

BROADWAY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES
of ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
held at 5 Russell Square, High Street, Broadway,
on Thursday, 17th March 2016, at 8.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillors B.M.Parmenter, (Chairman), N. Robinson (Vice-Chairman) Dr. R. Clements, D. W. Folkes Miss D. Hardiman, A.A.L.Holmes, G. Love, G. O'Brien, F. Penny, Mrs. R. Rogers, Mrs. S. Stephenson,
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, G. J. Franks and Mrs. C. Wilson

(2) MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 19:03:15
Following a proposal from Councillor Mrs. S. Stephenson, seconded by Councillor D.W. Folkes, and unanimously agreed, the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 19th March 2015 were signed and dated as a true record.

(3) CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

"I would like to welcome everyone here this evening.

This year's report really should start with the elections which took place in May when Nigel Huddleston was elected as the new MP for mid-Worcestershire. Our County Councillor, Liz, was re-elected as District Councillor along with Bradley Thomas who replaced me as the second District Councillor. I must admit that when I retired as District Councillor I envisaged that life as Chairman of the Parish Council would be less time consuming. How wrong was I!

It was most encouraging to see more residents putting themselves forward for selection as parish councillors. For the first time in many years Broadway had a Parish Council election resulting in Gordon Franks, Graham Love and Gerry O'Brien being elected. I would like to thank Anna Locker, Joy Stock, and John Williams, who were either not elected or had stood down as councillors for all their commitment and hard work during their terms of office.

In the past twelve months there have been twenty planning meetings during which over one hundred and fifty planning applications have been discussed, including over one hundred external wall insulation applications, all of which are now viewed in greater size and detail due to the recent purchase of a wall projector. I would like to thank Graham Love for his expert knowledge of planning which has allowed more precise comments to be forwarded to the District Council. The major concern to the village was the Leamington Road development which went firstly to appeal and secondly to the High Court, both of which were unfortunately dismissed. Many thanks must go to Gordon

Franks for fronting the appeal on behalf of the village, Graham Love, and the barrister Richard Langham, together with many others who contributed hours of work to fight this application.

Members of the Planning Committee, together with those of surrounding parishes, met members of the District Council Enforcement Team for an overview and understanding of their work.

A steering group has been formed to take forward the Neighbourhood Plan which I hope will progress over the coming months, and a village meeting is to be organised when residents can be updated on future plans, and also to ask for volunteers to help with this project which will require a great deal of commitment.

Many of the village roads have had minor resurfacing work completed particularly in Snowhill Road where at last the water issue at the West End junction has hopefully been resolved.

The pilot signage project has seen replacement entrance signs installed, including a new one along Childswickham Road. There has been a general decluttering and redesign of some of the signs which I hope you will all agree enhances the appearance of the village.

The Greens have been well used during the year, as along with the usual school and church fetes there have been the vintage car show, the village bike event, and the picnic on the green, which were all well supported, and thanks must go to all the organisers. The owners of the Greens, the Broadway Trust, have amended the terms and conditions of hiring the greens, and the Visitor Management Group, along with the District and Parish Councils, have agreed to finance a new fund to support promotion and entertainment facilities on the Greens.

The Activity Park continues to attract visitors from far and wide, but due to its popularity several pieces of equipment have required repair over the past twelve months. Many thanks must go to John Hankinson, together with Colwyn Thomas and Grassroots Garden Services for their help in maintaining the park's high standard. All of John's hard work and endeavour was recognised by his being awarded the 2015 Community Award.

A further defibrillator, situated outside the Fire Station, was part-funded by the Parish Council in conjunction with the Fire Service, and has agreed to part-fund a further defibrillator in conjunction with Budgens. In association with this matter Robin Farnsworth, first responder for Broadway, gave a very informative presentation to the Parish Council regarding the nature of his job, and agreed to give further updates.

There has been more collaboration this year with the Traders' Association with members of the respective groups attending each other's meetings and giving regular reports. I have invited a representative to give a summary later on during this meeting. I would like to thank all the members of the Traders' Association for their assistance in putting on several events during the year culminating in the late night shopping event, and also the wonderful Christmas lights display.

Police Constable Paul Lewis has taken over the responsibility for policing the village and was making regular visits to the Parish Office, together with Community Support Officer Phil Schoenrock. The presence of both officers around the village on a regular basis is very much appreciated and reassuring.

Annual donations were made to the following organisations –	
Broadway Newsletter	500.00
Broadway Parochial Church Council (upkeep of graveyard)	2,000.00
Signpost	1,000.00
Broadway Tourist Information Centre	500.00
Evesham Volunteer Centre	1,000.00
Wychavon Citizens' Advice Bureau	250.00
Broadway Community Library Group	2,500.00

Grants and Donations were also made to the following –	
Help the Heroes (re Community Award)	100.00
Entry and sponsorship to Parish Games	119.00
Purchase of Remembrance wreath	16.50
Broadway Youth Activities	500.00
Broadway Pilots	500.00
St. Mary's RC School	1,000.00
Broadway Bowling Club	1,000.00
Broadway Traders' Association (supporting various events during the year)	2,000.00
Broadway Youth Club (assistance/maintenance work)	920.00
Part-funding defibrillator at Fire Station	550.00

Finally, this office would not run as smoothly as it does without all the hard work and commitment from Kevin and Gwen. I would personally like to add my grateful thanks to Kevin who has skilfully led me through my first year as Chairman.”

(4) REPORT ON AUDIT OF COUNCIL ACCOUNTS TO 31:03:15

The Clerk reported that the accounts to 31:03:15 had been approved by the Parish Council on 14:05:15 (page 1169 item 14 of the Minutes) and audited. Grant Thornton, the auditors, had indicated their approval on 05:08:15 and the Clerk had displayed the customary statement on the notice board. A copy of the audited accounts is available for inspection at the Parish Council office.

(5) ANNUAL REPORTS FROM VARIOUS COMMITTEES/ORGANISATIONS:

Youth Club:

Councillor Holmes gave an update on developments at the Youth Club and reported that the club was now regularly attended by over fifty young people, mainly from Broadway, together with some additional children from Childswickham and Willersey. The committee had grown and was now run in a more organised manner with more volunteers coming forward which was much appreciated. The Youth Club's financial situation was also improving, but Councillor Holmes highlighted that the state of the old wooden building was a drain on finances. On a positive note, however, funding/grants had been obtained, and following an article in the Broadway Newsletter a local benefactor, connected with a charitable trust, had obtained funding of £1,750 from

this trust to update the electrics and install security/floodlighting. A grant of £7,550 had also been obtained from the Lottery Fund which had been used to update the kitchen facilities, purchase sports, musical and craft related items.

Councillor Mrs. Eyre suggested that thought should be given to approach the District Council regarding the replacement of the old building with a brick built one, possibly in connection with potential funding from the developments taking place or proposed in the village, or that more use be made of the Children's Centre building. It was agreed to take these matters forward.

Councillor Holmes thanked both Councillor Mrs. Eyre and Councillor Polkes for their continued support to the Youth Club. The Chairman then thanked Councillor Holmes for his report and his continued hard work and commitment to the Youth Club.

Library:

Mr. Steve Williams, Chairman of the Broadway Community Library Limited which was now registered as a Charitable Trust and Company, reported that the committee had secured agreement on the lease of the building from the County Council and the signing of this lease was imminent. A delay to the signing had been caused by the repairs to the roof of the Library which it had been agreed must be completed before the lease could be signed. The repairs were due to be completed by the end of May. The group will then be responsible for the costs of the upkeep of the building, and has now obtained 100% Rate Relief from the District Council, which is a major saving on the running costs. The County Council will still be responsible for the Library Services (the use of books, computers etc.) and will pay a rent to use the building and provide a library manager to run this service. Mr. Williams concluded that the library continues to be well used with over 40,000 users over the last year and thanked Councillor Miss Hardiman and fellow trustees for all their support.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Williams for his report and for all the hard work and commitment of the group in maintaining the library services and use of the building for the village.

(6) ANY OTHER MATTERS RAISED BY ELECTORS

County Councillor Mrs. Fyre confirmed that £4,000 of funding had been secured for improvement/maintenance of the National Trail (Cotswold Way) in and around the Broadway area, which would be match funded by the Conservation Board

The being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30 pm