

# Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting for Cardington Parish to be held on Tuesday 3rd May 2016 at 7.30pm.

1. Apologies: Apologies were received from Mr J Norris.
2. Minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2015. The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2015 were distributed, approved and signed.
3. Matters Arising: a. None.
4. Reports: a. Chairman's Report – Councillor Tonks.

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2015-16**

The composition of the Parish Council and individual councillor responsibilities remained largely unchanged from the previous year except Cllr. Barry Pinches was added to those who take a first look at planning applications and were therefore as follows.

		RESPONSIBILITY
	s	Chairman / Tree Scheme
	s	Broadband
		Bridges and Ditches/VH
	w	Agency Planning
	gton	g Applications/ Churchyard otpaths
	s	g Applications
/	y	g Applications/LJC
		an

## **Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)**

The PC received the first such levy during the year and decided to engage with the community to develop preferred projects for consideration. All ideas received were noted, analysed and discussed but inevitably spending CIL money is strictly regulated to avoid possible abuse and the limited amount of £2,400 together ruled out a number of ideas. The council is testing and costing the initially favoured ideas but also has to consider whether delaying spending the money until any further money was accrued thus allowing larger projects to be considered would be better.

## **Water Quality**

Following a number of individual complaints to Severn Trent (ST) about very poor quality water being supplied to a number of properties in the village partly resolved only by filters being fitted to the supplies to individual properties ST accepted something needed to be done. Liaison with the PC was helpful to all concerned to ensure disruption caused by the work was

both minimised and well communicated. A relatively new technology was used by the ST main contractor, Amey, which reduced the amount of pipe exposure, shortened the period of disruption and thus reduced costs when compared to complete pipe replacement. ST have continued to deal with some issues and whether the work has provided a complete solution remains to be confirmed although generally water quality is more acceptable.

### **Churchyard**

Whilst the PC continued with its annual autumn leaf collection and tidy up of the church award a contractor was appointed to undertake routine grass cutting during the summer. Satisfaction with the work and the cost confirmed the contractor should be reappointed for the Summer ahead. The PC continues to hold a reserve to maintain the stone walls that characterise and enhance the centre the village and it was decided to commence some repair and maintenance particularly raking out and repointing a section. Investigation revealed the worst area, a quote was received and discussions have begun with PCC as areas of the churchyard wall are legally under different ownership.

A recent gale removed a substantial part of a conifer and this tree together with two others have been a source of concern to a householder who has feared damage to private property should any of these trees be uprooted in a gale. Whilst professional advice has been that there was no imminent danger the PC is pursuing the removal of all three trees to negate the risk and to replant with more suitable species within the churchyard.

### **Website**

For some years the PC has submitted relevant papers to David Elliott who on his own volition developed a website for general Parish use. Legislation now requires councils to publish papers on a website and whilst we have been very grateful to David for his voluntary work on behalf of the community the PC has decided to take advantage of available grants to purchase a dedicated website. David is fully supportive of this move as he recognises that his website is entirely dependent on his efforts and it would not be easy for anyone to take over as the programme is somewhat unique. It is appropriate to mention the gratitude of the PC and indeed the wider community for David's efforts in creating and running the website.

### **Financial**

General expenditure of £3575 was covered by income of £3,612 with healthy reserves in and to cover potential election expenses, repairs to the churchyard wall and any un-budgeted requirements.

### **Planning Applications**

Various planning applications have been considered and discussed during the year without any significant contention. One application for a house to be built in the area classified as "Open Country" where residency in temporary buildings had been established without permission was treated by the SC under special legal exceptional circumstances laid down by Central Government. Local concerns and feelings of injustice had been expressed but the matter was outwith the authority of the PC and probably the SC.

### **Summary**

I wish to thank my fellow councillors for their commitment through the year and to our clerk, Mrs Jayne Madeley, who has ensured all PC activities have conformed to good practice and legislative demands.

C E Tonks April 22nd 2016

b. Financial Report - Clerk Mrs Jayne Madeley:

Clerk, Mrs Jayne Madeley reported on the internal audited accounts .

- c. Shropshire Council – Cllr Barker. Shropshire Councillor Barker reported he was liaising with the police regarding the recent spate of breakins in and around the Parish. He reminded residents of the upcoming police and crime commissioner elections and the EU referendum. Shropshire Council has increased the council tax by 3.99% to cover increasing costs including adult social care.
5. Parochial Charities/organisations –
  - a. Village Hall: the village hall continues to be used regularly with many activities for the community.
  - b. Cardington Charity. The charity has completed their new build home and there are new tenants in the home.
6. Electors Questions: There were no electors questions.