

LANE END PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Held on 11th May 2009 at 7.30 pm in

LANE END YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE

ATTENDANCE: There were approximately 50 members of the public in attendance.

CLERK: Mandy Dunning

All Parish Councillors present and Clerk wore badges to easily identify themselves to the 50 or so members of the public. Apologies were received from Cllr Mansell however Cllr Stewart was not present and there was no reason offered for his absence.

1. Councillor Coulter as the new Chairman gave a verbal overview report on the previous year's activities and achievements. He then proceeded to outline the aspirations for the coming year. He gave a verbal vote of thanks to the four Members of the previous Council who for varying reasons had stood or were about to stand down. He also gave a vote of thanks to the Clerk for her work in supporting the Council over the year. A hard copy of this report was available to all present.

2. Councillor Detsiny gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Council's financial status, and hard copies of the slides were available to all for 2008/9 finances.

3. All other Committee reports and a report on the Mole & Pickett Charity's status were also available in hard copy format.

4. Cllr Dunn gave a PowerPoint Presentation on the progress and achievements of the Parish Plan groups and an indication of their aspirations for the future. He stressed the need for additional support to these groups.

5. Sgt Jamie Smith & PC Danny O'Driscoll gave a brief talk on the Community Policing activities and the work of the Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG). It was noted that the level of Anti Social Behaviour had reduced considerably within the Community over the last 12 months. However the issue of motorcycles was still present and this was to be an item of focus for them.

6. Cllr Coulter introduced the topic of the Village Design Statement and Mrs Osborn gave a brief overview of the purpose of such a document and how this could be, one endorsed by the District Council, utilised to ensure that planning applications were in keeping with the existing surroundings. She asked for assistance from the Community in progressing this project.

7. A number of questions were raised by members of the audience and satisfactorily answered. Several comments were made as to the poor and inadequate situation with regard to parking in the village. A member of the public enquired whether the Council would be considering a memorial to Peter Philp who sadly passed away last December. A member of the audience requested clarification on an item within the finance presentation, it was confirmed that the monies given to assist in churchyard maintenance were discretionary amounts, and not as the slide may have indicated a full and definite amount. A member of the audience referred to the recent report commissioned by the Council regarding the youth of the Community, expressing the view that it should be taken with a pinch of salt and that it would not result in a reduction of any issues identified; furthermore although basically a good report there were several obvious gaps in the research. They then went on to extol the good work of the Elim Centre and additionally it's Oasis Project.

A member of the public advised of the pressing need for volunteers to assist as Team Leaders for the Scouts groups at Wheeler End.

A member of the public enquired if the appropriate permission was obtained for the change of use to the allotments that were now the affordable housing units at Chalky Fields, it was confirmed that the necessary sanctions had been received from the Secretary of State and also that no allotment space was lost as a consequence of the development on what was classed as an exception site.

A member of the public stated that if the Council was to be a serious contender for the best kept village then the issues with the various closed business units would need to be addressed. A member of the public enquired as to when the changes to the Financial regulations regarding quotations had occurred.

A member of the audience congratulated the Council on its efforts and achievements of recent date.

The meeting was brought to a close for refreshments and councillors mingled with individuals who may have issues they would wish to discuss with Councillors.

Signed..... Dated.....