

## FLADBURY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – 2009/10

The 2010 Annual Parish Meeting was held in the Village Hall on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2010 at 7.30pm

Present:	Chr W P Llewellyn	50+ Parishioners
	V/Chr I Southcott	Andrew Billie (EVG) + 6 others
	Cllr T McDonald (WDC Cllr)	Roly Holt (Holts)
	Cllr B Carter	Keith Parry (Comm 1 <sup>st</sup> Rural Housing)
	Cllr G Mills	Nick Butler H&M PC Chair
	Cllr D Day	Ed Cohen H&M V/chr
	Cllr A Stephens	
	Cllr M Anderson	PC S Toms
	Cllr M Ounsted	Parish Clerk Mr R J Coles

1 Apologies for Absence – WCC Cllr E Eyre, Mr & Mrs North, Mary Fisher and Mr & Mrs Wynn by letter with comments on Glasshouse and River developments.

### 2 Special Topics

1) Southeast Power Engineering had to withdraw due to the proposed speaker having family problems. Cllr Stephen is available with some limited information for anyone to consider.

2) Affordable/Social Housing – Mr Keith Parry, who stood in for the injured Nigel Potter, took the meeting through the purpose and steps of an imminent village wide survey that will take place during 2010. This would take the form of identifying any need, what could satisfy that need and where could it be satisfied. He noted that schemes like this for similar villages would usually be of 12 or less housing units (flats, bungalows and housing) covering all age ranges and often on land bordering the village that could be purchased at agricultural (+ small premium) prices due to very low likelihood of getting general planning permission for free market properties. V/chair indicated that the Parish Plan had confirmed the issue required addressing. The main issue for many was the S106 protection in perpetuity for their allocation to local need and how this could take place. Mr Parry suggested an approach for observer status at their allocation with WDC/Housing Association similar to Malvern Hill's may be worth pursuing. David Hawkins requested that design should lead any solution rather than being left to developers.

3) Glasshouse developments – Mr Andrew Billie, the landowners, supported by Roly Holt from the growers, lead the discussions. It had been the worst winter weather for 30 years and this had caused more issues than normally expected, mud and timing. Discussions were constantly ongoing with WDC and WCC who were deemed not blameless in their attention to speed on dealing with some of the issues of contention that followed. It was now planned to add an Anaerobic Digester to the site, which would require more on site traffic much of which would be passing the site anyway. This building would be of lower height than the glasshouse but 30x40 metres in size and produce green heat and power, saving on natural gas with no smell. However the increase in on site traffic has led to discussion with WCC for a previously refused access to the A44 to be reopened with the possibility of a roundabout near the western end of the WCC lay-by. Various members at the meeting felt this was development by stealth but was defended as just the way things are developing in British Agriculture. Concerns over some of the 18 inspectorate conditions, including starting internal growing operations, being ignored led to an admission that this had been done deliberately as commercial concerns took precedence however the developers felt that WCC (and WDC) were not totally innocent. There is every hope that the development will be a success and abandonment of the glasshouse would not take place but there was no requirement to tidy up the site in any way. Current excess soil is due to be moved when conditions get dryer. The new drainage ditch just south of the railway will be modified to restore the original right of way across the field to the glebe allotments. V/chair Southcott suggested that perhaps

now was the time to form a joint local consultation group of the two local parish councils and developers in order to alleviate the local bad feeling generated by lack of communication, the developers agreed.

4) Riverside Developments, Lock jetty extension and holiday moorings opposite Millennium Wood – V/chair Southcott stated that the jetty extension had been firmly objected to on grounds of visual impact and false rational on safety (never happened to date) and WDC who rejected a similar application last time around (the only one of six) now had to decide. The 12/13 boat permanent moorings opposite the Millennium Wood would again produce an eyesore especially with all the ancillary equipment needed to support them and the proposed slipway. The issues of safety and site management during frequent flooding made worse by the railway bridge constriction were voiced. There were many errors and omissions in the application including the assumption that the public ferry, last run nearly 50 years ago, was still available. Part of the rationale behind the Millennium Wood was the uninterrupted views across the river flood plain. Access from the Jubilee Bridge should not be ignored and it was already the subject of an objection from WCC. David Burlingham referred to a Pershore Rural District Council Policy from the 1960's that would prevent such moorings at this site and many others on the Lower Avon between Tewkesbury and Evesham/Stratford and questioned whether this had been adopted by Wychavon DC when it took over. Chair Llewellyn concluded that it appeared that the meeting was well set against the relevant planning application and should exercise their right to object at WDC for which many had already. The Parish Council will be holding a site meeting with the planners prior to their submission which had been granted extra time to allow for the onsite visit.

### 3 Approval of the Minutes of the 2009 Annual Parish Meeting

Minutes had been distributed to all Councillors and copies were made available to those at the meeting. Cllr Day proposed, V/chair Southcott seconded and it was AGREED that these be signed by the Chair as a true record.

### 4 Matters Arising from the Minutes

As there were no matters arising from the 2009 minutes the meeting continued.

### 5 Approval of the Receipts and Payments Account for the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010(P)

Copies had been distributed to all Councillors and were made available to those at the meeting. Cllr Carter proposed, Neil Richardson seconded and it was AGREED that the Receipts and Payments account be approved and were duly signed off by the Chair and RFO.

### 6. Chair's Report on the Past Year

- 1) 95% attendance at council meetings over the previous 12 months.
- 2) Carol Worthington had resigned from the council and Dr M Ounsted had been co-opted.
- 3) Thanks were due to WCC Cllr Liz Eyre and WDC Cllr Tom McDonald for their regular attendances, assiduous work for the parish and their subsequent reports on activities at County and District levels respectively.
- 4) Thanks were due in particular to V/chair Southcott for the busiest year in a long time on Planning matters and also Cllr Day for his activities on the still awaited Lenches wind farm application for which the Parish Council had invested some of its funds on early studies.

- 5) The Parish Plan had been adopted by WDC for addition to its evidential materials when considering local planning applications for which the hard works of Diane Brown and Margaret Hawkins were recognised with thanks.
- 6) Finally thanks are due to all my fellow councillors and clerk for their time and effort over the past year.
- 7) The Parish Council has decided to invest up to £4000 in providing a speed activated indicator light which will be alternatively placed to the north of the village centre and the southern entrance to the village after due cooperation and approval from WCC in order to help control traffic on the 'Western Bypass of Evesham'. It is expected that this should be operational within twelve months.

7. Strategic Issues – Parish Plan & Conservation

This item was bypassed due to the subject having been dealt with many times in the rest of the meeting.

8. Any Other Business

The following matters were brought to the attention of the meeting: -

- Mill Bank near misses particularly with the size of the buses and tractors were raised with the issue being perceived as someone will have to be seriously injured or killed before it is fully address. However at the request of Cllr Carter for 'what is the solution there which is acceptable to the majority?' it is difficult to see. Avon Cottage reported that it had claimed seven times for damage to the building over the past year. David Hawkins requested that the police visit the affected properties and escalate the problem to their superiors.
- Other traffic issues raised included difficulty in joining the Station Road from Fladbury Villas and the 'Give Way' sign on the A44 should be made a 'Stop' sign.
- George Ellis raised the issue of the state or rather apparent disappearance of the Porters Path and also the dog mess left there. Attempts are being made with the glasshouse developers, Network Rail and the Probation Services to try and reverse the decline. A possible approach to other agencies for funding to repair/restore is being investigated.
- Angela Day requested the latest crime figures to update the previous two years of 19 and 14 respectively. PC Stuart Toms replied that this had shot up to 27 with the main issue being theft from vehicles mainly due to owners leaving valuables on display and these thefts are now more lucrative than burglaries and also appear to be treated less harshly by the courts.
- Thanks were due to Cllr Carter for his Neighbourhood Watch activities cascading messages on local crime and also to PC Stuart Toms and CSO Simon Hall for their attention to the village.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 9.30pm