
Filkins & Broughton Poggs Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting

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May 2nd 2017

7.30pm at the Methodist Chapel, Filkins

Present: Keith Perry, Jeremy Irwin Singer, Roland Jones, Rob Bohm,
Noelle Walsh, Julie Tridgell
Plus 24 members of the of the public

Draft APM Minutes

1. **Apologies for absence** : Mr. Peter Handley, Mr. D McFarlane
2. **Acceptance of minutes** of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on May 25th 2016.
The minutes were read out and agreed by all.
Cllr Jeremy Irwin Singer proposed, Cllr Noelle Walsh seconded
3. **Matters arising from those minutes:**
 - 3.1 **Playground:** The PC has obtained two quotes for the items of equipment that have been already dismantled. It was agreed to proceed with placing the order. The order was to have been placed in February, however it was delayed because there may have been a grant available from WODC as of the 1st April. It was agreed that for the small amount this would raise, the onerous paperwork to be completed and further time delays this would delay the project further. The order will now be placed immediately. The cost of the two pieces of equipment is £6632.60 Inc. VAT
Should the rest of the playground equipment be replaced at a future date, it was decided that the rest of the equipment to be installed the Parish Council agreed that it would replace these from existing funds. There has been a donation during the year of £675 raised by the Grandmothers tea party and a promise of £500 had also been promised from the Beer festival Fund.
 - 3.2 **Bunds:** There was concern from the floor as to what was happening with the maintenance of the bunds – funded and built by WODC in 2007. The assumption from the floor was that it was the Parish Council's responsibility.
Cllr KP stated that the bund level had settled causing it to be less effective. Work was carried out to re-instate the bund by WODC. However, heavy animals have been allowed to graze across it. Although there was a previous agreement with the Ernest Cook Trust, landowners, to fence the land off, this had not happened because of a labour shortage and illness.
It was reported that although several members of the Council have voluntarily, at different times, helped to raise the level of the bund , it is not the responsibility of the P.C and before WODC will get involved again the land needs to be fenced off.

For background information previous to the meeting, to restore the bund once again to its original level properly, WODC was clear that:

- a) The top soil be removed and a layer of clay added of 1-2 ft.
- b) Top soil to be replaced and re-seeded
- c) Fencing off to prevent cattle access from cows
- d) Regular mowing of the grass
- e) Ongoing needed mowing regularly.

Mr Roger Chitty stated that WODC estimated that this would cost between £5-7K for them to do the work. At the time WODC may have had funds available towards the project but could not fund the total cost of the whole project.

In conclusion the first point of call is to ensure that ECT fence the ground. Once this has taken place negotiations can be had with WODC, the Landowners ECT and the Parish Council The PC to establish who has ownership of the bund and responsible for its up keep.

3.3 Grass Verges

Mr. Richard Martin raised the issue that the verges are becoming overgrown and hazardous, especially at main road junctions. He asked whether the PC would consider to allow the Groundsman to help mow some of them for safety reasons. The council agreed to look into this.

The verges coming into Broughton Poggs, from the A361, are also overgrown and it was requested if they could be cut before Open Gardens Day 21st May. Also to be considered The Planks at the Gassons, towards the Old Bull.

4. Chairman's report

Cllr Keith Perry delivered his report for 2016/2017 - copy attached.

5. Treasurer's report

The Clerk reported that the completed accounts for last year (2016/17) and the accounts for (2015/2016) were available for inspection and gave a brief breakdown for the both the Parish Council and the Village Centre which we considered completed but unaudited accounts for the last year.

Filkins Parish Council Expenditure 2016/2017 **£12,019.38**

General expenditure is in line with budget and similar to last year mainly with fewer repairs. However, some funds were used to plant the orchard £547.00.

Filkins Parish Council Income 2016/17 **£15,144.61**

There was an additional receipt of a £654 donation, from the Grandmothers day, towards the playing field. The Parish Council recognised this with thanks.

Filkins Village Centre Income **£11,729.39**

The same as last year, a steady balance with top floor being let and the Centre is now showing it can support itself. The Village Centre Allotments were fully subscribed for most of the year. The Gassons Allotments remain virtually empty.

Filkins Village Centre Expenditure **£ 3839.66**

This is down on last year because last year included pro rata salaries for the Clerk and the Groundsman. These now sit in the Parish Council Expenditure. This year shows a steady income/expenditure which should stabilise.
There is a need to accrue for building repairs that may occur.

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Swimming Pool

Membership subscriptions are up on last year and expenditure is also slightly up due to repairs at the beginning of the season. The utility costs are being kept down on last year, due to a decrease in the electricity bill. We are feeling the benefit of the new timers and pumps. Also a credit from SSE helped to keep costs down.

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|-------------|----------|
| Income | £5088.17 |
| Expenditure | £2234.32 |

In conclusion, the Bank balance as of 24th March stands at £43,379.75 which covers both the Village Centre and Parish Council transactions.

The Parish Council is currently separating the Village Centre from its Council accounts. This means that the Village Centre will have its own set of accounts showing Income and Expenditure to prove it can stand alone and be more transparent.

Note VAT cannot be claimed on Centre invoices because of its charity status.

Once the internal auditor is satisfied we will make arrangements to transfer any funds belonging to the Centre from the Parish Council account. The audited accounts will be appended to the July 13 PC minutes.

There was a query from the floor as to the amount spent on felling a tree @£400. This was done by Fairford Tree Services whom the Council has used before. Mrs. Avril Payne suggested that, in her opinion, it was expensive, and she would let the clerk have the details of another company.

6. County Councillors' report – none

7. District Councillors' report – none

8 The Village Centre

Mrs. Hilary Ward, a volunteer who helps to run the village shop, was concerned over the number of cars currently parking at The Village Centre. She reported that the first floor office uses a large portion of car park. She considered this to be a safety issue especially when the pool re-opens for the summer.

Mr. Richard Martin stated that this was an issue for the Village Centre to deal with and not the Parish Council as the Village Centre owned the car park. He also pointed out it would be difficult to police and enforce.

9. Police report

PC Colin Davis could not attend the meeting but he sent a breakdown of criminal activity within the local area and including but not specifically Filkins and Broughton Poggs

- Burglary Non dwellings
- 6 Thefts

- 2 Criminal damage
- 1 Public Order offence
- 2 Dangerous dog offence

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Regarding the main issues and ongoing work being done includes speeding which is the biggest and most frequent issue. The team at Carterton is conducting 4 sessions per month, offering enforcement and education depending on the recorded speeds. Regrettably some have been to residents who have mentioned the issue to the team.

Roads policing are supporting our work and completing marked and unmarked operations whenever possible. There has been a drop in tickets and an apparent reduction in speed from our results. We are continuing with frequent data collection.

Parking is another priority particularly round the schools, tickets are being issued. All areas are frequently patrolled to deal with concerns of residents. We are also dealing with all instances of rural crime and Anti-social behaviour but at this time reported instances are very low.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.35

Ann Tyldesley
Clerk

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