

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Stockton Parish held on Monday 19th May 2014 in Stockton Village Hall at 7.00pm

Those Present:

Parish Councillors: H.Collerson; P.Banham; S.Bennett, S.Kittendorf, C.Millidge, J.Neal, and the Clerk

District Councillor: Cllr.S.Kittendorf

County Councillor:

General Public: 18 members of the public

Apologies:

Parish Councillors: Cllr.J.Emberton

District Councillor:

County Councillor:

General Public:

Introduction

The Chairman, Cllr.H.Collerson welcomed all attendees to the Annual Parish Meeting and outlined the format that the meeting would take.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting having been previously circulated were read and it was proposed by Cllr.S.Banham and seconded by Cllr.S.Bennett that they were a true record of the proceedings.

Chairman's report

The Chairman, Cllr.Collerson noted that during the 2013-14 year in addition to the regular 12 monthly meetings, the Parish Council had some extra meetings and the total attendance at the regular meetings was 76%.

This year was dominated by planning issues, from the planned development at Glebe Close of 17 dwellings, to the contentious proposed developments at The Hill (47 houses), adjacent to Sycamore Close (80 dwellings) and Napton Road (80 dwellings). The chairman further noted that the development at The Hill has been refused by the planning committee, and noted that the development adjacent to Sycamore Close is expected to go to the planning committee soon. The Parish Council has opposed all the developments, partly because all village infrastructure, school etc cannot cope with such an extension to the village.

The Chairman noted that the Boundary Commission has altered the ward boundaries to reduce the number of District Councillors, and our new ward will be Stockton and Long Itchington. The new District Councillors will be elected in 2015.

The Chairman noted that this year's Villager of the Year was Mrs. Pat Alsop who delivered the parish magazine for nearly 40 years, with Judy Osborne and Mick Childs as the other nominees.

The Chairman thanked all Councillors and the Clerk for their support during the year, and this concluded the Chairman's report

Financial Report

The Clerk of the Parish Council then delivered the annual financial statement for the year ending 31st March 2014, and outlined the differences in the accounts from last year and reasons for the variations.

Open Forum

The Chairman invited those present to address the meeting. One parishioner complained about the overhanging trees and hedge at the playing field path. The Chairman noted that the Parish Council offered to share the expense of felling these trees with the owners of the adjacent houses, but this offer was not taken up by those residents. The Parish Council will arrange for the hedge to be trimmed. A parishioner asked what effect the shortage of cemetery space in Southam will have on the Stockton cemetery, and in reply the Chairman noted that it will not really affect the cemetery in any significant way given that the Parish Council has control over who is buried in the cemetery. The Chairman further gave an explanation of how the new cemetery extension will be populated using a beam system for headstones.

There being no further business under the Open Forum the Chairman thanked those present for their attendance, and closed the Annual Parish meeting at 7.20pm.