham Volunteer Centre, £500 to Wychavon Citizens' Advice Bureau, £2,500 to Broadway Library, £4,000 to the Parochial Church Council for the upkeep of the churchyard/graveyard, £500 to the Broadway Newsletter, and £2,500 to the Village Management Group towards the cost of supporting and promoting various events on the Village Green throughout the year.

Finally, I would like to thank Kevin the Clerk and Gwen the Assistant Clerk for all their hard work and commitment in ensuring that all meetings are run in a smooth and efficient manner and that the subsequent minutes are a fair and correct record. Without Kevin and Gwen we would all be very much poorer!"

(4) REPORT ON AUDIT OF COUNCIL ACCOUNTS TO 31:03:16

The Clerk reported that the accounts to 31:03:16 had been approved by the Parish Council on 12th May 2016 (page 1236 item 15 of the Minutes) and audited. Grant Thornton, the auditors, had indicated their approval on 9th September 2016, and the Clerk had displayed the customary statement on the notice board. A copy of the audited accounts was available for inspection at the Parish Council office.

(5) ANNUAL REPORTS FROM VARIOUS COMMITTEES/ORGANISATIONS:

Broadway Youth Club: Councillor Holmes reported there had been much progress over the past twelve months particularly regarding the increase in attendance of children/youths each week. The financial situation has improved, and a grant of £7,500

was received from the Lottery Fund which was used to provide sport and musical facilities. Encouragingly, several young mothers are now attending meetings which is developing more of a community spirit within the club. Regarding the future development of the Youth Club building a proposal from a local businessman, Mr. Adkish, had been put before the Parish Council but further discussions needed to be held with the District Council, and a meeting was to be arranged as soon as possible. As there were no further questions, it was agreed that the Youth Club should continue to be supported by the Parish Council.

Lifford Hall: Councillor Franks reported that the Hall continued to be a centre for entertainment, lectures, clubs, wedding receptions, parties, productions and quizzes. A new venture just launched, the village cinema, will open on 30th March, and with the benefit of the newly installed screen the Hall had recently hosted an on-line auction which was very successful and will be repeated. The Trustees, under the leadership of its Chair, Linda Witts, continued to undertake the ongoing maintenance and refurbishment programme, and had upgraded the lighting system earlier this year. Over the next twelve months it was planned to update the staging lighting and the sound system. The Trustees thanked the Friends of Lifford Hall, the Parish Council, and both County and District Councils for their continued support.

Broadway Library: Councillor Miss. Hardiman reported that the Management Committee had finally signed and completed the five year lease of the library building, and was grateful that two new directors had joined the group. Many organisations already use other venues within the village, making it difficult to attract others to use the library building, but a Mother and Toddler group meet in the library every Monday morning, and there were reading activities for the children during the Christmas and summer holidays with the number of participants increasing over the past two years. The library service is run by two members of staff paid by the County Council, helped by a number of volunteers on a regular basis. One of the activities run by the volunteers provided "a house-bound" service when books are taken/collected from residents' and nursing homes. Also provided was an e-book service and the use of computers, both of which are well used. Thanks were given to the Parish Council for its annual grant and support, and also to County Councillor Mrs. Eyre.

Broadway Museum & Art Gallery: Councillor Mrs. Eyre reported that the museum had now been renamed "The Broadway Museum and Art Gallery", and now had displays covering more details of Broadway's local history specifically its connection with the wool trade and coaching, including a "time-line". A new web-site had been set up, and events take place each month, including regular art classes together with special exhibitions three times a year, managed by four paid members of staff on a rota basis assisted by eighteen volunteers, again on a rota basis. Historically, all newly established museums struggle financially during the first ten years, and museum accreditation is currently being sought which will help financially once achieved. Councillor Mrs. Eyre thanked that Parish Council for its financial support and encouraged everyone to visit and support the museum.

Broadway United Charities: The Charity owns the three alms-houses adjacent to the village green, rent them to locally qualifying residents, and undertake the maintenance of the properties. It also makes donations to local organisations and to those in need within the village. In the last twelve months it has donated funds to assist

Broadway Youth Activities and Broadway Pilots, and has helped to assist projects undertaken by both village schools.

For further information contact the Clerk of the charity, Mr. Phil. Whatmough (philwhatmough1@talktalk.net)

Thomas Hodges Foundation: The Foundation helps support local children/young adults within the Parish with grants to help with further education at college, university or through apprenticeships, and in the last twelve months has awarded twelve grants of £150 each. For further information contact the Clerk of the charity, Mr Kevin Beasley (kbkbeasley@gmail.com)

- (6) ANY OTHER MATTERS RAISED BY ELECTORS:
No matters raised

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40 pm