

Minutes of the Winterborne St Martin Annual Parish Meeting held in the Parish Office, Martinstown on Monday 28th May 2001.

The meeting commenced at 7.00pm.

11 members of the Parish present.

Mr E. Aylott chairman of the Parish Council in the Chair.

1. MINUTES.

The minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held in the Village Hall, Martinstown on Thursday 23rd May 2000 were read. The proposition of Mr C. Taylor that these minutes be signed as a true and correct record was seconded by Mr D. Rickard and on being put to the meeting were approved as a true and correct record. The minutes were duly signed.

2. MATTERS ARISING.

There were no matters arising.

3. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL.

The Chairman gave a full report of the activities of the Parish Council during the year and highlighted the important items covered by the Parish Council. Under the amenity heading trees had been planted on the approach to the village near McDonalds the lay-by south of St Martins Field had been cleared and works to improve the village green were planned including the creation of a footpath opposite Chantry Cottage. Investigations into the possibility of cleaning the pond at the east-end of the village were in hand although no proof of ownership could be established either by the parish council or a third party. The millennium book was still available for sale and the break-even target was almost reached. Efforts were being made to try to establish a footpath link from Mallards Green to the village and the possibility of a gas supply to that area was also being pursued. The problem of parking at McDonalds was still causing concern and a meeting will be held to try to solve the problem. Litter pick-ups had been arranged and an entry into the Tidy Village Competition had resulted in a prize and the presentation of a seat which, will be positioned in the churchyard in due course. It was hoped that a first prize would be gained this year. He thanked members for their support during his first year in office as chairman.

4. AUDIT OF PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS.

The Parish Council Accounts for the year ended March 2000 had been audited by the District Audit Service but as yet had not been signed off. The Parish Council had addressed matters concerning the format of the accounts.

5. REPORT OF THE BLANCHARD TRUST.

Mrs Hearing gave the report of the Trust. She stated that the aim of obtaining a capital sum of £10,000.00 to invest was almost realised as £7,000.00 was now in the fund. The interest earnings of the fund could be used to help those in urgent need in the Parish and publicity in that regard would be welcome. The present low-interest rate would mean that less money could be used to help those covered by the terms of the Trust. She advised that the aims of the Trust were at present being considered in order that monies might be used to encompass a wider range of need.

6. REPORT ON THE WINTERBOURNE VALLEY SCHOOL.

A written report from the Parish Council representative on the panel of managers to the School was read. It was noted that 63 pupils were in attendance at the present time but this would be reduced to 54 in September and the financial position would then have to be very carefully considered to ensure that the school finances were maintained in good order. Mrs Oldham will be retiring at the end of the present term and a temporary head-teacher would be appointed. Thanks were accorded to the parents of pupils at the school who had helped raise funds which, helped to fund trips to take pupils to arts projects and social events.

7. REPORTS FROM VILLAGE GROUPS.

Verbal reports were received from representatives of organisations in the village, each of which indicated satisfactory progress.

8. REPORT FROM COMMUNITY POLICEMAN.

PC Mark Burgess reported the latest crime figures for the Parish and asked that people continued to be vigilant. The recorded crime figures for the village were low although minor thefts from sheds and vehicles were an ever-present problem. He suggested that during Open Gardens those participating be advised to close their curtains so those visitors were unable to view the contents of the property. Visitors to gardens were not always looking at the garden but sometimes "casing the property" with a view to returning at a later date to commit a theft. He asked those present to contact him on any matter of concern and he would do his best to help. He was thanked for his report.

9. TIDY VILLAGE COMPETITION.

An entry had again been made into this competition and as usual all members of the Parish were urged to make special effort to keep the village tidy and free of litter.

10. CLOSURE OF MEETING.

The meeting concluded at 8.55 pm

..... Chairman.

Date