CHILDSWICKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held at the Memorial Hall on Thursday 26th April 2012 at 7.15pm.

Present Cllr's Mr Halling (Chairman), Miss Brigden, Mrs Watts, Mrs Read,

Mr Patrick and Mrs Perry.

In attendance Mrs J Shields (Clerk).

1. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr's Mrs E Eyres (District and County) and Mr Parmenter (District), and CSO P Schoenrock.

2. Minutes Of Annual Parish Meeting Held 28th April 2011.

The minutes of the meeting, having been previously circulated, were agreed as a true record and signed.

3. Chairman's Report.

I would like to start by saying, how sad myself and other Parish Councillors were to hear of the death of Ian Slater. Whilst on the Parish Council he worked very hard to keep the Council in order, these efforts are the footings for some of the Councils polices we have today, he will be greatly missed.

The Council has worked with all the agencies concerned to get the Flood Relief Scheme underway and now fund raising has started. Childswickham and Broadway have to provide a total of £312,000.00. A Fund Raising awareness letter was sent out in December 2011 to all of the residence of Broadway and Childswickham. Childswickham has started by organising a Barn Dance and a 100 club.

Despite going to a lot of effort to keep our own regular bus service, it was not used enough and was withdrawn, It was hoped to set up a 'hopper' bus between Childswickham and Broadway but it proved to be too expensive, however Cresswells have set up a service on Tuesday and Thursdays which we think is going well.

In these tough economic times the Parish Council has kept the Precept the same as last year. Donations of £75.00 were made to Friends of St Mary's and Evesham Volunteer Service and £50.00 to CAB.

I would like to thank all of the Parish Councillors for all their efforts over the past 12 months.

4. Planning Report.

The PC was asked to consider 16 planning applications – the majority involving house extensions/ improvements;

The most interesting was the application on Leedons for the redevelopment of a community centre for the provision of amenities as the park develops. Though we are merely a consultee in this instance as it is not in the Parish.

All were approved (a couple retrospectively!) with one exception being a change of use requested on Slad Barn from dwelling house to holiday lets which has been refused. During the year the government introduced and passed the Localism Act which is heralded as giving greater powers to grass root levels of decision makers such as the Parish council. In practice this is not yet the case as most powers are given conditionally and those conditions often deferring back to existing decision takers – in our case the District Council though – there is pressure on the County Council to devolve power or cut back on services.

5. Finance Report.

To be inserted.

6. District Councillors Report.

No received.

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7. County Councillor Report.

Not received.

8. Police Report.

During the last three months there has been 1 x car crime and 1 x theft of scrap.

9. Questions from the Floor.