

# **DRAFT UNAPPROVED**

## **MINUTES**

of the

## **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**of the Parish of Yatton**

**held on 20 May 2009**

**at Horsecastle Chapel, Horsecastle Farm Road, Yatton**

**Present:** Councillor Trevor Bidwell-Ford (Vice-Chairman of Yatton Parish Council, in the Chair), Parish Councillors Wendy Griggs, Graham Humphreys, Jill Iles, Robert Jenner, Rosey Knifton, Brian Phillips, Viv Wathen and Jean Watson, North Somerset Councillor Tony Moulin, PC Phil Kinsella and 25 other residents of the Parish of Yatton

The Chairman opened the meeting by making a special presentation of a bouquet of flowers to Doris Stockham in recognition of her long interest in and contribution to parish affairs.

### **1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Councillor David Crossman (Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillors Maurice Blunsdon and Jane Bollen, Andy Mallender (Strawberry Line Project Manager), Lesley Griffin (Yatton Rugby Club Junior Section) and Anne Richards (North Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau).

### **2. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 23 May 2008**

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 23 May 2008 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **3. Annual Report of Yatton Parish Council**

The Chairman drew attention to circulated copies.

### **4. Presentation on Yatton and Claverham Car Club**

Following the presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting in 2008 Steve Tainton updated the meeting on the Car Club's progress. He introduced Jonathan Flower, the village representative and presented some statistics on use. The cars were available until October 2009 but more active members were needed. Members had to be at least 21 and not over 75. Steve encouraged more members to join.

The Chairman thanked Steve for his presentation.

## **5. Presentations by organisations funded by Yatton Parish Council and other local organisations**

### (a) Claverham Youth Club

Karen Bohay reported. The Club had started in the skittle alley at the Village Hall but had now moved to the main hall. The Club had bought several items of equipment and held a christmas party. There were members from Claverham, Cleeve and yatton.

### (b) St Barnabas Church.

Rev. Cathy Horder reported. The funds had originally been intended for an extension. However last winter the roof collapsed. a new roof will cost around £65,000. The congregation was currently meeting in Court de Wyck School. A grant of £25,000 had been received from YANSEC. Cathy was intending to undertake a sponsored walk of Offa's Dyke.

### (c) YCCCART

Brian Bradbury reported. YCCCART had received £34,100 from the Heritage Lottery Fund to fund two major projects. YCCCART hope to use the Parish Council's grant as seed funding for a YANSEC grant. Brian thanked Vince Russett (North Somerset Archaeologist) for his help.

### (d) Yatton Junior Football Club

Peter Matley reported. The Club was one of the largest youth organisations in Yatton, with 170 members. Peter outlined the Club's plans for an all-weather pitch, available to local schools.

### (e) Methodist Youth Worker

Niccy Lockhart, the Youth Co-ordinator, reported. She had produced a leaflet listing all youth activities in Yatton. She also worked with young people at Yatton Youth Club and has set up a monthly Youth Forum. Young people would like an internet café in the village.

(f) Yatton United Charities

Mary Langson reported. The Charities had been able to give £1525 to the January distribution, a special grant of £150, education grants of £210 and Christmas bread vouchers of £44, still leaving a healthy balance.

(g) Vine Counselling

Jo Lawrence reported. The counselling service was looking for more trustees and volunteers. The need for counselling was increasing and Vine Counselling was hoping to operate at more bases. The service relied on funding both from local councils and church councils.

(h) Yatton Music Society

David Ford reported. The Society was now 29 years old and continued to put on a programme of highly successful professional concerts.

(i) Neighbourhood Watch

David Ford reported. The Watch was run by 32 street co-ordinators in Yatton. He encouraged more people to join.

(j) PACT

David Ford reported. PACT (Partners & Communities Together) had replaced the former Local Action Teams. PACT liaised with the police and was a forum for residents. PACT met monthly, with an enlarged 'mega-PACT' twice a year.

There was concern about conduct on the Strawberry Line. The group had organised litter picking in the Precinct and also re-launched the Speedwatch campaign.

(k) Royal British Legion

Stan Wright reported. The Yatton Branch had been founded in 1921 and continued to offer support to ex-service personnel. The Branch also organised the annual Remembrance events, which commemorated not only those who died in the World Wars but also all those who fell in conflicts since 1945. There was a new Volunteer Poppy Appeal organiser.

The Chairman thanked all those who had given presentations.

## **6. Police report**

PC Phil Kinsella, the local beat officer, reported. He referred to the Avon & Somerset Police website, which now included a list of police priorities for each beat area. The Policing Pledge included a promise to respond within one hour to any incident which was a police priority. He urged residents and PACT to keep the priorities under review. He also referred to the pro-active work the police were doing to engage young people in the community.

The Chairman thanked Phil for his report.

## **7. Volunteer of the Year**

The Clerk read the nominations for Volunteer of the Year:

Roger Lawrence, nominated by the Royal British Legion (Yatton Branch)

Peter Hart, nominated by Yatton & District Horticultural Society

Bernice Bayliss, nominated by the Royal British Legion Women's Section

Arthur Baber, nominated by Yatton Ramblers

Peter Matley, nominated by Yatton Junior Football Club

John Howard, nominated by YACWAG (Yatton & Congresbury Wildlife Action Group)

Joy Webber, nominated by Yatton Rugby Club Junior Section

The Chairman presented each nominee with a certificate.

The Chairman announced that the winner was Roger Lawrence and (as Roger was unable to attend) asked Stan Wright to present him with the trophy.

## **8. Presentations on issues facing the Parish Council**

Robert Jenner and Trevor Bidwell-Ford reported on progress on a new Burial Ground. The Council had so far identified only one possible site, on land owned by North Somerset council and next to the Mendip Road allotments. North Somerset council were willing to lease the land to the Parish Council, but only for use as a North Somerset facility. Officers at North Somerset would bid for capital finance for the project. Robert and Trevor emphasised that there would be full public consultation before any firm decisions were take.

Robert Jenner reported on the Hangstones redevelopment project. There had been consultation with users as to their needs and following this a requirements specification for each option had been drawn up. There had also been a condition survey to identify essential repairs. The next step was to cost each option; he hoped the costs would be available by September and there could then be further consultation.

The Chairman appealed for residents to consider joining the Parish Council.

## **9. Questions from the floor.**

A resident asked for a breakdown of Council spending by ward. The Chairman replied that such a breakdown, which would exclude staff costs, would not be very informative but emphasised that councillors took decisions in the interests of the community as a whole. (The Clerk subsequently provided a breakdown to the enquirer).

A resident of Stowey Road asked if it would be possible to have another meeting of residents to discuss issues concerning Hangstones field, especially behaviour. The chairman agreed to this.

A resident referred to the waiting list for allotments and asked if the Parish Council could consider purchasing other sites. The chairman replied that the site identified for the new Burial Ground would include space for more allotments and improved access.

The Chairman thanked all those who had contributed and declared the meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.