

FALFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 17th May 2016 at 7.30 pm in the Falfield Village Hall

Present

Parish Councillors: Mrs J Hathway (Chair), Ms E. Jarvis, Mr K Fryer, Mr A Isaac & Mrs O' Connor

Clerk: Mrs D. Bramley **Public:** Ward Cllr John O' Neill, Mr M. McBrien (HMP Eastwood Park) and 2 Parishioners

1. Apologies for Absence

None

2. Report from Chair

Falfield Parish Council Annual Report 17th May 2016.

The Council continues to meet bi-monthly on the third Tuesday of the month at Falfield Village Hall. However the Parish Council held an extra two meetings due to planning application queries happening between the regular meetings. During the year 2015/2016 we have achieved on behalf of Falfield Parish the following:

- *Viewed numerous Planning Applications*
- *The Council has maintained its Assets*
- *A Poppy Wreath was laid at the Annual Remembrance Service and it was agreed to remove these wreaths in the following June unless the wreaths looked 'tired' before that date.*
- *Continued to receive Police reports for the Parish.*
- *From May 2015 to March 2016 the Parish Council was represented in person on the Falfield Village Hall Management Committee, however from the end of April 2016 attendance at the meetings will not necessarily be in person but we will receive the minutes and do all we can to take part in the life of the Village Hall.*
- *The 'track problem' at Orchard View, has been resolved and a new tarmac track has been installed. We offer our grateful thanks to all who pursued this and the Parish Council is waiting for confirmation of the request for The Orchard View green for consideration as a Designated Local Green Space.*
- *The 2016 Big Clean took place on the 16th April with 13 Adults and 5 children taking part.*
- *We welcomed Mr. Andy Isaacs as a Councillor.*
- *We continue to monitor the Bus situation and are still waiting for a positive outcome for Bus Stops to be placed on the approach road to the M5 Junction 14.*
- *We continue to attend the Safer Stronger Groups for our area as and when Councillors are available.*
- *We continue to monitor the parking issues in the Parish*
- *Another ongoing factor is that we continue to meet with Mr McBrien, the Community Engagement Manager HMP Eastwood Park. These meetings have been very positive and we extremely pleased that Mr Mc Brien has said he will attend as many Parish Council Meetings as his time allows.*
- *One of the big issues of the last year is the proposed Cotswold Home development. The Parish Council issued a questionnaire in December 2015 to gauge the feeling of the Parishioners. As we know the outline planning application was submitted in the early months of 2016. As a follow up to the Parish Questionnaire a special Parish Council meeting was held at the end of March. The conclusions from that special meeting were submitted to South Gloucestershire Council for consideration as they work through the planning application. It is hoped that a conclusion to the Planning Application will happen within the life of the 2016/2017 session.*
- *The Parish Council complied with the Transparency Code & obtained a grant for extra equipment to do this*
- *It was agreed to give a grant to Stone & Falfield Brownies for their 20th Anniversary projects*

Extra Meetings attended for Information gathering and working on behalf of the Parish Council.

- *Safer Stronger Community Groups have been reconfigured as a result of the South Gloucestershire cutbacks. These groups are now larger and it has been reiterated that it is important that members of the public beside Parish Councillors attended to highlight the needs of their Parish.*
- *Town and Parish Meetings attended by Cllr Hathway and our Clerk Mrs Bramley.*
- *Avon Local Council association (ALCA) Meetings attended by our Clerk Mrs Bramley.*
- *Oldbury Site Stakeholders meetings attended by Cllr Hathway and our Clerk Mrs Bramley*
- *The William Staples Charity Meeting attended by Cllr Fryer*

Work/Commitments ongoing are:

The Cotswold Homes Development

I would also like to thank the other Councillors and our Clerk for all the hard work they do behind the scenes.

3. Financial Report from the Clerk

The Clerk gave the following report:

The 2015/2016 Statement of Accounts and Annual Return Form (Sections 1 & 2) have been finished and are ready to be signed off at the Annual Council Meeting. The Internal Audit was completed in April so Section 4 of the Annual Return Form has been signed.

The Parish Council ends the 2015/2016 financial year with a closing balance of £12,631.64. Of these funds £5,415.00 are earmarked to items including covering any election costs, provide a village hall contingency fund, asset replacements and training. The remaining unearmarked funds are appropriate for a small Parish Council with no other source of income.

Two donations payments were made this year, the annual grant of £75.00 to the Benefice Newsletter (5 Alive) along with the Royal British Legion poppy wreath payment and donation of £50.00.

4. Items Raised by Electors of the Parish

None

The meeting closed at 7.40 pm