

## **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 17 MAY 2007 AT 7.00PM**

The following Councillors were in attendance: Cllr J Parsons (Chairman), Cllr J Catterall, Cllr Mrs G Parsons, Cllr C Redpath. Also in attendance Cllr Tony Hicks (County) and Mrs D Cook (Clerk), Derrick Ind and Dr Jane Stimpson school governors.

### **1. APOLOGIES**

Cllr Mrs C Mitchell, Cllr Ms A Beszant, Cllr T Slater

### **2. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 18TH MAY 2006**

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday, 18 May 2006 were agreed and signed.

### **3. MATTERS ARISING NOT INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA**

Village Hall – see under public questions.

B4014 to Nailsworth – see under public questions

### **4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman welcomed Cllr Hicks, County Council Cabinet Member, to the meeting along with Derrick Ind (Chair of Governors) and Dr Jane Stimpson (School Governor)

The Chairman's report is attached.

### **5. FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

The Clerk gave the balance at the bank as £16,943 at the end of March (year end) and £27,079 as at the end of April ( following receipt of the precept). The council had now moved into its second year of saving a reserve fund and £2000 had now been put aside. Various grants had been made to local groups in the last year.

### **6. AVENING PARISH PLAN – Cllr Mrs G Parsons**

Cllr Mrs G Parsons advised that gradually things had been addressed on the parish plan action plan. The council would be having a stall at the fete to carry out some public consultation to see if the action plan we were still following was still relevant to residents and also to discover what new the new issues are. More volunteers were needed to carry out the tasks in the plan.

### **7. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

#### Village Hall

Derrick Ind and Dr Jane Stimpson raised questions about the progress of the handover of the hall. They raised concerns on behalf of the school that the hall is not fit for purpose. The school contributes the largest amount of money to the hall as it is used by the school on a daily basis. Both the school and the County Education Department have money that they can put in for refurbishment (this required the security of a lease as discussed in previous meetings). The school is worried about future use of the hall. The main hall floor is below standard causing children to get splinters whilst doing PE. There were also problems with the stage, heating system and roof leaking. The school was at the stage where they may make the decision not to use the hall in the future.

The school mentioned that a person in the village has been paid a small amount by Clean and Shine to come in and clean the hall at the weekends.

The school were still keen to work in partnership to overcome the hall problems.

Cllr J Parsons advised that the current hall management committee had found it difficult to find / recruit additional Trustees to effect a handover and until such times as this happens the Council cannot proceed. The current situation was that Cllr Ms C Mitchell had been attempting to assist with the details of a handover liaising between the charities commission, current management committee and reporting back to the Council. She had advised that the current management committee would hand over to 2 new volunteers (who should not be councillors according to the advice they received from the charities commission) at the last meeting. Cllr Ms C Mitchell had just advised Cllr J Parsons

that she had found 2 volunteers who should be in a position to take over at the end of May/early June. The keys would then be handled through the Post Office.

The council would then offer its help again and would put up councillors to be co-opted onto the management committee (as set out in the constitution document for the charity). It would then be up to the new committee to further strengthen the membership.

The council stated that they did not want the school to lose the use of the hall through inadequate facilities and were keen to still work in partnership with the school to achieve this. Although the council held the legal title to the hall they had no rights to interfere with the running of the committee. Their job was to hold the title deeds and act as directed by the management committee with regards the title deeds, unless they felt the committee were in breach of trust (advice from GAPTIC).

All parties felt the last few months had been unsatisfactory and were looking forward to working in partnership with the new management committee when they were appointed.

#### Highways Issues

Various questions were put to Cllr T Hicks:

Cats eyes on the Tetbury Road – most of the cats eyes had been taken out. Cllr T Hicks advised there was a plan to resurface the road and felt that this work was preparation for the resurfacing. It was also noted that the cats eyes were missing on Hampton Hill in places. Cllr Hicks would look into this.

The current situation with the B4014 to Nailsworth – Cllr Hicks explained that the whole of the valley side was unstable. The build at Longfords Mill upset the road drainage, but has now been stopped. The developers have underpinned what they took out. There were 3 subsidence problems – 1. above the road (now stable), 2. in the road (has nearly stabilised) 3. under the road (now stable). They are now waiting for the new channels of root patterns and water to stabilise. It will be left until 2008 and checked again. The county appreciated the inconvenience on the road, especially with the 3 sets of traffic lights at present. The traffic lights are likely to be linked to help traffic flow. It was also suggested that the sequence of lights at Longfords Mill could be changed to being on green and only going red when traffic comes up the road from Longfords Mill.

Trees overhanging the queuing traffic at Longfords Mill – someone has lopped the trees back after this was reported by the parish council. However it was not known whose trees they actually were. There was some discussion that it may have been the county (taken over by them in the 1960s). It was raised that one tree is only still standing because it was leaning on another tree. Cllr T Hicks will look into it.

The 7.5tonne weight limit and 20mph speed limit - will remain in force until the B4014 is resurfaced and may then be taken away. It will not be necessary to keep the weight limit in order to prevent further subsidence. Whilst concern was noted about lorries passing through villages a recent report indicated that other areas had far heavier traffic flows than Avening. However Avening is in the AONB and there may be scope for trying to get operators to try and avoid the area.

Footpath to Greenway Head – it was asked whether this would be a possibility as there is currently only a grass verge leading to the field used as a football pitch. It was reported that most people go by car anyway so it may not be needed. It would be left with the PC to consider further.

Cllr T Hicks referred to a report setting out county spending and the county plan. (see attached)

#### **8. CLOSE OF MEETING**

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8 pm