

ALVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 1st April 2015

PRESENT: Cllr. Gary Collier (Chair)
 Cllr. Beveley Collier
 Cllr. Ann Thomas
 Cllr. Jennifer Bates

IN ATTENDANCE: Andrew Maliphant (Clerk) Gillian Morse
 District Cllr. Marion Winship Alan Luke
 Clarice Partington

	Item	Notes	Action
1	Welcome	The parish council chairman Gary Collier welcomed everyone to the annual parish meeting, with special thanks to all the village groups who were represented. Apologies for absence had been given by Cllr. Paul Smooker.	
2	Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting 2014	These were agreed as a true record and signed accordingly	
3	Chairman's Annual Report	<p>GC thanked the clerk for his work over the past year, and also Paul Smooker the Vice Chairman for the huge effort and input he had made not only on the A48 and its problems but also with the Playing Field.</p> <p><u>Development within the Parish.</u> Those who attend parish council meetings throughout the year will be aware of the council's comments on planning applications. The new outline planning application for at least 43 homes on land off Clanna Road / Lane will be a big test for not only the village but for the Planning Department and Planning Committee of the Forest of Dean District Council and their draft Allocations Plan.</p> <p><u>A48</u> After the much welcome improvement to the road surface through the village, the subsequent debacle with drainage and repairs was finally resolved. On a negative note</p>	

		<p>however, the highways have still not cleared the vegetation ingress on to the footpath down Swan Hill. Clearing this would double the useable footpath width making for a safer pedestrian route.</p> <p>In August last year two parish councillors along with four residents had training and carried out a series of speed checks on the A48 within the village. Three locations were used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bottom of Swan Hill• Opposite Church Lane• Opposite Court Lane <p>The results were staggering with figures of up to 320 speeding motorists per hour. The abuse levels aimed at the volunteers were equally impressive.</p> <p>Last week councillors replaced the sandbags outside the cottages at the base of Swan Hill, using the existing sand as highways do not now supply filled ones. We urge anyone who thinks that anywhere on their property might be affected by excessive rain / flooding should obtain sandbags from the highways and fill them and store them for future use.</p> <p><u>Social activities.</u></p> <p>With the considerable input and support of the Dog Training Club the parish council held a Christmas Bazaar and Jumble sale in December. Over £180 was raised, half of which was donated to the 'Friends of Lydney Hospital' and the other half put aside for future expenditure on the Playing Field.</p> <p>On a more sombre note, in the autumn of last year the Vice Chairman Paul Smooker organised and sourced items to enable a</p>	
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4	Reports from local organisations	<p>Playing Fields Committee JB reported that the new goal posts are in frequent use by the village youngsters. However, some of the white clips on the posts and red pegs in the ground holding the nets in place are becoming dislodged, and users are asked to replace them to prevent any accidents or damages to the nets.</p> <p>Both cricket and football teams have held informal meetings about their needs for the forthcoming season,</p>	

		<p>and will have further discussions with the parish council about dates and annual contracts.</p> <p>There continues to be a scattering of general rubbish in the car park and reports of unsocial behaviour by non-Alvington residents, which have been passed to the police. If anyone would like to help pick up litter while walking in the village, the parish council have some litter-pickling tongs that can be used, any help would be appreciated.</p> <p>Village Hall Management Committee The clerk reported on behalf of the secretary that hall bookings were steady, but there may be a financial loss this year due to the costs of redecorating. Parish council representation on the village hall committee would be confirmed at the parish council meeting in May.</p> <p>Dog Training Club GM reported the club's biggest concern was getting more volunteers involved, as there can be up to 30 people attending and someone needs to be on site from 6 am to 1.30 pm. Temporary fencing is put up to create a safe area, and activities include dog agility and safety training. Two gala days had been held during the year, and the club would like to do more in the future.</p> <p>Churchyard Volunteers CP gave a big thank-you from the parochial church council for all the care of the churchyard. Despite a churchyard policy of no glass containers, there are some in the cremation area to be wary of. The grass cutter is spacing the work well to avoid over-filling the green bins.</p> <p>A48 Traffic Group JB reported that a request had been</p>	
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5	Annual Financial Report	The clerk presented the unaudited accounts for 2014/15. The figures were organised in three columns – 2014/15 budget, 2014/15 actual income and expenditure, and 2015/16 budget. The projected balance for the end of March 2016 was £7,984.	
6	Alvington Emergency Plan	The clerk presented the revised plan with updated contact information from the District Council, noting the opportunity for local volunteers to get involved in the event of any emergency before the emergency services themselves arrive.	
7	Open Forum	AL spoke on behalf of Alvington & Woolaston Cricket Club, saying they had had a good relationship with the parish council since the club was formed in 1984, and had installed the container with lift-up window in 1989 on the site of the old pavilion. The club is now back in the local cricket league with matches on Saturdays and Wednesdays.	
7	Future Meetings	<p>(a) Annual Council Meeting. Wednesday 13th May 2015</p> <p>(b) Annual Parish Meeting 2016. Wednesday 6th April.</p>	

Signed:.....Chairman.

Date:.....