

# **YETMINSTER'S ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MINUTES**

**Held At St Andrew's School at 7.30pm on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

Present: Cllr Goater, Cllr Plaice, Cllr Lafferty Cllr Hentley, Cllr Torrance, Cllr Kellar, Cllr Knight, Cllr Parfitt, DCCllr Lawrence, CCllr Penfold. 16 members of the public and the Clerk.

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

Cllr Goater welcomed the community and thanked them for such a splendid turn out.

## **2 APOLOGIES -Cllr Perlejewski.**

## **3. APPROVE MINUTES OF VILLAGE MEETING 19<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2017**

The minutes were approved by those present. Proposed: Cllr Goater. Unanimously agreed.

## **4. REPORT BY THE CHAIR**

The past year has witnessed an increased workload for councillors and the clerk. This is due largely to the decisions made in recent years by central government that local issues affecting parish and town councils should become the responsibility of local councils rather than district and county councils, who in turn are being reorganised. Whilst on many counts this reorganisation is to be welcomed, it follows that more responsibilities will now fall on parish and town councils and clerks. In addition, whilst all parish councillors offer their services on a voluntary basis, increased costs will have to be met via the parish precept, hence the higher than normal increase in the precept for financial year 2018/19.

The good news is that until fairly recently, and for the first time in many years, the parish council has had a full complement of councillors. Currently however, following a resignation, there is one vacancy. A person with an interest in finance, whilst not essential, would be particularly welcome to fill the casual vacancy until May 2019 when the next round of elections is due. During the past year, in addition to the usual housekeeping duties, councillors have given much attention to the following, which in turn give an accurate picture of the responsibilities held by parish councillors.

- 1 Finance : Whilst every effort has been made to keep any increase in the precept to an absolute minimum, nevertheless the increased responsibilities scheduled for 2018/19 necessitated the increase as approved by the full council meeting in December 2017.
- 2 Bus Transport : Following the withdrawal of previous bus services, a working party of 4 nearby parishes and residents and led by Cllr Torrance explored many options and came to the conclusion that Nordcat was the best viable option to provide a less frequent but reliable bus service for the village. Parishioners who have signed up with Nordcat are generally pleased with the new service arrangements which are still subject to on-going negotiation. In addition, increased use has been noted with the train to Pen Mill Station followed by the town bus service to Yeovil town and shopping centres.
- 3 Speedwatch : Cllr Knight and the group of volunteers have maintained a regular monitoring of the speed of vehicles through the village. The police have reported that legal action has been taken against a number of drivers, whilst others have received an official warning. Cllr Knight has decided to step down after many years and a big vote of thanks is due for his work. We welcome any new volunteers who wish to help out.
- 4 Website : Cllr Perlejewski has continued to work with the Parish Website throughout the year. The number of hits has averaged 330 per month. Cllr

- Perlejewski continues to remind parishioners however that the website only works if input, information and requests come from them.
- 5 Children's Play Area : the play area continues to provide a useful and popular venue for young children in the village. However, it has become clear that a major rethink will have to take place in the near future if the play area is to meet modern demands and safety regulations. Councillors, led by Cllr Kellar will consider some options during the coming year. The cost of this however is likely to involve a five-figure sum and funding will have to be sourced.
  - 6 Allotments : Whilst the majority of allotments are well tended, concerns have been at intervals on matters concerning the state of some plots. When vacating plots, allotment holders do not always inform the clerk of their intentions, resulting in delays in re-allocation plus a corresponding lack of good husbandry. Currently a working group led by Cllr Kellar is engaged on the revision of terms of occupation.
  - 7 Neighbourhood Plan : Cllr Torrance and the Neighbourhood Plan team continue to make progress on the creation of the Plan. This is a very important document concerning the future of the village and once accepted by the Secretary of State will give the Parish Council greater influence over any future developments in the village. In addition, once the Plan has been accepted, 25% of any future CIL monies will automatically accrue to the parish for improvements to amenities in the village.
  - 8 Telephone Kiosk : The village now owns the former BT telephone kiosk and various suggestions have been received for its future use as a village amenity, including a village library similar to the one created in Ryme Intrinseca, as a home for a defibrillator or as a village notice kiosk. The kiosk is in a sad state and Cllr Knight is leading a working party looking at future use and organising a refurbishment group.
  - 9 Defibrillator : Cllr Lafferty is leading a working group to consider the desirability of and options for procurement and placement of a defibrillator for the village.
  - 10 Planning Applications : These continue to occupy much time and consideration by the working group led by Cllr Hentley. Following the completion of the Neighbourhood Plan, the workload of the group is likely to expand at some point in the future as we assume greater control of planning matters and will be of vital importance on matters concerning the organic growth of the village.
  - 11 Sports Club : Sadly, the Sports Club went into voluntary liquidation at the end of February 2018 and the lease held by the Club was surrendered. Currently, the Parish Council is in the process of appointing a successor (an individual or local organisation) to take over the running of the facility and promote sports use on the playing field. In the interim, the Parish Council assumes responsibility for the maintenance of the playing field in conjunction with the Tennis and Croquet Clubs who will continue to use the facilities by agreement with the Parish Council. The clubs will have to negotiate a new agreement with the successor tenant when appointed.
  - 12 Road Closure in Ryme Road : Wessex Water have laid a new water main up Ryme Road and through Ryme Intrinseca. This has been ongoing since October 2017 but thankfully is now almost complete and the road has been re-opened. The closure caused real inconvenience to the residents of both villages. The work was however necessary to replace the 1960s cast iron system which was prone to corrosion and bursts, cutting off the water supply to properties. Cllr Knight headed the liaison with Wessex Water and kept

residents informed of progress and plans as the work progressed. Following the completion, it is hoped that Ryme Road will be resurfaced sometime in 2018/19.

- 13 Spar Shop and Post Office : Following protracted discussion with the Spar site owners led by Cllr Parfitt, the car park adjacent to the shop was resurfaced in January 2018 much to the relief of customers.
- 14 Highways and Footpaths : Whist highways through and around the village are in a satisfactory state, there are certain residential streets in a very poor state of repair, particularly Coles Lane, Uplands, Mill Lane and Birch Lane. The Parish Council will continue to press DCC for remedial work. Also, some footpaths are overgrown and require attention. It would be helpful if regular walkers would bring any footpaths that required attention to the notice of the Parish Council for appropriate action.
- 15 Parking in the Village : There have been several comments made by residents concerned about parking in the village, particularly in the High Street. A bottleneck has appeared recently in Melbury Road. The Parish Council contacted DCC to try to arrange a meeting to see what options might be available but it was apparent that Yetminster had much less of a parking problem than many other villages in Dorset and DCC could not offer any hope of remedial work. We intend to monitor the situation and will have to wait until the new Unitary Authority is in place when we will try again to get something done, with the help of our County Councillor and hopefully, MP.

## **5. REPORTS FROM CLUBS / SOCIETIES / INSTITUTIONS**

**Full reports from the following organization can be found on the website.**

**Angela Alston reported for “Coffee and Cake”.**

**Team Rector - Tony Gilbert report extracts read by Cllr Goater.**

**1<sup>st</sup> Yetminster Cub Park delivered by Paul Hollick**

**Yetminster & Garden Craft Society report from Pandy Brown read by Cllr Goater**

**Yetminster Book Club report from Frances Burton.**

**100 of Yetminster History Society report from Anthony Brown**

**Yetminster Short Mat Bowls Club reported delivered by Pat Smith.**

**Jubilee Hall reported delivered by Cllr Goater**

**WDDC reported by DCllr Lawrence on the following**

- District Council report for Annual Parish Meeting 2018.
- Ward boundaries for the New Unitary Councils members to have a briefing in April,
- WDDC councillors have agreed the budget for 2018/2019 an increase of £5 in
- 20,000 NEW HOMES to meet demand by 2033
- Home Ownership Register
- OPENINGS DOORS
- February 2018 Sky lanterns and helium balloons Leisure Development Fund Budget

- The West Dorset Anti-social Related Public Spaces protection order 2018  
Feeding of gulls banned under new order this will come into force 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2018
- Council Tax

**The Gallery report delivered by Sarah Hedin**

**Yetminster Community Project reported delivered by Ray Drewett**

**Moviola report delivered by Ray Drewett**

**The White Hart – report read by Cllr Goater**

**Yetminster Fair Association reported by Barbara Driver**

**Pat Simms reported on the Table Tennis Club**

**Wriggle Valleys Mothers Union report delivered by Margaret Shipman**

**Wriggle Valley Women’s Group reported by Pat Smith**

**David Gould reported for the Church**

**Graham Plaice reported on Helping Hands**

**Sherborne Rural division reported by CCllr Penfold**

#### **6. PARISHIONER'S QUESTIONS TO COUNCIL**

Mrs E Judd thanked the Chairman for organising a very illuminating meeting. She hoped however that in the future this would be more widely publicized. The Clerk indicated that email circulation was not possible due to data protection restriction and that it would be helpful for organisations would send information to the website for inclusion.

Mrs Judd raised concerns at the outdated website and that the community had given up on the website as the Parish Council were not maintaining it properly

It was reported that there would be a Village clean up on Saturday 14/4/18 at 10am - Volunteers welcome.

Cllr Kellar asked if a Badminton Club could be initiated and agreed to investigate.

Carinna Vickers  
Clerk to the Council