**Pendock Parish Annual Meeting**

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 7th May 2013 at 7.00 pm at Pendock Primary School.

Present: 5 Members of the Parish

District Councillor Behan

Sally McPherson Local Police Officer

1. **Apologies:**  Apologies were received from John Davison, Barry Baker and Rosemary Philipson-Stow – Parish Councillors, and Graham Chick a member of the Parish.
2. **Minutes:** The minutes of the Parish meeting of 16th May 2012 were confirmed as correct and signed by the Chairman of the meeting.
3. **Statement of Accounts:** The Finance Officer presented the Statement of Accounts for the year to 31st March 2013 which showed a surplus for the year amounting to £2,550. It was reported that this was due to the confusion over the Single Farm Payment which had not been received in 2011/12, had been sorted and subsequently paid together with the Single Farm Payment for 2012/13. Many thanks to the efforts of Julie Churchill in persevering over the claim.

Legal costs of £107 were the on-going costs relating to the renewal of the Berrow & Pendock Village Hall, and the charge of £118 for the Lengthsman was, and has now been refunded by Worcestershire County Council.

1. **Chairman’s Report:** There had been many changes through the year. Robin Williams started the year as Chairman, and then due to pressures of work resigned along with Andrea Embley and we welcomed two new Councillors, Sarah Noble and John Davison. In July we introduced a lengthsman to the Parish – he was able to work some 14 days keeping the roadways clear.

We are pursuing a Parish Plan with help from Richard Timney and have identified a prime need of speedier broadband. We have established with the help of Community First and MHDC an office facility at the village shop, and Richard is also helping to rejuvenate the Village Hall Committee.

The Chairman thanked all who had help in making it such a successful year.

1. **District Councillor’s Report:** This year, MHDC extended its review on Rural Access to try and find a better way of bringing services and provisions to people living in more isolated communities. Karen Humphries from Community First was engaged by the District to find ways of doing this. From her survey in Longdon Ward it was decided that communication was a key priority and one where a difference could be made to a greater number of people. The District Council allocated £500 to each Parish Council to use to promote communications. South Worcestershire College offered old laptops and Karen offered to help with any interest expressed for grants for Broadband, hall repairs or community ventures.

Following on from this has been a greater use of the village store in Pendock, a new printer for the Bushley magazine, and some new notice boards in the Ward. The mobile library is now to be replaced with a new mobile library which can bring more services to rural communities (Job Centre+, CAB, Health checks, etc.)

The District Council won a bid from Central Government to keep a weekly black sack collection. The new directive from the European Union tasked all Councils to collect the four waste streams by 2015. As Malvern Hills was unable to collect glass in a plastic sack the service for recycling has changed to a fortnightly wheeled bin collection. It is hoped that this will make recycling much easier for residents.

We are in the process of reviewing leisure provision. The District Council has ownership of various sports and leisure facilities and we need to know if the level of provision is right for our residents. The Strategic review has also finally been completed and will provide the foundation for growth in the district. It is important that the services provided match the needs of our residents.

1. **Local Police Report:** PCSO Sally McPherson reported that the Upton on Severn Office was going to remain open, and they would be in a position to circulate crime figures to the parishes on a monthly basis.

In the past year there had been one burglary from a shed, a theft of a lawnmower and 4 road accidents (none of which caused injury to persons) within the parish. It was however noted that there was a major problem with speeding which was borne out by the figures coming from the VAS.

The area Trading Standards had reported their concerns about persons approaching householders offering roof repairs and parishioners should be on their guard.

Following on from the success of last year’s Young Citizens Award, the Police were looking for any suitable candidate under 18 – nominations would be welcome.

She reported that the Malvern response team was moving to Ledbury, and she was looking forward to representing the Police at the School Fete where she will be able to offer security advice to householders.

1. **Pendock Primary School:** A written report had been provided by the Head teacher – Sally Lyndon-Chance.

The school continues to go from strength to strength. We have enjoyed a very busy and successful year.

Successes have included:-

* Establishing a Global Partnership link with Chamwino B Primary School in Morogoro, Tanzania. To support this development we applied for and received a grant from the British Council. Mrs Evans and Miss Gaffiero went to visit our partner school in July 2012. Whilst there they had an opportunity to learn about life in Tanzania and were able to share teaching ideas and approaches with the teachers. In November two teachers from our partnership school came to Pendock. They had an opportunity to learn about our culture and to share more ideas and practices with our teachers. The children of Pendock benefited from the experience greatly and very much enjoyed the opportunity to learn African dance, music and Kiswahili taught by our visitors. At the end of the visit we held an exhibition where parents could come and see the children perform and had an opportunity to view the wonderful resources that our partners had brought for us. During the time that our visitors were with us we also held a Tea for Tanzania tea Party. This was open to governors, parents and members of the local community. As a result of our work in this area we have received a foundation level International School Award from the British Council for introducing Internationalism.
* Fitting solar panels to the school roof to support learning about sustainability; reduce our carbon footprint and to reduce energy costs for the school. The Chair of Friends of Pendock, Mechteld Blake, has led this project with great ambition, determination and success. In order to raise funds for the installation we signed up for the Solar Schools project run by 10:10. The organisation gave us excellent advice and support for fundraising ideas at no costs. As a result we have raised over £10,000 since September 23012 and the Solar Panels were fitted on the weekend of 6th may 2013.

After visiting our school earlier in the year in connection with our Solar Schools project and our link with Chamwino B in Tanzania, Harriet Baldwin, MP for West Worcestershire praised our school for our fundraising efforts and said …..”Pendock Primary School is a wonderfully run school in a gorgeous part of the countryside, I was impressed at how happy and engaged the pupils are ….. The solar panel project is just another example of how the community works together to help improve its facilities, not just for the pupils, but also the village.”

* Holding the Pendock Spring Chicken Run. This event included a 1k, 5k and 10k run. We had over 300 competitors across the three distances. It was organized by Liz Tillott (Parent and Governor), Nigel Tillott (Parent), Jo Evans (Teacher) and Paul Evans (Teacher’s husband). This was a wonderful event where members of the local community and people from further afield came and enjoyed the opportunity to “Run Pendock” and take in all those wonderful views. We are very grateful to Julie Churchill and the Philipson-Stow family for allowing access to their land.
* The children’s toilet refurbishment. The children’s toilets have been refurbished to an excellent standard. Popular opinion is that we now have the best children’s toilets in the local area.
* Excellent Year 6 SATs results. We focus on providing the highest standards of teaching and learning possible and our SATs results reflect this.

Currently we have 42 children on roll. We are looking forward to welcoming four children to Reception in September and two new children to year 4 after this half term break.

1. **Berrow & Pendock Village Hall Committee:** The Treasurer reported that the new Committee had had its first meeting. It was preparing Terms of Reference and was hopeful that a new lease could be agreed upon as soon as possible so that an application for grant to refurbish the toilets could be sought as it was felt by the committee that this was a task that needed to be undertaken urgently. The new committee was enthusiastic to promote the hall and was very grateful to Richard Timney who had contributed so much of his time and skills to helping them.
2. **Pendock Moors:**  It was reported that The Moors had been let again this year for £655 from the period 1st May to 31st October 2013. All funds received from The Moors were for the benefit of the whole Parish.
3. **Any Other Business:** There was no further business.

The meeting closed at 7.25pm.