

Minutes of The Annual Parish Meeting of Rothersthorpe held in the Village Hall Church Street Rothersthorpe on Monday May 12th 2014 at 7.00p.m

Present; Mr J Considine – Chairman, Mrs C Nolan, Mr J Morphy, Mrs J Johnson, Mr R Boscott, Mr P Dickens and Mrs J Botterill.

In Attendance: Mrs J Eliot – District Councillor

Mrs S Murphy – Clerk

PCSO J Harrison

10 members of the public

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mrs A Addison and Mrs J Kirkbride.

2. Minutes of the Previous Annual Parish Meeting

The minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting held on May 13th 2013 were read, agreed and signed.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Police Report

PCSO Jen Harrison addressed the meeting and gave an update on the crime figures for the past year. There had been 36 crimes but these also included Rothersthorpe Services. She explained that she can be contacted by face book and twitter as well as the normal channels. Operation Annexe has been set up which enables PCSOs to visit and liaise with schools in their areas. The PCSOs have been short staffed but are now back up to full numbers.

PCSO Harrison left the meeting.

5. Chairman's Report

Mr Considine addressed the meeting and spoke about the past year for the Parish Council. The main areas of note were the Conservation Area review, SNC Local Plan, Superfast Broadband, and the Compost Site planning application. Mr Considine spoke about the Playing Field and said that the Parish Council will ensure that open and transparent debate takes place as the project progresses.

Mr Considine then spoke about the Parish Council's responsibilities such as the cemetery and the Churchyard and street lighting and the maintenance of the villages green areas. The parish council welcomed Mr Boscott and Mrs Johnson as new councillors. Mr Considine thanked Mrs Eliot, Mrs Addison and Mrs Kirkbride for their support for the village and the Parish council. He also thanked all the parish councillors for all the work they undertake and the Clerk for her support to all the Councillors.

6. Clerk's Report

Mrs Murphy introduced this report. There had been 9 full parish council meetings over the past year

and the parish council had considered eight full planning applications. All the allotments had been taken and there had been three internments in the cemetery. Mrs Murphy thanked Mr Steve McCarthy, Mr D Parry and Mrs C Kutas for their work and contributions as parish councillors and welcomed Mr Rob Boscott and Mrs Jodie Johnson, who had been co-opted onto the Parish council to replace them. Mrs Murphy also thanked Mrs Eliot, Mrs Addison and Mrs Kirkbride for their support, Mr Phil Crowe for his work on the newsletter and Mr Mike Barber for the flowers throughout the year at the crossroads.

7. Finance Report

Mrs Murphy introduced this report and showed the Income and Expenditure for the Parish Council for the year ending March 31st 2014. She pointed out that the largest areas of expenditure for the parish council were the gardening contract, the clerk's salary and street lighting. This year the parish council had also invested in new street lighting. There were no questions regarding the report.

8. County Councillor's Report.

The information for this report was not available and will be addressed at a subsequent parish council meeting.

9. District Councillors report.

Mrs Eliot introduced this report. Despite a government grant shortfall of £500,000.00 SNC has managed to hold Council Tax to the same level as 2013. Joint working arrangements with both Cherwell District Council and Stratford Council has enabled SNC to retain all its front line service provision and not increase the 2014/15 Council Tax. The New Homes Bonus funding has been increased this financial year and Rothersthorpe PC has £1,350 in the pot for village organisations and the PC to access for community projects. SNC now has a 4 day working week for collection and is now recycling more items and the food waste bins have had a positive report. Silverstone Technology Course is now open for students from 14 -19 years old for high technology training. The Forum is the name chosen by SNC members for the new Civic building which should be ready for occupation early next year. The building will be used as SNC offices and the Council Chamber and the public library and the registrar's office. The Moat Lane regeneration scheme is progressing. Cllr Peter Rawlinson is the new Council Chairman and Cllr. Roger Clarke is Vice Chairman.

10. Village Hall report

Mr Barber introduced the report. The village hall year has been particularly uneventful but the hall still continues to provide a much needed and well used community meeting place for Rothersthorpe and the surrounding area. Mr Barber detailed the wide variety of groups that use the hall and even though hire charges have been increased, the hall offers great value for money. Mr Barber thanked Mrs Dellar for keeping the hall well maintained and Mrs Sturt for her work on the village hall accounts. The VHMC have had 6 well attended meetings. Mr Barber thanked Mrs McCarthy, Mrs Battams, Mr Appleton and Mrs Kutas for their work and welcomed Mr Crowe, Mrs Fountain and Mrs Nolan to the committee. Mr Barber spoke about the excellent working arrangement and close cooperation with the school and its staff as being essential to the success of this shared facility.

11. Any Other Business

Mr Barber asked if the hedge alongside the allotments could be cut lower all the way along and continued down by the adjacent bungalow. It was agreed to speak to the garden contractors.

Mr Partridge asked about the sites on SNC's website that had been suggested as possible areas for new housing. Mr Boscott explained that these sites had been designated by SNC and not by the parish council. Mr Considine explained that the housing needs survey that had been carried out previously, identified two areas for affordable housing. He explained that the village would be kept informed of any future progress on this issue.

Mr Irving asked about a detailed plan of the proposed playing field. Mr Considine explained that initially a light proposal was drawn up to see what would be feasible. The playing field is at the very early stages of discussion and the parish council will ensure that open and transparent debate will take place when it develops. Mrs Partridge said transparency over housing issues and the playing field would be helpful to villagers.

Mr Considine said that he had great pleasure in acknowledging that Mr Dickens had served for 50 years as a Parish Councillor and would like to commemorate this by planting a tree in the village.

The meeting closed at 8.10p.m

Signed.....Dated.....