

# **FALFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

## **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2012 at 7.30 pm in the Falfield Village Hall

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### **Present**

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

**Clerk:** Mrs D. Bramley

**Public:** Mr J. O'Neill (Ward Cllr), 6 Parishioners

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies from Cllr J Mountford, PC Draper and PCSO Draper.

### **2. Signing and Agreeing the Minutes of the 2011 Annual Parish Meeting**

It was proposed by Cllr Hathway and seconded by Cllr Jarvis and **resolved** that minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2011 are signed as a correct record.

### **3. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

None

### **4. Report from Chair**

Councillor Hathway gave the following report:

Although the Council meets only 6 times a year, there is much work going on behind the scenes. The last Annual General meeting saw a considerable change in Councillors. This has led to the new Councillors setting personal time aside to bring them up to speed with the on-going Council matters as well as being prepared for the new Council matters.

The on-going matters involved the Cllr Jarvis, Cllr Murton and Cllr Hathway meeting with South Gloucestershire Council regarding the dangerous approach from the B4061 onto the A38. Cllrs Jarvis and Hathway have also attended two Safer Stronger meetings to highlight the same problem, with the result of this being passed to the Highways Department. A site visit was carried out with the Police, traffic division, a representative from the Highways Department, Cllr Jarvis, Cllr Hathway and Mr Weldon (a parishioner), the result being that the Highways Department have undertaken to look further into this matter.

We have, with the help of Mr Fraser Mackie (a parishioner) tried to address the speeding traffic problems on Sundayhill Lane. One of the outcomes of this has been the supply stickers with the 'warning of the danger of speed' printed on them being made available to stick onto Wheelie Bins, which will then be visible to motorists travelling down Sundayhill Lane.

Another on-going matter involved meeting with a parishioner regarding the demolition and the building of the affordable houses on the site in Orchard View. Work on this site is due to start soon.

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. It is hoped that weather permitting 'The Big Lunch' will be held on the Village Green on June 3<sup>rd</sup> to celebrate the Queens Diamond Jubilee celebration. The Parish Council also set aside a small sum of money in case it is needed for the Jubilee Celebrations; we have also kept up to date with the reports from the Jubilee Committee.

As suggested at the 2011 Annual General Meeting, a Parish Survey has been carried out. There was an 18% return of the survey forms, a report has been compiled and will be made public in the Parish very shortly, hopefully at a Parish Surgery in the Village Hall.

After many years the 'Big Clean' took place. 15 volunteers came forward to help the result was that 20 bags of rubbish as well as car parts and oil drums were collected by the Council. It was a good Community effort and an article appeared in the Gazette. It is hoped that all who took part saw the article. A copy of the article has been filed in the Clerks files for posterity

Thanks to Cllr Jarvis, the Parish Council is pleased to announce that the memorial plaque for Mrs Lucy Smith has now arrived. Now with the help of the Falfield Village Hall Committee and the Parochial Church Council of St George Church a suitable date will be set for it to be placed in the foyer of the Village Hall.

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.

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.

## **5. Reports from Councillors**

None

## **6. Financial Report from the Clerk**

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

The Parish Council ends the 2011/2012 financial year with a closing balance of £6,628.57. This is made up of £824.92 in the NatWest account and £5,803.65 in the National Saving and Investments account. Of these funds £2825 is earmarked to: cover any election costs and provide a village hall contingency fund. The remaining unearmarked funds are £3,803.57, this is slightly less than a small Parish Council with no other source of income should retain and therefore needs to be increase in the future.

Grants awarded this year totalled £430 and were to the 1<sup>st</sup> Falfield and Stone Brownies, Four Towns and Vale Community Transport, Thornbury and District Stroke Group, Citizens Advice Bureau, Alzheimer's Society and the Royal British Legion. An additional grant of £300 was given to 1<sup>st</sup> Falfield Scout Group for a Lawn Mower.

## **7. Items Raised by Electors of the Parish**

None

**The meeting closed at 7.45 pm**