

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Drayton Parslow Parish held at Greenacre Hall  
on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2015 at 7:30 p.m.**

**Present:** Cllr. D. Perry, Chairman  
Cllr. M. Thum, Vice-Chairman  
Cllr. S. Colborne-Baber  
Cllr. H. Harvey  
Cllr. P. Moore  
Cllr. S. Spavins

**Also present:** Deborah O'Brien, Minute-taker; County Cllr J. Blake; District Cllr N. Blake;  
PCSO F. Callaghan; Mrs W. Preston

1. **Receive Apologies:** to accept apologies for absence – PCSO Tina Hobson
2. **To confirm the minutes** of the last meeting - The minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2014 were confirmed as a true record.
3. Chairman Cllr David Perry welcomed those in attendance and gave the following report:

#### **Planning**

In April 2014 we unsuccessfully objected to the establishment of a pig rearing facility at Ridge Farm, this was allowed under delegated powers without going to committee, which was unfortunate. We are in the process of opposing a proposed extension whilst attempting to achieve smell mitigation measures on existing facility in discussion with the company (British Quality Pigs) behind the factory. This application will go to Development Control for decision in the coming weeks. BQP have offered a site visit.

A second application causing much debate is for a 6 acre solar farm which has been submitted by Mr. North. This in particular has been a source of some robust email and verbal communication, and so the Parish Council offered the opportunity for residents to express opinions regarding the application confidentially. After a public meeting, votes submitted were tallied and a majority were in favour. The Parish Council therefore voted to support the application with suggested conditions that would minimise the adverse effect on the community.

There have been continued low-level activities around the Salden turbine project, we are presently waiting for a consultant's response to the latest set of studies by the developer before we respond to AVDC. This application has not yet gone to Development Control for determination.

The Parish Council is naturally delighted that localism and a lot of hard work has prevailed against the Dorcas Lane wind farm proposal.

We have continued to fight efforts to convert the barns at the crossroads to offices or a residence.

We have been advised by a resident of his proposal to build 12 additional homes behind main road, including affordable housing. The site has been submitted to the "call for sites" under the emerging Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan. However, the Parish Council refused an offer by the resident to fund a housing needs survey as this would not be an appropriate engagement for the Parish Council.

#### **Other Matters**

We continue with our various housekeeping measures around the village. We have cleared obstructions around the Guinness Trust houses, arranged removal of trees growing into power lines

opposite Stones Way, removed a dangerous tree on the rec, cleared hedges on New Road, pushed AVDC into cutting the hedge between Stones Way and a minor repair and cleaning of the War Memorial and surrounds with support from Community Leadership funds from Cllr. Janet Blake.

We have added a container and new concrete base to the rec and purchased a new Hayter triple mower and strimmer and sold the old mower. An Agreement was reached with the Cricket Club to mow with volunteers in return for waiving rental fee. The quality of the outfield has improved markedly as a result, although the unevenness is still a problem, and the Cricket club are seeking funds to resurface this. The Parish Council assisted in gaining a grant for a survey as a first step.

We completed upgrades of equipment to the lower play area using S106 monies and a WREN grant. This has proved very popular with the young families it is targeted at.

Having adopted our telephone box, we installed a Defibrillator, and arranged training on its use. We received a contribution from the local masonic society towards the purchase of the unit.

We have come to an arrangement to start raising the bollards at the rec gates to reduce anti-social behaviour, including various activities in the middle of the night in the upper car park and so far this appears to have been effective.

There has been a major exercise relating to the devolution of grass cutting services to the villages in a cluster arrangement with Stewkley Enterprise. Having received grant money from Bucks we are now underway with two people from the Village who are cutting the grass and the verges for us.

We are in the process of resolving a sliver of unregistered land with Carringtons which sits in front of the Sports and Social club and Greenacre Hall. Presently we are researching the likely costs as it appears Carringtons will support us as long as we pick up the legal fees.

**4. Report from PCSO Callaghan:**

Crime figures for the area are quite good with only 6 events in the past year. Other villages have been hit by car theft crimes and power tool thefts. Residents are reminded to lock vehicles, outbuildings and sheds and to be vigilant. Power tool marking schemes are available.

**5. Reports from Mrs Preston:**

Greenacre Hall – no complaints or issues noted

Parochial Church Council (PCC) – no problems at present. Mrs Preston suggested that the Parish Council may wish to consider the installation of a decorative village sign mounted on a column.

**6. Sports & Social Club**

First of all we would like to thank the Parish Council for their support throughout a particularly hard time following the damage from New Years' Eve and during the rebuild.

The Club is now open as per usual and although we were off to a very slow start after being closed for more than 2 months (having lost around 3k in revenue) we are pleased to report that bookings and customers are on the up and we hope to continue to provide a service to the Community, to help people keep connected and support the Village Cricket Team throughout the season.

A Comedy night was held on the 10<sup>th</sup> April which was generously supported by the Villagers, their families and friends, the Cricket Club, Darren and Anna Gough. A great night's entertainment.

We would like to thank Karen and Nick Hopton for being guardians of the gate, this year so far there is less damage and disturbance, and it is working out well for all concerned.

The Committee and its volunteers give many free hours to keep a rural Community meeting place open, without whom we would not be able to continue, so many thanks to everyone concerned.

**7. Village Produce Association**

It was reported that as only 3 people were remaining on the committee there is a possibility of the VPA show not happening due to lack of volunteers. Cllr Colborne-Baber will speak to the committee to see if there is anything the PC can do to encourage residents to help.

**8. Cricket Club**

An account is to be set up with a diesel supplier for the parish mower. A rota is now in place which is working well.

Community Chest application M444: Following the approval of the funding, topped up by £110 from the cricket club, the topographical survey was carried out by Midland Survey Ltd. at the beginning of February. The survey results have been sent out to three companies who have been asked to quote for improvements to the rec outfield and these will be sent to WREN from whom funding will be sought.

**9. Vote of thanks**

The Parish Councillors recorded a vote of thanks to David Perry for his services as Chairman over the past year

**10. To agree the date of the next meeting – May 2015**

The meeting closed at 8:15 p.m. Signed..... Date.....