

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 20th April 2017 at the Village Hall, School Approach, Weston Turville.

PRESENT: Cllrs M Jarvis, R Eastaugh, M Conolly, D Hillier, J Paterson, D Sibley, M Simons, C Terry, N Treacher
 30 members of public

1	<p>WELCOME, APOLOGIES, ANNOUNCEMENTS</p> <p>Cllr Jarvis welcomed everyone to the meeting. Cllr Backus had given apologies.</p>	
2	<p>THAMES VALLY POLICE</p> <p>Inspector Chris Young and Sergeant Nick Perks attended from Thames Valley Police and gave an update on the restructuring for Aylesbury Vale. There would be three teams – a 999 response team, a large investigative team and the neighbourhood police team. He reminded everyone that although the Wendover police station had now closed, they provided an engagement point at Wendover Library on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am – 12noon and the front desk at the station in Aylesbury was manned from 7am-10pm.</p> <p>Insp Young was asked about the recent spate of antisocial behaviour in the village, including rocks being thrown at cars in the Marroway. Insp Young was unable to go into detail as it was an ongoing investigation but assured the parish that they were investigating the offences and working with other partnership agencies, including the Community Safety Partnership and Antisocial Behaviour Officer at Aylesbury Vale District Council. He stressed that all incidents and information should be reported to the police.</p>	
3	<p>PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN’S REPORT</p> <p>The Chairman’s report on the work of the Parish Council was read out to the meeting, a copy of the report is attached to these minutes as appendix 1. The report included a demonstration of the new LED street lights which would be installed over the two years.</p>	
4	<p>WTPC FINANCE</p> <p>Cllr Sibley gave a report of 2016-17 Parish Accounts and Budget for 2017-18. The annual accounts had been audited and would be submitted to Mazars (the external auditor) after the next Parish Council meeting.</p>	
5	<p>VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE</p> <p>Cllr Mandi Simons, Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee gave a report on the village hall, a copy is attached to these minutes as appendix 2. She said that the Village Hall Management Committee was in need of new members and urged residents to consider giving a few hours to help run the hall.</p>	
5	<p>YOUTH CAFÉ</p> <p>Rachel Blackmore spoke about the youth café which is run by volunteers and funded by a grant from the Parish Council. It is a drop in group which enables young people from all areas of the parish to socialise and play instruments and games and remains popular. Several of the young people who attend the Youth Café came along to the meeting and said what they enjoyed about it and how it had helped them. The Chairman encouraged the children to contact the Parish Council to let it know what new facilities they would like to see at the recreation ground.</p>	

6	<p>WIDOW TURPIN CHARITY</p> <p>Mr Hugh Chamberlain the local Trustee & Hon Treasurer gave a report in order to comply with the articles of the Charity. The Annual Accounts were read out with a brief report to summarise the past year activities to the meeting.</p> <p>The charity derives a small income from the rent of a field left to the charity, the income is used to distribute food vouchers to people in need in Weston Turville or they can arrange delivery of food.</p> <p>A copy of the accounts was given to the Clerk for the Council's records.</p>	
8	<p>OPEN FORUM AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One resident asked what was being done to combat speeding in Worlds End Lane. The Chairman said that the Council was funding an additional ground screw for the area in order to collect data. Previous data collected had been shared with the police but so far it did not meet their criteria to take an enforcement action. He also said that the Council had requested traffic calming should the development of 26 houses in land of Worlds End Lane go ahead. 2. A resident said that a dog bin in Brookside was regularly full or overflowing and that she had reported it to the Council previously. Dog bins are emptied by Aylesbury Vale District Council. The resident was asked to inform the Parish Council when it was overflowing so that the Council could consider whether there was a need for an additional bin in the area. 	

The meeting was then closed, cheese and wine was provided.

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

Appendix 1 – Chairman’s Report

Welcome to our Annual Parish Meeting, I would like to thank you for taking the time to come and find out more about what your Parish Council has achieved over the last 12 months and what we have planned for the coming year.

We now have a full complement of councillors going forward with several of us working on particular areas of expertise from Planning to health and safety.

I would like to give special thanks to our Planning committee and also the Neighbourhood Plan committee as they have had an enormous workload over the last 12 months with many speculative planning applications and also the major proposed developments. The map you can see shows our parish, and the planning applications that are approved and pending.

Our Neighbourhood plan is in its final stages and we expect to have this in place out for approval in the coming months, and once this has been adopted we hope that we will have a greater say over what developers are proposing. We will keep you informed via our web site when this has been completed.

The Parish Council have been working on several projects to make our Parish a better place to live and work for example :-

We are now responsible for the grass cutting in 30mph zones which was previously done by Bucks County Council and we believe that this has made a big difference to how the village looks. We are also now looking to extend this further to cover more of the Parish including the 40mph areas. In addition we also have an active plan to side out footpaths and remove the weeds from paths and road edges as the county council are doing less of this. We believe that all residents within our Parish should have a pleasant environment and the Parish Council is becoming the first point of contact for any issues residents may have.

We will be replacing more than 100 street lights in the next 24 months for new LED variants, this is a positive move for both environmental and long term cost savings as the bulbs in our existing lights are no longer manufactured. This is an example of one of the new lights

In the last 12 months we have

- Carried out extensive tree maintenance which is ongoing
- Installed signs and bollards on school approach
- Installed new dog waste bins
- Repaired and replaced benches

We also have a Parish Council development plan that is reviewed at each full council meeting and is regularly updated. This details the stage of each project and also priorities and actions required.

An example of some items are

- Traffic calming
- Playing field improvements
- Village hall extension
- Road name signs

We are currently looking at including the name of the parish on road name signs to make people aware that they are in Weston Turville and not Aylesbury. This includes the main roads in to the Parish to define the boundary.

We still have many issues from traffic within the parish and with the new developments planned and proposed this will only increase. Our Highways and environment committee is very active and we continually communicate with the Highways authority at Bucks County Council in order to keep our issues on their list for action. We have recently been advised that the resurfacing of the roundabout on Main St has made it on to the list for action in the coming year,

In terms of traffic calming we are making our problems clear to both the Highways authority and also developers so that we can try and find a suitable scheme to make it better for all of us. We will update the web site in due course when we have more information on this.

Please visit our web site as this is our main method of getting information out to residents. This will be continuously updated and we are happy to add details of groups that meet within our Parish

Finally I would like to thank my fellow councillors for their hard work over the last 12 months working on many projects and helping to make our Parish a better place. And also I would like to give personal thanks to our Parish Clerk Sarah Copley who has made a major improvement in how the council carries out its duties.

Our next full council meeting will be Thursday 18th May starting at 7pm

Not forgetting our planning meetings where everyone is welcome to attend is held on the first Thursday of each month.

**Martin Jarvis
Chairman
20th April 2017**

Appendix 2 – Village Hall Committee Report

I am pleased to report that Weston Turville Village Hall has had another successful trading year taking nearly £30,000 in bookings. We have also received £135 in donations from WT. residents who have 'hired' out the tables and chairs for private functions. Our regular running costs have remained about the same at around £18,500 per annum.

As part of our ongoing programme of improvements to the hall we have this year replaced all the doors and windows at a cost, just shy of £17,000. This work has completed our schedule of planned improvements over the past 5 years. Some of this work has been paid for jointly with the Parish Council who owns the building. We have now decorated, replaced the curtains, replaced the staging, replaced the broken tables and chairs, replaced the kitchen and refurbished the toilet areas including a new flushing mechanism for the gents' urinals to save water costs. We have installed a heating system and wall insulation, replaced the ceiling lights with energy efficient ones, and installed a hot water heater in the kitchen and a sound system and hearing loop for the hard of hearing. A CCTV system has now been installed after a spate of evening and night time criminal damage and thefts. The hall will be redecorated again during the summer holidays.

I hope you agree that the hall has benefited from the work and we continually have more booking requests than we have spaces available.

The committee took the decision to reduce the evening hours the hall can be booked to and to restrict the playing of music in the evenings: this has significantly reduced the noise and anti-social behaviour complaints we were having as parties were turning out at midnight into the car park.

The committee also took the decision to employ a new booking clerk as we were unable to get volunteers to fulfil this role. Sarah has now been with us for a couple of months and has settled into the role getting to know the different pricing structures and our rules of letting. If you are interested in volunteering a few hours a month to help run this community building, please speak to me after or contact me via the VH website.

I hope you agree that the village hall remains a vital community asset that is well used and well cared for by the residents of the parish. I would like to finish by offering my personal thank you to the committee for their hard work and perseverance in getting us to where we are today and a special mention for Rosemary Eades who sadly died at the end of last year, having spent many years assisting the committee with both time and wisdom.

Mandi Simons
Chairman Weston Turville Village Hall 2017