

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 13th MAY 2009 AT 7.30PM

The following Councillors were in attendance: Cllr J Parsons (Chairman), Cllr M Williamson (Vice Chairman) Cllr J Catterall, Cllr T Slater, Cllr Mrs G Parsons, Cllr Mrs E Oliver, Cllr Mrs C Naish, Cllr Mrs C Mitchell. Also in attendance Cllr Tony Hicks (County Councillor) and Mrs W Jennings (Clerk), Mr S Wheatley (Chair of Memorial Hall Management Committee), Mr P Hancock (APFA), Mr N Winkfield (APFA), PCSO Sue Fellows and PCSO Paul Hancock, Mrs A Glover (Playgroup), Mrs D Brown (Playgroup), Mr P Brown (Youth Club), Mr & Mrs T Beardsell.

1. APOLOGIES

None

2. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 15TH MAY 2008

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday, 15th May 2008 were agreed and signed.

3. MATTERS ARISING - None

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman welcomed Cllr T Hicks, County Council Cabinet Member, to the meeting along with Mr Wheatley, Mr Hancock, Mr Winkfield, Mrs A Glover, Mr & Mrs P Brown, the Police and Mr and Mrs Beardsell.

The main points covered were the village hall, crime and disorder, finance and highways.

The Chairman's report is attached **(1)**.

It was resolved to alter the Agenda at this point as representatives from the Playgroup, APFA and Youth Club were involved in a meeting at the school later on.

5. AVENING MEMORIAL HALL COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr Simon Wheatley reported that the Committee was still in place and was well attended, with more people prepared to get involved. Over the last year the Hall has been greatly improved through support from Gloucestershire County Council who has spent approx. £89,000 installing a new toilet block, internal refurbishment and repairs to the porch. Further work is likely to be carried out this summer including double glazed windows and heating. At the moment discussions are underway to reach agreement on a long term lease with GCC. Report attached. **(2)**

6. AVENING PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION REPORT

Mr Paul Hancock presented APFA's report. He mentioned that the Community Orchard has been completed and thanked the Parish Council for their support. An article had appeared in the Stroud News & Journal and the national Playing Field Association publication. The Flying Fox is very popular and a new turf protection membrane has been laid. The next project will be a cycle track and funding is already being sourced. Cllr. Jim Parsons suggested APFA should contact CDC for grants. Report attached **(3)**

7. AVENING PLAYGROUP REPORT

Mrs Andrea Glover stated that the academic year started off slowly as the low birth rate had meant fewer children and therefore their income had been seriously limited. 25 children had attended over different mornings and staff had taken a cut in their hours to compensate for reduced income. They had also reduced the age when children could join to 2½ years old. The Parish Council were thanked for the grant awarded to them.

Mrs Debbie Brown gave a general overview of how the playgroup operated advising that an OFSTED report in April was very complimentary. The majority of children attending are from within the

village and will then go on to the village school. The playgroup children enjoy outside visits and are encouraged to take part in village activities. Thanks were again given to the Parish Council for their support over the year. Cllr. Parsons congratulated the Playgroup on their OFSTED report.

8. AVENING YOUTH CLUB REPORT

Mr Paul Brown advised that the Youth Club aimed to attract children from 8 – 13 years and meet on a Tuesday evening in the Hall. Recently a number of new people have started and it is becoming more popular. The PCC help to support the Youth Club. A variety of activities are held including five a side football and last year they helped to sell ice cream at the Church Fete. There is very little for young people to do in the village and this is a way to keep them entertained and off the streets.

9. ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND CRIME REPORTS

Cllr. Jim Parsons stated that he had received a guarantee that the two PCSOs in the Tetbury area will be maintained in the future despite other cut backs. Their presence in the village has helped to reduce crime. The Neighbourhood Watch scheme has not been implemented due to lack of interest within the village despite the efforts of the Parish Council. Cllr. Mick Williamson reported on the success of the village crime survey and how it has raised awareness within the village. The SARA plan has highlighted the hot spots in the village where antisocial behaviour has occurred and the PCSOs are able to monitor these points.

10. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

County Cllr. Tony Hicks reported on the budget planned for the coming year. See report attached. (4).

On local matters the subsidence between Avening and Nailsworth has been caused by the valley becoming unstable and also a spring is adding to the problem. Various design options are being discussed to put things right and a total cost of 1.2 million has been set aside and will be implemented next Spring. After the wet and cold weather of the winter there are many pot holes and road surfaces which need to be repaired. The VAS signs are being installed in the village. Cllr Tony Slater commented on the HGV signs being too big but this is part of the strategy to stop large vehicles driving through small lanes and villages. Cllr Parsons thanked Tony Hicks for coming along to our Parish meeting.

11. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Clerk reported on the Council's financial year. See attached (5) .The Accounts are with our approved internal auditor at present. Major grants given this year were to the APFA, Playgroup and PCC. The Avening Walks brochure has been published and is selling well, particularly from the village shop. The bus shelter at Mays Lane is currently being installed with the aid of a grant from Gloucestershire County Council of £550 and an insurance claim totalling £950.

The chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed.