

Rous Lench and Radford Parish.

Draft minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 21st March 2011 at 7.35 pm in Rous Lench Village Hall.

Present: Mr. C. Dudley (Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council), Mrs. N. Holland (Clerk to the Parish Council), District Cllrs. Mrs. Steel, Mr. Lee and 10 parishioners.

1. Welcome – the Vice-Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting,

2. Apologies: County Cllr. Mr. Holt, Mr. J. Whitfield, Mr. P. Levy, Ms A. Freer and Mr. D. Knight.

3. Minutes: of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 15th March 2010 were amended to show that County Cllr. Mr. Holt was not present and then signed as a true and accurate record.

4. Matters arising: Nil.

5. Parish Council – The Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council, Mr. Dudley gave the following report:

The Parish Council has held 6 full meetings and 1 additional meeting for planning.

During the year the Council has discussed a number of topics including the parking along Radford Road in Rous Lench, which I believe has now been resolved.

The Council are also in discussion with the 'Safer Roads Partnership' to discuss ways in which we could deal with speeding issues through Rous Lench and Radford; we have been unable to make any progress with traffic calming. The Police have carried out a number of speed checks with the use of speed guns.

A number of Councillors attended training sessions on dealing with planning applications given by the District Council in May 2010.

David Knight was appointed as the Parish Paths Warden, a position held for many years by Mary Jones. I would like to thank David for taking on this role. As I am sure you all know Mary has done an excellent job over the years and has regularly walked all of the paths and undertaken any maintenance necessary. I along with the rest of the Councillors would like to offer our sincerest thanks to her for loyal service to the post.

The Council has retained the Parish Lengthsman who continues to keep the road sides in good order. If anyone is aware of any work that needs doing contact a Parish Councillor or the Clerk and it will be attended to.

After months of speculation the planning application for the Wind Farm was heard by the District Council. I am sure you are all aware the application was refused. I have to say I am glad it is over because it has divided villages and led to a number of heated exchanges so hopefully the area can return to a tranquil setting.

Finally the local elections are looming so if anybody is interested in being a Councillor nomination forms are available for the Clerk.

6. Police report: No report.

7. Parish Paths Warden: Mrs. Knight gave a report on behalf of Mr. Knight stating that over the spring/summer he will be starting to trim back summer vegetation growth. Way markers keep going missing from the Grove Farm area towards Knighton. The Countryside Access Officer has been informed.

8. Church Lench First School: Mrs. Freer sent her apologies with a short message to say that the numbers of pupils in the School has increased. The September intake already has 13 pupils registered. Parking outside the School is now much safer for the pupils since the introduction of 'School Keep Clear' road markings.

9. County and Dist. Cllrs. reports:

Dist. Cllr. Mrs. Steel reported:

- Wychavon District Council Tax has not increased. The garden waste collection cost will be increased.
- Public toilets will be closed after 6pm.
- Wind Farm application was refused but the applicant has a period of six months to appeal.
- On the 4th August a 'Fun & Sports' Day will be held in Inkberrow for all children in the ward. She will

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provide posters to advertise the event.

Dist. Cllr. Mr. Lee reported:

- Wychavon District Council is a member of the Rural Services Network which safeguards issues in rural areas. Many public bodies and charities are members.
- Wychavon District Council has been named as the top Council in the whole country.
- The District Council are installing solar panels on the south facing roof at the Civic Centre.
- Severn Trent Water is having a presentation to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee which may interest rural parishes. All members are invited to attend on the 5th April at 6.15pm.

10. Village Hall Committee report: no report.

11. Parochial Church Council: Mrs Wild gave a report on behalf of the Parochial Church Council:

Good productive year which enabled the Parochial Church Council to pay £8,000 towards the Diocese.

Mrs. Fairs from Harvington Parochial Church Council gave a talk on ways they faced financial problems. A Committee was formed and a letter sent out to the Parish requesting help. Excellent result enabling the 'Parish Share' to be paid in full. The Village Hall Committee also donated money from their Murder Mystery evening. Services were cancelled due to snow in December.

Every third Wednesday coffee mornings are held which are free. Raise money through raffles which has gone towards the Village Hall heating costs.

Family services at the Church are well attended.

The piano is being repaired and the Parochial Church Council is now looking to purchase an electronic keyboard.

Mrs. Wild wished to thank all parishioners for their kind support.

12. Matters raised by Parishioners:

Q. Could a Litter Bin be sited by the Walkers Notice Board? Parish Council to discuss at their next meeting.

Q. Has there been any further progress on speeding in the Parish?

A. Police have carried out speed checks. The Parish Council has asked the 'Safer Roads Partnership' to assess the area to see if they can help reduce the speeding traffic on the roads. They are due to carry out speeding checks shortly.

Q. Would it be possible to have a dog waste bin?

A. The Parish Council would discuss this at their next meeting.

The Chairman thanked all the speakers and parishioners' for attending.

Meeting declared closed at 8.15 pm.