

## **BROOKTHORPE WITH WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 17<sup>th</sup> MAY 2016**

#### **PRESENT**

Messrs S Betts [Chairman], G Simpson, D Kaspar, Mrs L King [Parish Councillors], Mr T Skinner [District Councillor], Mr J Bullingham [County Councillor], Mrs C Novoth [Neighbourhood Warden], Mr E Hibbert [Village Hall Committee], Mrs A Rigelsford [Parish Clerk], and 6 parishioners.

#### **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Parish councillor Joanne Cooke, CPSO Debbie Campbell and three, parishioners who could not attend.

#### **WELCOME**

The Chairman welcomed and thanked all present for attending.

#### **REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

Please see attached report.

#### **FINANCE REPORT FROM THE PARISH CLERK**

Copies of the Summary of Accounts were circulated.

There are now reserves of £45,574 in the account. Councillors had set a precept of £13,000 in November with a budget spend of £30,165 There were questions from the public regarding the spend on the Council's website. The Clerk explained that in 2013/14 and 2014/15 the Council did spend on the website but because the timing of the bills they did not appear on the accounts for those years.

#### **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Cllr Jason Bullingham reported on the latest County Council news including Devolution, the possible move of Cotswold District Council into Oxford County Council and its implications for the rest of Gloucestershire County Council, Highways, and Schemes for Young people. Parish Councillors raised concerns regarding the lack of support and the problems with getting hold of Daniel Tiffney and Yakub Mulla as well as the state of the roads generally throughout Gloucestershire.

#### **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Cllr Tom Skinner outlined the new three councillor ward and stated that at least one of our District Councillors would attend the Parish Council meetings. He stated that he will sit on the Resolves and Strategy Committee, David Mossman on the Development Control Committee and Gill Oxley on the Housing Committee. He outlined the new makeup of the District Councillors and stated that the "rainbow alliance" made up of Labour, Liberal Democrats and Greens held the power.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDEN'S REPORT**

Mrs Carol Novoth gave a short report regarding her work in the community. She reported that Warden numbers were now back up to 7 with an 8<sup>th</sup> member due to start in June. Although the situation at the Gypsy site in Naas Lane, had improved she feels unable to go onto the site at present. She stated that she worked closely with CPSO Debbie Campbell. Carol has arranged regular litter picks throughout the Parish. She was asked about the length of time that it is taking to remove the car from the ditch outside Withyrows Farm and said that it was out of her control but that she would follow this up. The Chairman of the Parish Council thanked Carol for her excellent work.

**VILLAGE HALL REPORT**

Mr E Hibbert reported that with the help of the Parish Council improvements have been made to the Village Hall including the new fence, sign, noticeboards and electrical sockets, with more improvements to the kitchen area planned. It was stated that the bank balance was healthy although some fees have had to be increased for hires that were paying well below the going rate. There had been a variety of village events held including a very successful Halloween Party for the Children and Christmas Draw, with a Celebration for the Queen’s 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday jointly planed with the Parish Council for June 12<sup>th</sup>.

**ONGOING PROJECTS**

Cllr Steve Betts [Chairman of the Parish Council] outlined the ongoing arrangements for the Gateway project for Upton and Harefield Lanes as well as the hope to bring St Swithun’s Church into use for community events.

Mr Eric Hibbert thanked all members of the Parish Council for their work and stated that the community were grateful.

There being no other matters Cllr S Betts thanked everyone for attending and refreshments were served.

Chairman .....