

Lighthorne Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held in Lighthorne Village Hall on Tuesday, 14th May 2019 at 8.40pm

Present: Cllrs. A. Archer (Chairman), H. Archer, A. Smith, M. Langhorn, R. Stanford, District Cllr. C. Mills.

5 members of the public

1. Apologies for absence

County Cllr. C. Williams.

2. Minutes of the previous assembly (2018)

It was agreed that the minutes from last year's assembly meeting would be circulated to the members for approval. The minutes are to be signed at the next meeting by the CHAIRMAN.

3. Any matters arising from those minutes

Clerk reported that there were no matters arising from those minutes.

4. Report from Cllr. A. Archer, Chairman

The Chairman's gave his report, as shown below:

Introduction. 2018/2019

Welcome to the annual parish meeting.

Back in Lighthorne life has continued with the usual range of activities and dramas!!

During the year we have had some changes in the members of the Parish Council.

Laura sadly has had to step down for family reasons after a distinguished career as a councillor. We are very sorry to see her go and would like to thank her for all the hard work she has contributed over the years to not only the PC but also as Chair of FORSE.

I am delighted to welcome our latest parish councillor, Mike Langhorn, to our council. He is now getting up to speed on the many and varied topics that we are involved in.

We also have a new volunteer joining the PC and welcome Richard Stanford on board for his first meeting tonight.

Corinne our Parish Clerk has now left to take a full-time post with Bishop Tachbrook PC. We wish her well.

In the meantime, we would like to welcome our new Clerk. Des Thomas who is here tonight. He has a wealth of financial experience and is quickly learning the ropes regarding the Clerk's role.

GAS INSTALLATION

One of the most important issues at present is the proposed Gas installation. As you are all aware, we were informed in March that a new Gas pipeline is to be laid to serve the new GLH housing development.

From the initial information sent to us this appeared to be likely to cause serious problems for all the residents regarding traffic through the village.

We were on the case immediately and in a moment, Andy will give you a comprehensive review of the current situation and progress to date.

DRAMA GROUP

Once again, the Drama Group was successfully involved in the Festival - and Lighthorne should be proud of the reputation we have acquired for the productions - and the Village Hall facility is widely recognised as one of the best on the circuit.

VILLAGE HALL

The extension is approaching completion and in addition to the refurbishment of the existing hall will provide a first-class facility for the village. The Village hall committee have worked hard to fund and complete the project and are to be congratulated on the achievement. David Wright would be proud of the end result.

PLAY PARK

The play park has again been revitalised with some stunning new equipment. Congratulations to the committee.

PLANNING

We have continued to carefully monitor and evaluate the various planning applications which we receive. As a parish council we are only able to comment and make our objections known to Stratford District Council.

It has been a busy year on the Planning front, and we have on several occasions attended the Area Planning committee meetings to put our views forward on a variety of proposals.

I would ask you to ensure that you make your comments and objections at the relevant moment.

PC WEBSITE

As you are probably aware, we have a comprehensive Parish Council web site and would recommend that you keep abreast with all the village events including the PC meeting minutes etc.

TRAFFIC CALMING

We continue working with JLR and Aston Martin in trying to control the traffic movements through the Village, and appear to have had some success as vehicle numbers have reduced over the last 6 months.

We have in addition managed to secure funding from the County Council Highways to carry out a series of traffic calming steps. This will include a Village Gateway scheme and road markings to alert traffic to the proximity of the village and hopefully encourage them to reduce speed.

We attend regular Community Liaison meetings to keep up to date with local developments.

POLICE

We continue to liaise with the local community police to keep abreast of local developments.

We are members of the Local Neighbourhood Crime information service and get regular updates from them

DEFIBRILLATOR

We have now installed the defibrillator on the outside wall of the Village Hall, Full instructions are contained on the unit and I would urge you to read and learn. We shall shortly be organising a training session with the Ambulance Service.

MAINTENANCE OF THE VILLAGE

As previously reported Western Power will be carrying out tree and bush trimming along the hedge line by the Sports club in the near future.

Our grass cutting team continue to produce excellent results and the general appearance of the village has been considerably enhanced.

Various small work parties have completed several projects over the last 12 months. The end result was excellent!

At this moment I would like to thank Nick Newton-Mason who continues his litter patrol of the village which all helps to improve the environment.

PAVILION CAFÉ AND SPORTS GROUND

We recently completed the installation of a new sewage system for the café and sports ground and have been advised that Ben will be shortly doing work to improve the car park.

Ben Thornton with family and friends continue have provided an excellent venue for both local residents and a range of customers from far and wide.

NEWSLETTER

The village fete will take place in July so please look out for the advance publicity.

Hopefully you have all had a chance to read the Parish Newsletter which covers many items of interest. If you have any ideas that you would like included please contact us.

We will continue to represent the interests and concerns of our village and hope that you will not hesitate to contact myself or any of the Parish Councillors as appropriate.

I would in particular like to thank Laura, Andy, Hermione and Corrine for their support and work over the last 12 months and look forward to working with our new members in the future.

Finally, thank for your interest and we look forward to another year of new challenges.

District Cllr. C. Mills left the meeting at 20:57hr.

5. Report from District Cllr. A Smith on Gas Installation.

Cllr Smith reported that he was now confident that the gas main would not go through the bulk of the village, instead heading across country and up Heath Farm Lane. The remaining doubt is whether it will need to come up Old School Lane and Chesterton Road, or preferably cut straight into GLH controlled land from Heath Farm Lane. Residents of Heath Farm Lane are being consulted with a view to minimising disruption. Cllr Smith continues to monitor the situation, and thanked District Cllr Mills and our MP Jeremy Wright for their support.

6. Report from District Cllr. C. Mills

Report attached to AGM minutes.

7. Report from County Cllr. C. Williams

Report attached to AGM minutes.

7. Reports from Parish Organisations

No reports received.

8. Any matters raised by electors of the parish present.

No matters raised.

9. Closure

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10pm.