

# ENFORD PARISH ANNUAL MEETING

Draft Minutes of the meeting held at  
Enford Parish Hall on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2014 at 7.30p.m.

**Present:** Mr Norman Beardsley Chairman, Enford Parish Council  
Mrs Jane Young, Mr Michael Fay Councillors  
Mrs Pat Holdway, Mr Bruce Waight Councillors  
Mr AD'Arcy-Irvine, Mr D Harbottle Councillors  
Mr R Roberts, Mr R Petitt Councillors  
Mr Gareth Holden Councillor

Mrs D'Arcy-Irvine, Mrs Lowena Harbottle, Mrs Tessa Manser, Mr Adrian Orr, Wiltshire Councillor Charles Howard

Mrs Elizabeth Harrison

Clerk, Enford Parish Council

The Meeting was opened at 7.37pm by the Chairman of the Parish Council, Mr Norman Beardsley

- 1 Apologies:  
Apologies were received from:  
Mr Henry Middleton - Parochial Church Council  
Mr Ollie Stagg - Enford Football Club  
Mr Steve Brown - Enford Community Fund  
Mr Steve Becker - Neighbourhood Watch  
Mrs Tanya Becker - Enford Newsletter
- 2 Welcome by the Chairman of the Parish Council –Mr Norman Beardsley  
The Chairman welcomed the above members of the village, committees and groups.
- 3 Verify Minutes of the Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2013  
The Minutes from the Annual Parish Meeting of 2013 were considered. Mrs D'Arcy-Irvine had requested a change of wording which had been done. She requested to read the amendments as did Mr Adrian Orr. These were accepted. Cllr Fay proposed them as a true record and this was seconded by Cllr Young. The Chairman signed the Minutes.  
Cllr Roberts asked the difference between the Parish Council AGM and the Annual Village Meeting.
- 4 Report by Police Liaison Officer – PCSO Aaron Heath  
Having previously requested confirmation from the Clerk of the time and date, unfortunately PCSO Heath was unable to attend.

**General County Matters.**

Cllr Howard said the past year has been yet another one of good progress in many ways and gave examples of:

- The Council Tax having been frozen for the fourth successive year, although there will be small increases of a few pounds per household this year due to the amounts payable to the police, fire and rescue and the Parish Council. The Council's achievement in holding the rate for a further year is remarkable because the Settlement Funding payments from Central Government have been reduced by about 9% and will reduce further next year. Despite this, they are still continuing to maintain front line services and invest in yet more care for the elderly and vulnerable people, improving their housing stock and spending extra millions of pounds on the roads to clear as much as possible of the backlog in repairs. With ongoing inflation at 2%, Wiltshire Council has had to find savings of £25 million this year to balance its budget. The Council Tax we will all be paying in the coming year, compared to similar and surrounding councils, is one of the lowest in the country.
- Links to the Wiltshire Council Annual Parish Report and the Wiltshire Council Financial Plan have been posted in full on the Home Page of the CollingbourneDucis Website at [www.collingbourne-ducis.com](http://www.collingbourne-ducis.com). The Annual Report is an eight page document which covers all the main areas of the Council's activities over the past year.
- On a personal note, Cllr Howard informed us that he continues with his membership of four committees of Wiltshire Council, including being Chairman of the local Eastern Area Planning Committee, and Vice-Chairman of the Wiltshire Pension Fund. He is now also a Governor of the Wellington Academy.

**Local Matters.**

He has been involved in a range of issues of direct interest to Enford during the past year, including:

Planning applications.

Highway repairs and management.

Dealing with enquiries from members of the public.

Flooding.

He said it had been a pleasure working with the Parish Council during the past year.

The Parish Council thanked him for his continuing support, efforts and report.

- 6 Report by the Army Liaison Officer:  
Unfortunately no one was present, though invited to attend. Since Lt Col Nigel Linge retired during the year, nobody has been appointed to replace him. There is apparently one Liaison Officer whose remit is the whole of the country!
- 7 Report for the Parish Council – Chairman Norman Beardsley  
This last year has been over-shadowed by the unexpected death of Ken Monk. He served Enford Parish for 30 years and for the last 13 years had been Chairman of the Council. The Councillor numbers have gone up and down over this past year (starting with 7) though we are currently working with the correct allocation for the north and south wards of 11 Councillors.  
One of the more recent issues we have tried to deal with has been the Flooding. Working with various sectors within Wiltshire Council we are trying to achieve the best long term protection against future floods in Enford. The location of the village, the lie of the land and the unpredictability of weather patterns are however beyond anyone's control but we shall continue to work together with Wiltshire Council, the Environment Agency and Water Boards. This work has also created the voluntary post of 'Flood Warden' which has been taken on by Mr Steve Crompton – we are very grateful to him.  
Cllr David Harbottle has been working with the Highways Dept. in keeping the roads, verges, road signage, speed limits, street lights etc throughout the Parish in the best possible condition attending all the relevant meetings and keeping Enford and its problems high on the Council's 'to do' list. Likewise, Cllr Norman Beardsley has been overseeing the Public Rights of Way throughout the Parish, their general state and maintenance and attending relevant meetings on 'up and down grading' change of use and/or direction.  
All the Cllrs are on the Planning committee and give fair appraisal to all the Applications generated from within the Parish. Cllrs also assist with clearing and tidying up the Playpark for example and maintaining the facilities around the village – be they bus shelters, benches, communal areas.  
Cllrs have also been attending the various Area Board meetings (Tidworth and Pewsey) to keep abreast of the events and changes within the area.  
The Council would also like to thank their Liaison contacts for their continued attendance, support, interest and information.  
All Parish Council meetings are open to the Public should they wish to attend. There is always a 'Public Question Time' allocation on the Agenda and this is for the public to bring to the Council's attention situations arising that are relevant or of concern to the village as a whole, this might possibly be to request/source funding /assistance with a particular project or put forward beneficial ideas that would work in the Parish's favour.  
Alternatively, any member of the Parish can contact the Clerk or any Councillor at any time and request that a particular subject is added to the Agenda for discussion at the next Parish Council meeting. The Councillors are all volunteers who give their time, knowledge and experience for the benefit Enford.
- 8 Report for the Prochial Church Council – Mr Henry Middleton  
Unfortunately Mr Middleton was unable to attend and sent his apologies but had sent in a report which was read by Mrs Judy D'Arcy-Irvine.  
The Parochial Church Council would like to give its sincere thanks to the Parish Council for the 50% increase in the Precept Grant going from £200 up to £400. They would also like to thank them for their support with the successful application to Wiltshire Council for a grant of £1,000 towards the repairs of the

Lychgate which is the village's memorial for the First World War. It is very much appreciated.

The fund-raising continues with providing the teas on 15<sup>th</sup> June at the Priory when the gardens are open to the public. On 4<sup>th</sup> July there will be a concert in the Church by the Military Wives Choir and the Church Christmas Fair will again be held in the Village Hall on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November '14. Finances remain tight so success with fund-raising events is vital.

9 Report for the Village Hall – Mrs Judy D’Arcy-Irvine

Thanked the Parish Council for their continued support of a donation from the Precept. It's main use being the maintenance of the recreation ground which benefits the whole village. The Committee also continues to subsidise events and user groups where needed.

The Hall's usage is by the local community as well as outside groups and individuals for weddings, children's parties, anniversary celebrations etc. Every effort is made to keep the costs down and they haven't risen in the last 5 years since the Hall was built, meanwhile the turnover has increased year on year.

The accounts for 2012-13 were independently audited and submitted to the Charities Commission. The actual value of the account as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2013 was £6,649.83 which is an increase of £2,422.54 over the 2012 figure of £4,227.29.

As mandated by the grant providers, a Contingency Reserve Fund has to be held for future repairs and maintenance and this currently stands at £30,000. It will be increased in line with inflation each year to ensure the Hall remains financially viable.

The Committee is now undertaking a series of improvements to the facilities which includes a picnic area with benches and tables, upgrading the external lighting, additional storage and redecoration. They are currently researching the possibility of outdoor exercising equipment and improved sports facilities.

There will be an outdoor performance of 'Treasure Island' by the Rain or Shine Theatre Company on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July on the Recreation Ground. It is a bring your own picnic occasion and if it is raining, the performance will move into the Hall. In response to many requests, the Committee is looking to organise a commemoration of the First World War in June 2015 – Ideas and volunteers will be needed!

Cllr Roberts congratulated the Village Hall on their efforts. Cllr Petitt asked where the tables and benches were to go as they are a great idea and facility. Two already exist and the Committee are hoping to be able to order a couple more.

10. Report from the Parish Hall & Reading Room – Cllr Richard Petitt

Cllr Petitt reported that it had been a reasonably good year for the Parish Hall.

The expenditure through the year had been £1,413.62 and the income had been £1,928.68 giving a profit of £515.06. They have achieved a reduction of circa £600 in the insurance costs to £466.95 by agreeing to a long term policy.

The planned re-cladding of the building could not be done last year due to the weather but this year they hope to do this along with roof repairs.

Among the events and activities held there are circuit training, bingo, St Patrick's night, a French evening and jumble sales.

Cllr Petitt also announced the change of date to their AGM which will now be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> June at 7.00pm in the Parish Hall.

There were no questions.

11. Report from the Enford Community Fund

Neither Ms Amanda Farrow nor Mr Steve Brown were able to attend however Steve Brown sent in a brief report which was read out by the Chairman. The Enford Community Fund once again put on a successful Summer Fete in June and a Fireworks evening in November 2013 at the Village Hall. We would like to thank all of those from our community and those individuals and businesses outside of our community who helped us with these events.

Along with the 2 fundraising events, in conjunction with the Village Hall, we once again hosted the Children's Christmas Party. Special thanks for this to Katie Briscoe and all of the helpers who make this such a great success.

In the last 12 months awards have been made to:

Enford Village Hall  
The Children's Christmas Party  
Enford Newsletter  
Enford Youth Club  
Enford Football Club  
Red Lion Football Club  
Enford Parish Hall

ECF's accounts are published on the Enford Newsletter website and regular updates on funding are published in the Newsletter.

Once again a big thank-you to all of the helpers without which we would not be able to put on these events and to all those who come along and support on the day.

The Summer Fete is on 28 June 2014 and please note that the fireworks this year will be held on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October. I look forward to seeing you all there.

12. Report from Enford Football Club – Mr Ollie Stagg

Mr Ollie Stagg had sent his apologies for not being able to attend and a report which was read out by the Chairman.

The adult side has just completed another season in Division 1 of the Salisbury and District Football League, with Rory Plank doing a good job as the manager. They finished in 8<sup>th</sup> place and also reached the semi-finals of the Charity Cup. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Parish Council for its support in the past and hopefully into the future.

The children's coaching is going well on Saturday mornings and is mostly well attended with approximately 10 to 14 children turning up most weekends. We also hope to enter a team at the Summer Fete on June 28<sup>th</sup> as we did last year. We have recently just purchased new nets for the mini soccer goals thanks to a donation from the Enford and Chisenbury Fete Committee, for which we are very grateful.

If there are no objections then I will also continue to be the Football Club representative for the Parish Hall Committee.

There were no objections.

13. Report from the Enford Newsletter Committee – Mrs Tanya Becker  
Unfortunately Tanya was unable to attend the meeting but had sent in the following report which was read by the Chairman.

The year since the last Parish Council Meeting has been much quieter, as far as the Newsletter is concerned, with no great events or celebrations taking place in the Parish. This has given us time to reflect on the Newsletter itself and in particular its content.

The Committee is very aware that the Newsletter is the major source through which information is shared, as at the heart of its constitution is the reason for its existence: that '*Copies of the Newsletter shall be delivered to every dwelling in the parish free of charge*'.

In recent years, it has been felt that the content has undergone a change. Events are advertised but we do not always receive reports from groups after the event. How much better it would be if everyone could read about what happened and monies raised and in this way we could perhaps encourage others to take part in future occasions.

Our focus, therefore, is to encourage individuals and groups to let us know what is happening. In particular, we want to encourage The Football Clubs, The Youth Club and The Monday Club as these groups are working very hard to bring together the young people in our Parish.

We also want to encourage the Parish Council to place information in The Newsletter. Elizabeth Harrison, the Clerk, has been very helpful and as a result, over the past two months we have had a page of news showing what the Parish Council is doing and some of the decisions that have been made.

We hope to build on this, as the Parish Council is the hub of governance and the good work by the Councillors is of interest to everyone as it affects us all.

#### **Finances**

Last summer we voted not to have an envelope collection as we felt that our accounts were in good order and we could manage for one year without. We do hold a small contingency fund in a deposit account which would, if need be, carry us through for about 8 months. However we try not to touch this if possible and fortunately we have not yet had to do so.

Thanks to various groups in the Parish we are able to carry on in the coming year, although we will need to send out the envelopes once again to ensure that we can continue not only to produce but also to improve the look of the Newsletter. Last year we had a colour cover at Christmas which we would like to repeat this year.

On behalf of the Committee, I would like to thank all those who have made donations towards running costs, both individuals and groups within the Parish. We are very well supported by the different funds in the Parish but we also raise money for the Newsletter ourselves. The major source of this is through advertising plus we hope once again to have a stall at the Summer Fete.

Advertising alone in the last year brought in £765 however the overall cost of

running the newsletter was £2,075. Full accounts can be found on the Newsletter website.

#### **The coming year**

The committee will continue to serve the community as well as we can by producing a good quality Newsletter which is useful and hopefully enjoyable to read.

14. Report from the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme – Mr Steve Becker

Unfortunately Steve Becker was unable to attend and he sent in the following brief which was read out by the Chairman. This was followed by a brief on the Parish Plan for which Steve Becker is the Chairman of the Steering Committee.

#### **Neighbourhood Watch**

As none of the other NHW coordinators wanted to take on the role of Area Co-ordinator, I advertised the vacancy in the newsletter for 2 months running. However there were no responses, so there has been no distribution of bulletins since the end of March. I will continue to maintain the master email distribution list so, should there be a desire in the future to resurrect the scheme, it could be done quickly and easily.

#### **Parish Plan**

All was going well until January, at which point I had a few health issues to contend with so the Steering Group meetings were temporarily suspended. I am conscious that the Parish Plan is taking a bit longer to deliver than originally anticipated, and I take full responsibility for the delay. I will be in contact with the other Steering Group members within the next few weeks in order to start things up again. I believe that a realistic target for completion would be the end of this year.

15. Matters of Concern to the Residents of Enford

The Defibrillator:

Cllr Pettitt explained the current situation to the Enford residents attending. It is the same as reported in the Parish Council AGM Minutes and reads as follows:

*“Although it is in its position it is not yet registered as operational. The Clerk has sent the necessary paperwork to the Community Heartbeat Trust (CHT) who are supposed to then register this with the South West Ambulance Service Trust (SWAST). They then log it onto the system as operational. CHT do not work full-time and are therefore somewhat slow at getting things done. Susie Brown (on whose wall it is located) will be doing the weekly/monthly checks and is keen to bring in St John’s Ambulance for training sessions. Cllr Pettitt has spoken with SWAST direct and they can bypass the delays caused by CHT. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact them before next Wednesday (21<sup>st</sup> May) with the information they require and they will register the defibrillator.*

*It will also need to be registered on the ‘Webnos System’ (Susie Brown is dealing with this) as well as Defibtracker.com (the Clerk can register this) and CHT are also offering “Awareness Sessions” for those nominated to use it. These would be in*

*either June or July, weekday evenings starting at 7.30pm running for approximately 2hrs. The Clerk is trying to get more detail out of CHT on this. [Some while ago the Police requested the details to log it onto their system as well. Once operational, the Clerk will sort this out]."*

Cllr Young raised the issue of Andy Cole, the Parish's grass cutter, not being able to get rid of the grass cuttings. Does anyone know where he can dump them? Judy D'Arcy-Irvine reported that the Village Hall has exactly the same problem. Cllr Young will ask how great a pile of cuttings he creates. Cllr Petitt said it was about £60 per load at the Council depots for green/garden waste as this is classed as commercial usage. Councillor Charles Howard said that the Council does not provide this service anyway. The only possible solution mentioned was that it would have to go in bags to the tip at Everleigh.

16. Date of next Annual Parish Meeting

This will be held next May (2015) with an exact date to be published nearer the time.

There being no other matters raised for discussion, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.27pm.

Elizabeth Harrison – Clerk, Enford Parish Council