

Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 9th May 2012

At Toller Porcorum Village Hall

Present:

Cllr Ennals (*Chairman*)

Cllr J Miller (*Vice Chairman*)

Cllr P Rutherford

Cllr D Billen

Cllr C Baker

Cllr J Knowles

Cllr R Knox (DCC)

Apologies: Cllr J Haines

28 members of the public

Welcome

Cllr Ennals welcomed all to the 2012 Annual Parish Assembly and introduced the speakers and format for the evening.

Apologies were received from Cllr Jill Haynes (WDDC) and Cllr P Davies

To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly on 18th May 2011

Cllr Ennals explained that last year's meeting was made up of short reports from community groups and asked for members to approve the minutes.

Proposed Mike Boardman

Seconded Peggy Denty

Resolved

Parish Plan Presentation

Siobhan Tindal gave a report on the Parish Plan. This has been a project spanning 18 months. A group was formed to prepare a questionnaire that was delivered to the whole village. There has been a very good response, out of 155 houses 79 have responded. Siobhan invited everyone to view the Parish Plan analysis documents that have been produced prior to publication of the Plan.

Neighbourhood Planning presentation

Sally Lloyd-Jacobs the link officer for Neighbourhood Planning from WDDC spoke on the process of Neighbourhood Planning (NP) she also spoke about the pilot scheme at Cerne Valley as a front runner and the progress they are making. Under the New Localism Act this process puts planning back to the people. Using the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) it enables sustainable development, positive growth with environmental and social progress for future generations. Sally explained that if a (NP) was to be considered it would need input from the whole community and once all were consulted it would require approval from WDDC and an independent examiner followed by a referendum of 51% of those who vote. The Cerne Valley NP has not been without its problems, keeping the community motivated, the costs (although there has been funding for the pilot schemes) and the general consultation process. The New Local plan is due to be released for consultation in June 2012 and this will be a time for communities to comment, the plan supports sustainable growth where services are already available and this plan will run until 2031.

County Councillors report-

Cllr Knox reported that the county have made £30M saving so far a lot of this has been in staffing. There has been a review in the Adult Care services and an overhaul of the Highways Department. The mobile library service is also being reviewed. A new scheme of community involvement for maintenance work in the parishes is being set up, where the materials and training are supplied if volunteers could be found to carry out the work. There has been a huge shake up in the School Bus service, this has been a lesson learned and every bus for primary schools should now have seatbelts.

Roads and Rights of Way committee are meeting on Monday 14th May to consider the BOAT application and as much evidence as possible is required for consideration into motor vehicles using the bridleway without authorisation.

District Councillor- apologies received

Chairman's report-

The Chairman gave a very interesting report of the Parish Council year. Cllr Ennals thanked the County and District Councillors for their support, thanks to Mr Walbridge and Mr Comer as the emergency contacts for the last year and for offering to stay in this role. Thanks also to Mr Mike Boardman who has assisted the council with the finances and is the internal auditor. The Chairman reported that the PC has had a change of clerk in the year Mr Applebee left the role of clerk and Barry Rutherford stepped in for 3 months whilst a replacement was found. A gift was presented to Pat Rutherford for Barry who could not attend. Mrs Michele Harding joined the parish in March who already clerks for 3 other parishes.

Cllr Ennals gave an account of the items the PC considered during the year, Planning, Highways concerns, and the self-help scheme with the bags of grit. The phone box, High-speed broadband and the possibility of a bus shelter in the parish.

Footpaths and ROW

The Chairman asked Cllr Janet Knowles to report on the footpaths, Cllr Knowles thanked all those who walked the paths and took secateurs with them to keep them clear. The repairs have been done on FP24. Fault reporting can now be done on line on the Dorset for you website. The new countryside rangers are now being set up for volunteers who could offer 20 days a year to assist with maintenance.

Cllr Judy Miller reported on the Jubilee celebrations that will take place on Sunday 3rd June, games will be organised on the recreation ground, and a tea party in the village hall with the presentation of the jubilee mugs which have been kindly donated by a resident of the village for all the children. Cllr Ennals reported that the council had applied and had been awarded £200 of funding for equipment for the Jubilee celebrations. Thanks must go to all the councillors for their help and support over the year. Finally thanks to Mrs Jane Ennals who provided the refreshments for the Annual Parish Assembly

Naming of the Brook/River

Residents were asked to vote for the name of the Brook/River after the meeting and this will then be announced at Parish Council meeting after the APA.

Sustrans report

The clerk read out a report from Peter Henshaw from Sustrans who reported that a planning application has been submitted for the Bridport to Bradpole section of the Trailway.

Democratic Forum- none

Meeting closed at 8.05pm