

MELBURY OSMOND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting - Monday 23rd June 2014

Venue: Village Hall

Date: 23rd June 2014

Time: 19:30

1. Apologies: Alex Bishop (police), John Fisher

Present:

Council: Jon Burden (Chairman), James Evans (Vice-Chairman), Paul Wells, Martin Smith, Charles Swallow, Peter Coverdale, Michael Kowalewski (Clerk)

Others: Michael Bevan (DCC councillor)

Parish Residents: A total of 20 residents attended the meeting

2. Previous Minutes: distributed, passed and signed

3. Matters arising:

A5 Notices. A request had been made for smaller sized notices on the Notice Board. People had found this difficult to comply with for major notices. Council to encourage smallest practical notices.

Cutting grass around Jubilee Oak. John Senior warmly thanked for carrying this out.

How £700 from Jubilee Committee was used by Village Hall. Paul Wells explained the money had been used for new stage lighting.

The state of the path around Pimperne. The path was not officially designated and therefore the Council had no powers but would inquire informally.

Maintenance of The Street around Plash. James had taken up the matter with Highways and some maintenance had been done. The poor state of the drain by the bridge near the stream was pointed out and James agreed to contact Highways.

4. Chairman's Report:

Jon Burden gave his annual chairman's report (enclosed). He announced that sadly John Fisher had had to resign from the Council on health grounds and there was now a vacancy. He expressed his thanks and appreciation of John's support in the Council and hoped John would return when his health improved. He welcomed Charles Swallow as a new member in place of Geraldine Peach.

The Chairman also drew attention to the Ask Dorset campaign by the County Council and invited those interested to seek more information from the Clerk. (See attached copy of report).

5. Public Questions: None

6. Village Reports:

Garden and Show Society – John Forrest pleaded for a new Chairman as he had to stand down and no successor had come forward. Report enclosed.

WI – Gill Bond unable to attend.

Village Hall – Barbara Wain. Coffee mornings had been a good fundraiser. The next project was a new kitchen – cheers all round. Report enclosed.

Transport – David Courage unable to attend – his report read out by Chairman. David hoped for a replacement as he was retiring. There are no more Saturday buses but transport to Sherborne was still available. Report enclosed

Homewatch – David Courage’s report read out by Chairman. No crime but vigilance requested (Report enclosed).

Alex Bishop sent e-mail (enclosed) saying no crime had been reported in Melbury but mentioned “Nottingham Knocker” – a young person selling door-to-door and asked residents to still be vigilant and report any suspicious activity.

Friends of St. Osmond’s – Peter Preston read out annual report delivered to all residents. Report enclosed.

United Charities –Wendy Wheeler read out report prepared by Martin Eastment. Charity Commissioners had refused to let Charity and its five subsidiaries be dissolved. Rt Hon Charlotte Townsend had offered the services of her lawyers to wind up Charity according to Commission’s protocols and this help would be requested. Report enclosed.

Tennis Club –Ros Senior read the report and repeated plea for new members as the club was not viable with its current small membership (30). Muriel Williams thanked for her Quiz, which had netted £223, and to the Parish Council for continuing to pay insurance. Roger Caesley thanked for his maintenance efforts. Report enclosed.

7. AOB:

Request repeated for smaller (A5) notices on Notice Board.

Request that APM dates be set well in advance and notified in Chimes- Clerk to implement

State of telephone kiosk noted. BT would now only act if actually notified. Paul Wells suggested that residents use the phone box to ring a number to show box was used. Box is still necessary due to poor mobile signals and for safety reasons.

8. Next Meeting

The next Annual Parish meeting is scheduled for third Monday in June 2015.