

CHILTON FOLIAT PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 8 MAY 2012 at 7.30 pm

Present: Nic Coome (Chairman), Gary Crumpler, Jim Hynes, Paul Outridge,
Chris Humphries, Graham Francis (Clerk), Martin Cook (Wiltshire Highways)

1 Apologies: There were none.

2 Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of 10 May 2011

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting having been circulated were taken as a true record, approved and signed by the Chairman.

3 Matters arising from the minutes:

The Chairman reminded Councillors that The Wheatsheaf Public House was still on the market and that there was no chance of the site being sold for domestic purposes.

4 Chairman's Report:

The Chairman reported that this was the beginning of a historic sixth term for the Parish Council which normally elects every four years. He alluded to changing national planning arrangements which could be good for Chilton Foliat since the village would be treated as open countryside and therefore not open to uncensored development. Infill, one or two homes and very limited development would be the order of the day, The village gained recognition as second in the Best Kept Village competition for the third time.

The Chairman bemoaned the lack of interest from parishioners in putting themselves forward as Councillors. The Council had been without two Councillors for most of the year which was an unacceptable position.

Nic Coome reminded the meeting of the Chilton Foliat Fire Engine which had been donated by Dorothy Bethell, one of our Benefactors, together with a sum of money for its maintenance. It was apparently given to the Swindon Agricultural Museum in 1934 on Coate Water which has been closed for many years. The Chairman would like to see the Fire Engine returned to the village on its 250th anniversary in 2019.

Nic Coome concluded his report by thanking all Councillors, including those who had left for their hard work and commitment. He also thanked County Councillor Chris Humphries for his regular attendance and for his advice on constitutional matters and Graham Francis, the Clerk, for his support and commitment to the Parish Council.

5 Financial Report:

The Clerk spoke to the unaudited statements of accounts circulated showing that the sum of £4,735.10 had been carried forward at March 31st, almost £1000 more than last year. Income from the Precept, Bank Interest and VAT recovery amounted to £6,962.32 and payments were £6,102.48.

A refund of £349.34 has been reclaimed in respect of VAT for the year 2011/2012.

6 Reports from Village Organisations:

Paul Outridge reported on behalf of the **Village Hall Committee**.

Massive gas bills received since November last so Brian has changed our supplier and fixed the price for 3 years. An annual inspection of the boiler discovered a burned out air inlet manifold and heat exchanger obviously part of the cause of the high bills. Both have been replaced under insurance. Bookings are slow despite more advertising due mainly to the state of the kitchen and storage area.

For the first time we have experienced a rodent problem, we are hoping it has been dealt with by the use of traps. Cause believed to be the work going on above the kitchen.

The police were called following / during a party at the end of March following a resident complaint, believed to be a noise or late finishing problem. Hiring rules updated.

Jubilee day celebrations being finalized due to joint effort of VH committee; PCC;

Primary school; Toddler group; WI and volunteers.

Hall committee now down to five, three of whom are full time workers. We are without a secretary, bookings officer or caretaker.

Martin Cook, from Wiltshire Highways gave details of changes to the organisation explaining that Highways matters were now dealt with by the Chippenham Highways Office where he was based. The Clarence service was still operating and directed queries to Chippenham for action.

Phone numbers: 01249 445554 and 01249 445544

Martin went on to answer local questions about Highway matters in the village.

7 Public Forum:

There were no members of the public present.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.18