

## **Northmoor Annual Parish Meeting**

**Wednesday 17 May 2017**  
**Northmoor Village Hall**

### **Parishioners Present**

There were some sixteen parishioners present.

### **Also in Attendance.**

PCSO Sandra Syphas, Matthew Hare and a colleague from Gigaclear, County Councillor Charles Mathew and District Councillor Steve Good

**Apologies.** Michael Druce and Henry Herford who are both on holiday. District Councillor Hilary Fenton who is inconvenienced by a back problem.

### **Meeting Chairman**

Parish Council Chairman Graham Shelton chaired the meeting. Graham welcomed Parishioners to the meeting.

### **Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 2015**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18 May 2016 had been circulated prior to the meeting and signed as a true record.

### **Thames Valley Police Report**

Community PCSO Sandra Syphas gave a report on crime statistics for the village, which remain reassuringly low in our community. There had been five recorded crimes in the past year that included the theft of number plates from two cars at Thameside Court and a mystery burglary that Sandra was unable to give any information on.

The Chairman thanked Sandra and the Community Police Team for their work within the community.

### **Gigaclear.**

Matthew Hare of Gigaclear had come to report on recent difficulties that the super-fast broadband service had recently experienced, where there had been a number of breakdowns. Matthew gave his company's apologies for these inconveniences some of which had been due to the wider network outside of Gigaclear and one had been due to a local accident where a digger had dug up and broken the main cable to Stanton Harcourt and Northmoor. He said that they were making a £200,000 investment to improve the maintenance of connection and this should be working by July.

#### **Item 4: Chairman's Report.**

The Parish Council has met 11 times in 2016/17 and Parish Councillors attendance has averaged 93%.

Parishioners in attendance have been as low as none on one occasion and as high as 7, an average attendance of 2 per meeting.

We have also had County Councillor Charles Mathew present for 10 of the eleven meetings, and District Councillors Hilary Fenton and Steve Good together attending six.

Among matters considered

**Planning:** There have been 12 Planning Applications. There are currently consents for 30 dwellings, only the Park Farm site with fifteen have been started.

**Gravel:** The Gravel Liaison Group has met twice since the last Annual Parish Meeting. As yet there is no date for commencement of commercial quarrying for sand and gravel at Stonehenge. The need to close the road for constructing the conveyor system is no longer necessary due to the proposed use of a pipe system. The period for completing the quarrying has been extended by two years.

**Roads:** The state of the roads is regularly reported to OCC. Potholes continue to be a problem particularly where traffic is crossing grass verges damaging the road edges, particularly when the A415 was closed.

**Precept:** The Parish Precept this year was essentially unchanged from last year at £4440 (last year £4472).

**Allotments.** There are no unused allotments at the present time. The allotments continue to cover the cost to the Parish of the rent and water rates by means of a small rental charge. The Council would like to see the formation of an allotment association managed by the allotment holders.

**Playing Field.** This continues to be the largest expenditure for monies from the Precept.

The Chairman thanked Councillors for their contribution to the running of the Council, Councillor Mathew for his regular attendance, and the Clerk for his supporting role on the Council.

#### **Items 5 & 6. Reports from Councillors**

Councillor Peter Winder reported that the Village Plan was largely completed, with the only significant wish that had not born fruit being the bus service, with the community bus not proving viable.

Councillor Maureen Sears said that improvements to the village hall essentially arose from the Village Plan, and had been a success because of the backing of the Parish Council and the enthusiastic support of a group of volunteers. Phase 1, was now largely completed, and phase two, an improved kitchen and stores was being worked on.

Graham congratulated the Hall Committee for their achievements.

District Councillor Steve Good, said he was pleased to be back after his recent illness among old friends and pleasant memories. Steve is now Vice Chair of Lowlands Planning Committee and the Licensing Board at WODC.

He referred to the Local Plan currently being examined by the Inspector and was apprehensive that there might be further delays.

County Councillor Charles Mathew thanked the meeting for his recent re-election as County Councillor. He said he was attending the public examination of the Local Plan and would be speaking when the second phase takes place in July.

Items that Charles covered in his report included: =

- The camera at Newbridge, where slowly moves to install the system manufactured by Nielsons are in progress.
- The variations to the planning approval for gravel quarrying at Stonehenge, that included the use of a pipe to transfer gravel to the wash and grading facility at Linch Hill in place of an open conveyor, and an extension of time, were approved by OCC.
- The Comet Bus regularly runs each Tuesday to Eynsham and Witney.
- The County Core Policy on waste and mineral extraction was continuing to make progress

Charles concluded by referring to the County's proposal for improving the A40 between Witney and Oxford, which he thought was money that could be better spent.

### **Open Item for Parishioners.**

There were no matters raised.

### **Parish Matters**

John Waterfield reported on the **Investment Club**. John said the club was good fun and gave an understanding of stocks and shares. The club, whose thirteen members paid a monthly investment of £25 had been very successful with contributions of £13500 had increased in value to currently £17200. John said new members were welcome.

Carrie Berry said that a **Barn Dance** had been organised and would be taking place on the coming Saturday.

**Report from the PCC.** A written report was provided by Henry Herford outlining what was happening in the Church.

**Ducks and Drakes**, who meet to keep the church grounds tidy could do with more volunteers, do we need to change the day or time?

Soraya Heffernan reported that **Northmoor's Great Get Together** would be taking place on 17 June between 4 until 9 in the playing field with parishioners bringing a picnic and enjoying a social get together.

Julie Williams spoke of the **Good Neighbour Scheme**. This scheme is a way of countering the loss of services and the breakdown of our rural communities. A greater involvement and engagement of people in their community stimulates well-being and cohesion both at a society level and at an individual level.

**Village Fete**, due to take place on 24 June needed an organizer.

Maureen Sears said the **Annual Flower and Produce Show** would take place on 3 September. Schedules should be out by early June.

The meeting finished at eight o'clock

Signed.....

Date.....