

## **Berrow Parish Annual Meeting**

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at 7.30 pm at Berrow & Pendock Village Hall.

Present: 7 Members of the Parish and the Clerk

- 1. Apologies:** There were no apologies for absence.
- 2. Minutes:** The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> May 2015 were confirmed as correct and signed by the Chairman of the meeting.
- 3. Chairman's Report:** After last year's local elections we were two Councillors short. Our clerk asked Paul and Anne Lewis if they would serve on our Council, their answer was yes and were subsequently co-opted on the Council at our May meeting last year.

At last the repairs to the M50 Horse Bridge were finished, and the A438 Ledbury to Tewkesbury road was opened again in August after being closed for eleven months.

The low bridge at Whiteleaved Oak has now got a "low bridge" sign erected at the Bromesberrow end after many requests to Gloucestershire Highways, the trouble was many high vehicles were using SATNAV and coming up from Bromsberrow and finding the bridge too low to get under.

Some dog fouling on the green and flower bed was reported, now a "No Fouling" sign has been erected and as far as I know it seems to have done the job.

Back in August we had many complaints about cycle races through the parish, whereby they were forcing horse riders and cars off the road. The cycle race was traced to Gloucester City Racing Club. After much discussion about the inadequacies of the current law it was agreed that in future any cycle races in the county should now notify the parishes they are going through and provide the police with a full risk assessment prior to permission being granted to hold the race.

Now the work done by Severn Trent Water in Chase End Street is finished there was a problem with the culver that runs under the field entrance and drive to Stow House and was causing problems as it was a joint ownership responsibility. With the help of the Drainage Compliance Officer the issue has now been sorted.

There were a number of planning applications, but again none were contentious, and were passed by this council.

The new toilets which have facilities for the disabled have been finished and are now open in the Village Hall. I must say they have been done to a very high standard and a great addition to our hall which I hope will attract people to hold their events in this very nice venue.

I should like to thank Jonathan Gros and his assistant Geoff Burrows for the excellent job they have made and not forgetting our clerk, Judy Johnstone who made a very good project manager.

The new Village Hall Management committee now consists of two representatives from Berrow and Pendock parish Councils together with two representatives from the PCC. The two members from this Council are Cllrs Geoff Shail and Paul Lewis.

- 4. Statement of Accounts:** The Finance Officer presented the Statement of Accounts for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 which showed a surplus for the year of £1135.04. Receipts were up on the previous year because of the redemption of Consolidated Stocks £11.30 and the VAT recoverable from the legal fees paid in the previous year of £394.65. Expenditure was in line with budget therefore there was sufficient funds in the bank to repay the loan from Pendock Parish Council by its due date of 1<sup>st</sup> June 2016.
- 5. Berrow & Pendock Village Hall Report:** The Council representative on the Management Committee re-iterated the Chairman's report that the toilets were now complete at a cost of £15,000 and that there were a number of parties booked this year due entirely to having respectable toilet facilities. Also the faulty windows had been replaced and new fire extinguishers purchased. A survey of the roof identified some repair work to be done but fund raising was not easy. A bingo night raised £190 but due to lack of support the Plant Fair had to be cancelled.
- 6. Berrow Charities Report:** It was reported that the Annual Returns and Financial Statements had yet to be filed with the Charities Commission for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016. Following two meetings of the Trustees it was decided that no distribution be made along previous lines but that the Trustees would meet again before Christmas and review the possibility of making a distribution that more

specifically met the needs of the Charities. There was £1112.57 in the bank at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

**7. Any Other Business:** There was no further business.

The meeting closed at 7.50 pm.