

FALFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 21st May 2013 at 7.30 pm in the Falfield Village Hall

Present

Parish Councillors: Mrs J Hathway (Chair), Ms E. Jarvis, Mr K Fryer & Mr C Murton

Clerk: Mrs D. Bramley

Public: PCSO Dawn Golding & 6 Parishioners

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were accepted from Mr J. O'Neill (Ward Cllr).

2. Matters Arising from the Minutes

None

3. Report from Chair

Councillor Hathway gave the following report: **Annual Report for Falfield Parish Council May 21st 2013.**

The Council continues to meet 6 times a year. During the year Mr Ken Fryer was co-opted on to the Council but was very sorry to lose Mrs Janet Mountford. We continue to advertise for more people to come forward to sit on the Council.

Achievements

- **HMP Eastwood Park Women's Prison**

From May 2012 to May 2013, we have met with Mr Beecroft, Governor of HMP Eastwood Park twice. We were able to discuss the difficulty of the Prison personnel transport parking outside of St George Church from time to time causing an obstruction to vehicles coming out of Church Avenue, We are grateful that this has now been resolved.

Cllr Hathway and Mrs Bramley, our Clerk attended on behalf of the Parish Council the opening of the new 'Sensory Garden'. With the aid folk from the surrounding villages, we were able to donate new/nearly new clothes to the Mother and Baby Unit (children 0-18 months). Also with the aid of folk from the surrounding villages we were able to donate wool to the 'Rubies' unit for use in their creative time when they knit blankets for the dog rescue centre.

- **The Parish Survey** was completed and an open morning was arranged at Falfield Village Hall on 13th October for comment on the results. Sadly this was very poorly attended. A task list from the survey was drawn up which is being addressed monthly.
- **The Christmas Tree Festival.**
The Parish Council contributed to the 'Christmas Tree Festival' held at Falfield Village Hall during the first weekend of December 2012. Many images of the Parish were displayed as decorations on the tree, including a photograph of our very own Parish Postman...Kevin. It seems our contribution was appreciated
- **Many 'pot holes'** have subsequently been repaired as a result of successful reporting to SGC.
- Once again we took part in the **'Big Clean'**
- **Donations** the 5 Alive' newsletter.
- **The Asset Inspection highlighted** many tasks to be completed, one of which was to cut down the shrub in the middle of the Village Green to enable a larger space to be used for Parish events. This has now been completed with the help of Mr Colin Smith and Mr Robin Hathway.
- **'The Big Lunch'** will be held on the Village Green on June 3rd to celebrate the Queens Diamond Jubilee celebration. The Parish Council also set aside a small sum of money in case it was needed for the Jubilee Celebrations; we have also kept up to date with the reports from the Jubilee Committee.

Ongoing Issues/Tasks

Cllr Jarvis and Cllr Hathway continue to attend the 'Safer Stronger' meetings and addressed the issues of:

- The improvements to the B4061 Junction at Whitfield.
- The Commuter Parking outside of St George Church, Sundayshill Lane.
- Orchard View
- The safe parking of the Library Van

The normal month by month tasks included

- Addressing the planning application put forward from Eastwood Park Conference Centre for demolition of 10 houses and construction of 20 new houses and the NHS training facilities within the grounds.
- Keeping up with the many planning applications that are put forward for Falfield Parish.

- Maintaining the assets around the Parish (benches, bus shelters etc.).

We are also very grateful to our Clerk Mrs Dawn Bramley for all the work that she does behind the scenes. Her knowledge and efficiency is most appreciated and we hope that she continues to be our Clerk well into the future.

I would also like to thank you all the parishioners who regularly attend our meetings and support us in our endeavours.

It has been a good year and we hope that in the coming 12 months the Parish Council will do its best to meet the needs of the Parish in the ways open to them.

Cllr Jane Hathway Chair of Falfield Parish Council 17th May 2013

4. Reports from Councillors

None

5. Financial Report from the Clerk

The Statement of Accounts and Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Return Form have been finished, circulated to councillors and will, hopefully, be signed off at the Annual Council Meeting. The Internal Audit was completed in April resulting in the completion and signing of Section 4 of the Annual Return Form.

The Parish Council ends the 2012/2013 financial year with a closing balance of £7,384.12. This is made up of £1,557.24 in the NatWest account and £5,834.88 in the National Saving and Investments account. Of these funds £3,325.00 is earmarked to: cover any election costs and provide a village hall contingency fund. The remaining unearmarked funds are £4,059.12, this is less than a small Parish Council with no other source of income should retain and therefore is being increased to bring it closer in line with the precept.

Only one grant was awarded last year of £100 to the Benefice Newsletter which includes the Parish Councils articles.

6. Items Raised by Electors of the Parish

None

The meeting closed at 7.53 pm