

## PARRETT AND AXE PARISH COUNCIL

### **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Parrett and Axe Parish Council held on Thursday 9th May 2013 at 7.30pm at South Perrott Village Hall.**

#### **PRESENT**

Cllrs Mike Johnson (Chairman), Kate Organ (Vice-Chairman), Sue Coutanche, Liz Fray, Anita Legg, and Peter Simmons. Also in attendance: County Cllr Rebecca Knox, District Cllrs Janet Page and Caroline Payne, PCSO Alex Bishop, Dominie de la Poer (footpaths officer), clerk Angela Gillingham and 5 residents.

#### **1184. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Cllr Mike Johnson opened the meeting and expressed a willingness to continue as Chairman. There were no further nominations and Cllr Johnson was elected as Chairman - proposed by Cllr Organ, seconded by Cllr Simmons. A declaration of Acceptance of Office was duly signed.

#### **1185. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Cllr Kate Organ expressed a willingness to continue as Vice-Chairman. There were no further nominations and Cllr Organ was elected as Vice-Chairman - proposed by Cllr Fray, seconded by Cllr Legg. A declaration of Acceptance of Office was duly signed.

#### **1186. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Dave McSkelly.

#### **1187. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th May 2012 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. They were proposed by Cllr Coutanche and seconded by Cllr Fray.

#### **1188. MATTERS ARISING**

##### **Chairman's Report**

The Chairman reported that once again the year had been dominated by the A356, the issues within the parishes being compounded by the diverted traffic following the closure of the Beaminster Tunnel. A considerable amount of time had been spent by the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and others working with Highways Officers to seek resolutions. Other items during the year have included the refurbishment of the Pound, which is now progressing. The Chairman recorded his thanks to those who have contributed their time, effort and materials, and especially to Bob Buckland for his very generous donation of the seat. Two trees have been gifted to the villages in the past year, the first in the autumn to mark The Queen's Diamond Jubilee, and the second in the spring to mark Waitrose's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Both trees have been planted on the Millennium Green. The Chairman recorded his thanks to his fellow councillors and the clerk, and all who had supported the council. Particular thanks was given to Dave McSkelly and others for the "The Pump & Pound" newsletter which has been highly praised both within and outside the parishes.

##### **Clerk's Report**

The Clerk gave a financial report for the year ending 31st March 2013.  
Total receipts for the past financial year amounted to £3,960.61  
Total payments for the past financial year amounted to £3,386.87

We came in more than £400 under budget for the year 2012-2013, mainly due to £300 in the budget for refurbishing the Pound, which has not yet been called upon.  
We start the new financial year with £ 2,851.69 in the Parish Council account.

The Accounts, Annual Governance Statement, Register of Assets and Internal Audit were adopted by the Council. Proposed by Cllr Organ and seconded by Cllr Coutanche.  
The accounts will be available for inspection.  
The clerk expressed thanks to Mr Peter Coles who carried out the internal audit.

**1189. FOOTPATHS OFFICERS REPORTS**

Report from Dominie de la Poer – footpaths officer for South Perrott.  
There are 10 footpaths and 3 bridleways in and around South Perrott, and mostly have been trouble-free throughout the year. A section of Langmoor Lane, which is both a bridleway and a footpath, has been resurfaced and greatly improved by Roger Legg and DCC, using planings from the A3066 resurfacing works. Unfortunately the sandbag revetting, which was washed into the stream alongside the lane, has still not been repaired. The damage is caused by a flow of water across the footpath from a land drain, and the repair work is still outstanding. The footpath running north east from the Old School House in Pipplepen Lane has been blocked a few times by an old gate, which keeps being removed and put back. The entrance to the path is currently open. Two of the stiles on the permissive path running from the engineers path towards Chedington are in a sad state of repair and potentially dangerous. Jill Exton and the landowner have been informed.  
Mrs de la Poer was thanked for her report.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm.

THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING FOLLOWED

Signed..... Date.....  
Chairman