

Minutes of the meeting of Belbroughton and Fairfield Parish Council Agricultural Holdings Committee held on 2nd November 2015 in the Jubilee Room Belbroughton Recreation Centre.

Present: Councillors A Hood, T Jones, P Margetts, Dr R Morgan, and D Roberts.
In attendance: John Farrell (Clerk).

365/15 Appointment of Chairman

Cllr. Hood was elected as chairman of the Committee.

366/15 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from each co-opted members A Ince and M Rees.

367/15 Declarations of interest. None. **368/15 Dispensations.** None requested.

369/14 Minutes of previous meeting

The Minutes of the meeting on 6th October 2014 were approved and the chairman signed the minute book.

370/14 Farmland Walks

The Committee noted that the farm walk had been undertaken on the 8th October over the Wildmoor land. A further walk would be arranged before the end of the year to visit the Stoneybridge farms. The Committee agreed to hold the 2016 farm walks shortly prior to the next Committee meeting which would be summoned for 18th July 2016. This meeting would consider the renewal terms for the Farm Business Tenancies from 30th Sept 2017.

Action: The Chairman to select precise dates for farm walks

371/14 Land Security

The Committee noted that there were a number of entrances that should have consideration for improved security from illegal incursions. It agreed to begin discussions with the tenants on possible solutions and request that the full Council considers the costs of these.

Action: the clerk to contact the relevant tenants.

372/14 Any other Agricultural Holdings items

Cllr. Hood advised that the track between the holdings at Stoneybridge farm should be assessed for possible improvements due to damage caused by heavy farm vehicles.

Action: The proposed farm walk by due by 31/12/2016 to assess.

Cllr. Margetts requested that digitalised maps are produced to more easily differentiate the holdings.

Action: the clerk to arrange to purchase maps.

Cllr. Margetts requested that a future agenda should consider the adoption of an ethical farming policy and that the tenants could be asked to adhere to such policy if adopted.

The meeting closed at 7.25 pm.

Signed.....Chairman