

Tutnall & Cobley Parish Council

MINUTES of the ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY of TUTNALL & COBLEY PARISH

Held at 7pm on Tuesday 8 May 2018 in the Community Hall, Tardebigge

Present: Cllr M Pengelly, Cllr M Ryan, Cllr K Tolley, Cllr A Wheeler-Vine, Cllr L Denyer, Cllr P Whittaker, County Cllr K Taylor

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

2 **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 9 May 2017**

The minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 9 May 2017 were approved.

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

3 **COMMENTS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

None

4 **ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN:**

The Chairman presented his report, stating that there had been 11 meetings in the year. He advised that the situation regarding the railings at Plymouth House had been resolved. He also mentioned the progress with the windpump and the housing development at Foxlidiat.

5 **ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE TARDEBIGGE COMMUNITY HALL REPRESENTATIVE:**

Cllr Denyer stated that the hall was doing extremely well with bookings. The pathway and entrance had been tarmacked. Cllr Denyer added that the Committee was very positive and met quarterly. Hedge laying had been carried out in March. New tables and trollies had been supplied and the inside of the hall had been painted. There were also new signs in the car park and a sign over the main door. Forward plans are to replace the sheds at the back and lighting. The Chairman thanked the Community Hall Representative for her report. Cllr Denyer thanked County Councillor Taylor for funding for tarmacking the footpath and Cllr Whittaker for funding towards the drive and tables.

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

1. The public footpaths of the parish are in reasonable condition with all being passable*. Inspections are being carried out as often as possible and no major problems or obstructions exist.

2. Of the 3 emails received from the area officer at WCC the most recent was general email sent in January 2018 to all wardens indicate the problem with little money being available to carry out work to the network and what funds there are being used to oversee administration, compliance and legislation. Part of that email is reproduced below:

"Currently we are still waiting for the results of Ringway (Worcestershire Highways contractor) on installing signposts until this is completed in Drakes Broughton Parish we are not going to be doing anymore Signpost replacements at either PPW level or via our preferred contractors due to legislation and compliance requirements, not to mention the H&S issues. So please do not ask for any Signposts or chevrons (small Plastic markers) as I cannot supply them to you anymore sorry. My advice is make sure the gate or Sile is visible (clear of veg) and at the minimum a waymark disc can be seen where possible."

WCC will be employing an Assistant for the Area officer.

Work done

3. No major projects have been undertaken this year however the Network Rail electrification project has caused the **closure** of the footpath (505) to Linthurst Newtown across the Lickey Incline from the golf course to Blackwell Road, despite much local opposition. A Gate has been provided for the golf course footpath (505, 501) from Blackwell road. Six Signposts have been erected

4. In addition to attending council meetings, in Tutnall and Blackwell the PFW worked approximately 40 hours and traveled 320 miles for the inspection, making reports to WCC and carrying out minor clearance works.

Finance

5. Under the Parish Paths Partnership (PPP) the parish is invited to apply for prior approval of certain tasks to be carried out, which we can now use the Parish Lengthsman (Who also carries out works to a high standard for the Parish Council on roadside drainage and ditches, Sign posts, and maintains the green at Broad Green. The amount of money available is around £200 and in the personal view of the writer, does not justify the time spent by councillors and the Clerk in making of that application when employing salaried officers and their assistants at WCC.

Future work

6. This coming year will be a challenge as WCC are continuing to prevent the wardens making repairs to gates and stiles as it legally is the responsibility of the land user or owner. Pragmatically it is easier for the warden to supply a piece of timber or other material from stock than to wait indefinitely for the work to be done by that user or owner. In addition, the enforcement action in support to the warden which is required when crops are grown along the line of a path, and the path not reinstated, has not been forthcoming for the last 2 years. This is a great disappointment.

7 If any member of the electorate has an urgent requirement for a stile to be replaced or wishes to assist in this valuable work, please contact any councillor or the Footpath Warden on 0771 2223371 or 01527 877946.

- 7 **ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE TREE WARDEN & CONSERVATION OFFICER:** Cllr Ryan stated that he was conserving the trees and 160 more trees have been planted up the hill from the Wharf.
- 8 **ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE CHARITIES:** Cllr Pengelly stated that the two charities would be amalgamated and the Charities Committee were looking at how to expand ways to give out money. Looking to push the boundaries. Everything was in control.
- 9 **ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE EDITOR OF THE PARISH NEWSLETTER:** Cllr Denyer stated that the general consensus was that the newsletter was a great success. The format would be tweaked for next year and more variable content would be included. Content would be shared via Dropbox, Cllr Ryan to share with the Councillors.
- 10 **ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR:** Cllr Whittaker stated that he had been attending various meetings and the latest had been about providing around 7000+ houses in Bromsgrove district. He will receive a new map and the parish can have a think about where some of those houses could be built. National Policy Framework at least 20% of houses should be on area of half a hectare, so Councillors should think about areas of half a hectare for housing. Cllr Taylor stated that there would be a Consultation document in July.

- 11 **ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR:** Cllr Taylor stated he had helped out with funds for tarmacking of the Community Hall and he had also helped with the Big breakfast at one of the schools and the hockey club. Cllr Denyer mentioned that the nursery needed a new shed, Cllr Taylor stated that she should advise the nursery to contact him regarding this. Just outside the parish there might be some speed checking.
- 12 **REPORT FROM ANY OTHER PARISH REPRESENTATIVES:** None.
- 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:**
Planning for 7000+ extra houses within the district.
- 15 **DATE OF THE NEXT PARISH ASSEMBLY:**
The date of the next Annual Parish Assembly is to be arranged 14 May 2019.

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

Signed: Chairman

Date: 14 May 2019