

Tutnall & Cobley Parish Council

MINUTES of the ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY of TUTNALL & COBLEY PARISH
Held on Tuesday 9 May 2017 in the Community Hall, Tardebigge

1 **WELCOME:** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 10 May 2016**

The minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 10 May 2016 were approved.

Proposed: Cllr Denyer; Seconded: Cllr Ryan; All in Agreement

3 **COMMENTS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

None

4 **ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN:**

The Chairman stated that the Parish Council had met on the dates set, and deliberated the topics brought to the committee. He advised that some progress had been made with the two main projects. Namely facilitating the refurbishment of the railings on Lord Plymouth grave in Tardebigge Church yard and the reinstatement of the Wind Pump on Cobley Hill. The Parish Council had also supported the Community hall, assisting with the repairs to the carpark.

He advised that the recurring topic - the proposed housing development on the land west of Foxlydiate, though not fully supported, seemed to be going ahead. He added that Lorraine Griffiths had settled into the role of as Parish Clerk very well, with all its challenges.

5 **ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE TARDEBIGGE COMMUNITY HALL REPRESENTATIVE:** Cllr Denyer stated that the Tardebigge Community Hall now had a solid Committee. Cllr Ryan will be voted in as a full member at the June meeting. She advised that the drive and side entrance had been tarmaced this year, the hall also had regular users every night and regular functions at weekends. The Chairman had resigned but a new one had been appointed. A new Vice-Chairman would now be required.

6 **ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE FOOTPATH WARDEN:** The Footpath Warden was not able to attend but he sent the following report:

2016 was a year of little progress on the footpath network . Due to various reasons, some beyond our control, we were unable to install the signposts that had been supplied. A possible reason is that the way we receive funds, to a County Council specified rate, which provides little incentive to our contractors to prioritise our work with their other activities. Another factor is a disincentive is the over rigid PPP (P3) implementation. In that if the warden installs the posts or carries out work for no personal payment, the amount specified is not available to the Parish council, where it will be under the strict financial control exercised by the Clerk and councillors. This money can then be used to make further improvements in footpaths that were either, not scheduled 12 months previously, or have become a higher priority task for parishioners or other users of our footpath network.

The parish suffered also from the inactivity of the county council area officer, who refused to act on several matters when assistance was requested. This resulted in one footpath being blocked for several months. The same problem will arise this year unless the County Council officers oblige land users to make adequate provision when crops are grown over a path, as they are required to do by law. During the year we have carried out vegetation clearance. Maintenance to gates and stiles however is not authorised as it is the responsibility of the land user so to do. In the past we have done this work

within a short time frame and at modest cost to the Parish council. In general we have a tiny amount of offered funding from the county council which is ring fenced for particular tasks, 12 months ahead. This means we cannot respond to a maintenance task that may arise during the year until it is then brought into the following year's schedule, for which agreement is sought from the county council. It is hoped that 2017 will be a better year.

- 7 **ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE TREE WARDEN & CONSERVATION OFFICER:** Cllr Ryan stated that last year's trees were growing and that he had also planted some more this year. He is looking at obtaining greater Conservation protection from County Council.
- 8 **ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE CHARITIES:** Cllr Pengelly stated that the Charities representatives were continuing to monitor expenditure, for which there are often some personal, sensitive issues. Often money is approved by the Charities Committee but representatives on the Committee do not always know the circumstances. Cllr Wheeler-Vine asks questions to ascertain what the money is being paid out for. All money needs to be accounted for, confidentiality should be assured.
- 9 **ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE EDITOR OF THE PARISH NEWSLETTER:** Cllr Denyer stated that the Clerk had found a new printer, which had turned out to be a success. The colours will be tweaked for the next one, to ensure readability by everyone. She thanked the Clerk for her hard work.
- 10 **ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR:**
No report
- 11 **ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR:**
No report
- 12 **REPORT FROM ANY OTHER PARISH REPRESENTATIVES:**
No report
- 13 **COMMENTS FROM THE CLERK:**
The Clerk reported that she had not received any complaints during the year.
- 14 **DISCUSS: Any Other Issues Appertaining to and Affecting the Parish:**
None
- 15 **DATE OF THE NEXT PARISH ASSEMBLY:**
The date of the next Annual Parish Assembly is to be arranged 8 May 2018.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

Signed: Chairman

Date: 8 May 2018