

# Lighthorne Parish Council

## Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of the Parish Council held in Lighthorne Village Hall at 8.00pm on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2015

1. **Present:** Cllr Archer, Cllr Daniel, Cllr Steele, Cllr Ryan, Cllr Williams and Cllr Mills.

**To accept apologies for absence:** Cllr Dick.

2. **Annual Report From Chairman Cllr Archer**

Cllr Archer gave an overview of the year's events including the Lighthorne Drama Festival, the ongoing fight with SDC over the GLH proposal (thanks given to FORSE for all their hard work), the ongoing planning applications received (we welcome comments to help us reach a decision on each one), JLR/AML and traffic issues and the reduction of cars in the village, Police monitoring to take place re: speeding, works to be undertaken on trees, impending partial road closures by western power at the sports ground, the new grass contractors, and increase in the precept.

The sad loss of John Burrell was noted and condolences passed to his family.

It was noted that Cllr Steele was still acting as Parish Clerk and we would welcome anyone who wanted to apply for the position to come forward asap!

3. **Financial Report**

A summary of the accounts was distributed and explanation provided. The precept increase of £3,000 was to allow for tree maintenance, potential election costs and potential light fitting replacement costs over the year. The reserves stood at £16,455.42 (exact figure clarified after meeting) at Mar 2014 and were not altered this year to any large degree. The £2,500 plus VAT legal fees had provided a day's representation at the EiP of the Core Strategy in January 2015.

4. **Update regarding proposed development at GLH.**

History of the last 12 months provided including consultations, cabinet and council votes, EiP by Government Inspector and current 'UN SOUNDNESS' of the Core Strategy. Interim Report in March requested (amongst other things) that the sustainability appraisals be done again with an "open and fair mind" and "robust" reasons be provided for the ensuing choice of site for a new settlement. New reports not yet received. Current planning application for the first 2,000 houses of the proposal had been objected to – determination should not be until after the Core Strategy had been adopted, so 2016 at the earliest. We would ask for the Sec of State to 'call in' the decision if SDC did not send it to him. We will continue to fight the proposal.

5. **To take any questions from the floor.**

Thanks given to the Parish Council for their work over the year.

Meeting closed at 8:30pm