

# Sevenhampton Parish Council

## Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting

held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2018

**Present:** Cllrs. Lynne Jackson (Chairman), Bill Jenkin (Vice Chairman), Gordon Day, Harry Boyd, Emma Lanfear

**In Attendance:** Diana Cook (Clerk)

### Annual Parish Meeting

- a. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2017 were approved and signed.
- b. There were no matters arising.
- c. The Chairman, Cllr. Jackson, read her annual report, thanking all councillors for their time and efforts over the last year, including Tex Cook who left the Council but continues as Tree Warden. Also thanked were the District and County Councillors for their support. Special thanks were offered to the Parish Clerk for her efficiency and time spent keeping the Council up to date and informed on the wide variety of documents etc. affecting the work of the Council.

At the start of the year the Council raised concern about the proposed development of Whalley Farm as a wedding venue; there seems to be no further advance on this planning matter since objections were raised.

Many hours have been spent by Bill Jenkin, helped by Di & Tex Cook, in developing and improving the website over the year.

The 'Cotswold Wardens' volunteers have continued to help with improvements to parish footpaths by mending some gates and stiles in the parish.

Parishioners took part in the 'Great Get Together' picnic on a very hot day in June. This was a national celebration of murdered MP Jo Cox and her belief that we all have a common interest; it offered an opportunity to come together as a community and socialise as neighbours.

'Elsdown Clump' has been registered with the Land Registry. The Clump was left to the parishioners by the late Alan Smith of Gassons Farm. To admire the view it offers over Brockhampton & Sevenhampton, access is gained by foot from Campden Lane.

Over the years the Council has supported the Village Hall and the Good Neighbourhood car scheme. Now we are also looking at the future of the Rural Cinema, Village Live newsletter and the 'Coffee Club' – the latter in jeopardy because there is no longer a Village Agent.

Gloucestershire Police invited some Councillors and interested parishioners to view their new control room in Quedgeley, which also serves the Fire Service. The visit was very interesting and enlightening. Liaison with police officers Ashley Weller (Rural team) and Jason Page (Local Community) continues regularly.

Ongoing highways issues continue with potholes, grit supplies, road subsidence (from Brockhampton towards A436, Stow Road) and speeding along the Winchcombe to Syreford road (3/97) being problematical.

A dog waste bin has been installed in each village to try to alleviate the perennial problem of dog fouling. Grit bins are also to be purchased and installed to prevent loose piles of grit being left on the verges.

Items hoping to be revisited are the Emergency Plan and the use of the redundant phone box in Sevenhampton village. The long held goal of some affordable housing and a village field continues but looks a long way off at present.

Cllr. Jackson again thanked the council for their efforts and endeavours in meeting the needs of parishioners throughout the year.

d. Question & Answers:

Cllr Day had been approached by a parishioner with regard to safeguarding village amenities under the Localism Act (2011). He explained that a property registered under the Act is deemed an '*asset of community value*' and any proposed sale of it must be notified to the local authority. For 6 weeks after notification local community groups are able to advise the authority that they wish to purchase the property: they then have a 6 month period in which to do so. If no local group registers interest within 6 weeks, then the owner can proceed with a normal sale. Cllr Day asked if the Council could discuss it further at their next meeting.

**There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.20 pm**