

# Sevenhampton Parish Council

## Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting

held on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019

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

**In Attendance:** County Cllr Paul Hodgkinson, Diana Cook (Clerk), Belinda Holder (Incoming Clerk)

**Apologies:** Cllr Richard Foulkes, Ward Councillor Robin Hughes

### Annual Parish Meeting

- a. **The minutes of the previous meeting** held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2018 were approved and signed.
- b. **Matters arising:** Cllr Jenkin reminded those present that he would no longer be producing the Village Live magazine (which was started as a result of the Village Appraisal conducted in 1996 and is circulated to all residents in and around the parish). He was willing to do two more issues only. He requested it as an item in the next Parish Council meeting. **Action: Clerk**
- c. **Chairman's Report:** The Chairman, Cllr. Jackson welcomed everyone present and read her report for the year. It was noted that it was a relatively quiet year after the snow and ice of Winter 2017/18, which resulted in the purchase of more grit bins for the parish and its peripheries, in particular access routes from Whittington and Syreford. There were no contentious planning issues although problems with potholes and speeding drivers continue. Nearby roads have been resurfaced including the top road from Brockhampton through to the Stow Road (A436) offering great improvement for the parishioners. The Council continues to financially support the *Good Neighbourhood Scheme* and the *Rhodes Memorial Hall*. The Coffee Club, which uses the hall on Thursday mornings, has an average of 12 people attending each week. Thanks were extended to Bill and Anne Jenkin for running the Rural Cinema for many years since its inception and to parishioner Colin Harman for taking it on after they stepped down. A new screen and projector has helped this transition. Thanks were also given to them for producing the *Village Live* newsletter and it is hoped that new editors for it can be found. The Chairman thanked all the many volunteers that kept the community alive and who 'do their bit' behind the scenes. Thanks were also extended to the County and District Councillors for giving up their time attending meetings and keep the council well informed. Cllr Matthew Cain left the Council after several years' service, due to a house move but the Council were lucky to welcome Richard Foulkes onto the Council after his departure; even so there is still a vacancy. Finally, thanks were offered to the Parish Clerk, Di Cook, for her hard work and for keeping Council 'on track'. Although she will be missed, Council have hopefully got an able replacement in Belinda Holder, who was welcomed at the meeting. The Chairman hoped that the Council would meet the, as yet unknown, challenges of the next year and thanked the meeting for their attention.

- d. **Gloucester County Councillor's Report:** Cllr Hodgkinson reported that the County Council (GCC) had set their budget for the forthcoming year with an increase of 4.99%, with the majority of this rise going to adult social care. He was uncomfortable with this increase particularly as services were once again going to be cut. The pressures on funding continue as Government off load duties to local authorities.

It was noted that Cotswold District Council (CDC) have increased their budget by over 2% and that most parishes have also had to increase their precept.

Cuts include waste collections (which are the duty of CDC) and part time openings of recycling centres (controlled by GCC).

As of 1<sup>st</sup> April there is a new contractor for road maintenance (potholes, drains etc) as *Ringway* take over from *Amey*. Highways managers Danny Taylor and David (Harry) Roberts will stay with the County and new contact details will be sent out soon. The extensive re-surfacing of the A40 towards Norhleach has much improved travel and the A429 (Fosseway) at Fossebridge will have new signage as it is an accident blackspot.

The 'No Crash' road safety group met recently, the main topic was the speeding of vehicles through Andoversford. Following the use of Shipton's *Smiley Face* road speed sign it was identified that 80% of road users are speeding through the village. It was asked if Shipton could be contacted in order to borrow their sign for a similar exercise in Sevenhampton Parish. The Clerk also advised that she would circulate the minutes from the No Crash meeting for Councillors.

**Action: Clerk**

The Air Balloon by-pass consultation took place last year and, as a result of responses, construction of the new roads will commence in 2021 with completion expected in 2024.

A NPR (Number Plate Recognition) device was recently utilised in Bourton-on-the-Water to try to reduce the number of motorists driving too fast. Its use showed a drop of 80% in speeding.

- e. **Question & Answers:** Clarification was sought regarding the collection of waste and recyclables. It was explained that kitchen waste would continue to be collected weekly but all other wastes, including garden wastes, would be fortnightly. Kerbside collection of other recyclables are likely to be extended, which would include small electrical items. It was reported that the large refuse lorries travel along the narrow Gassons Lane which links Brockhampton with Sevenhampton and thus are damaging the verges. It was requested as an agenda item at the next meeting.

**Action: Clerk**

**There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.45 pm**