

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE ELECTORS
A Virtual Meeting by Zoom in the time of Coronavirus Lockdown
On Friday 24th May 2019

The meeting commenced at 7.00pm.

There were six persons present with Mr Sean Noble in the Chair.

Apologies

Mr P Dewey, PCSO Tina Roylance

Minutes

The minutes of the last Annual Assembly on May 24th 2019 were agreed and signed.

Chairman's Report

Firstly, with these unprecedented times I would like to start with the ongoing situation regarding COVID-19. The Parish Council together with the Vicar and members of the community coordinated the provision of a flyer to villagers, offering support at this time. Three contact names were given for people who needed shopping, prescriptions picking up or any other help. A What's App helpers' group was set up to coordinate help. Fortunately, the system has not been overwhelmed by calls for assistance, and volunteers are coping with the volume.

We would like to express our thanks to all those involved in the support Group and the villagers who are helping their neighbours out independently.

The Parish Council met six times in the past year 2019/20 including the final meeting on 22 April 2020 which was held via Zoom.

The precept this year has remained at £4,500.

S137 payments have remained the same with payments of £50 each being paid to

Good Companions Club, Wilton and District Day Centre, Oak Apple Club, Wilton and District Link scheme and Wiltshire Air Ambulance.

The S137 payment to Grovely Pre School will not be paid next year as it has closed, its award has been transferred to The café in the Church, to recognize the good work from this group in raising funds for the church whilst bringing together children, parents and elderly villagers to enjoy tea and cake on a Thursday and a Soup kitchen on a Saturday.

Two villagers attended our meeting in November to cite occasions in South Street when cars had been driven irresponsibly and feared that an accident would happen if nothing were done about it. Physical deterrents, bumps and chicanes, were discussed, but were known to have associated problems. It was agreed that the Traffic Survey in South Street would go ahead, and a metro count was in place before Christmas and after analysing the data Wiltshire Road Safety Team confirmed that this location can be considered for Community Speed Watch.

A letter had been received from a villager, complaining about dog fouling and asking for some action to be taken. The clerk wrote to the Dog Warden who then visited the complainant and brought more posters to reinforce the message that dog fouling was against the law and incurred a fine.

Tom Nash resigned as chair of the PCC at the conclusion of last year's AGM. I would like to thank Mr Nash for his hard work and commitment to the Parish Council over the past six years. He will be much missed for his thoughtful, pragmatic view of village affairs.

I would also like to thank Councillor Darren Henry for his help and support over the years and wish him all the best in his new role as a Member of Parliament for Broxtowe.

I would also like to welcome Councillor Kevin Daley and look forward to working with him.

I would like to express my thanks to the Parish Clerk and all the Parish Councillors for their efforts and support during the year.

Please all stay safe in these difficult times.

The Chairman asked if any matters were arising from the report. Dog fouling was reported as being an ongoing problem in the lockdown period and it was suggested that a notice be sent to the Parish magazine.

Wishford United Charities

- Sarah Noble as Clerk has reported that there are no changes in expenditure from last year, with ongoing utility and insurance bills.
- Upcoming expenditure includes repairs to fencing due to storms earlier this year and repairs are required to the wall separating the Almshouses and Great Wishford School.
- As per the last Charity Commission Annual return investments total £41,000.
- Jonathan Plows has joined the Trustees replacing Alana Poulton.
- There are seven trustees.

Parish Police Report

- 14th August. Dwelling Burglary - South Street. Suspect(s) have entered the property via a lounge window. An untidy search had been carried out. Jewellery was stolen.
- 4th February. Non-Dwelling Burglary - South Street. Suspect/s have gained entry into a barn by cutting the padlocks to the door. 3 x Stihl Chainsaws and 2 x Stihl Strimmers removed.
- 21st March. Vehicle Offence - Langford Road. Suspect(s) has smashed the passenger side window and stolen a black rucksack, which contained an ipad mini, airpod charger and other items.

- 26th March. Theft - South Street. Suspect has stolen fuel from the oil tank.
- 8th May. Criminal Damage - South Street. Victim went to meet a friend to go for a walk. Both had left their bikes went for a walk on their return tyres have been slashed.

PC 1481 Wileman

This was a very disturbing report with a far greater number of local offences than has been seen in recent years. It will also be reported in the Parish Magazine so that villagers can be made aware.

Any Other Business

A councillor commented on the state of signage on entering the village on the C10 from the Langfords. He felt that it was unattractive and ways of improving all approaches were discussed. This will be addressed again in the next council meeting.

Cllr Daley spoke of his support to the village in his role of County Councillor.

The meeting closed at 7.40pm.