

Yattendon Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting

Held on Tuesday 2nd April 2019 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall, Yattendon

Councillors present: Councillors Gordon Robertson (Chair), Anne Harris, Wendy Mole, Philip Bickford Smith, Georgie Rudge and Adam McCormick.

Councillors not present: None

In attendance: Sarah Marshman (Clerk), Rachel Manley – Headteacher, Yattendon Primary School, Reverend Wayne Lautenbach and Reverend Meg Kirby – Hermitage Team of Churches, David Slack – Managing Director, Yattendon Estates.
6 members of the public.

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| 19/20-APM-01 | Welcome by the Council Chairman
The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. He noted that in the past year the Council had said farewell to Chris Turner but had welcomed both Georgie Rudge and Adam McCormick to the Council. |
| 19/20-APM-02 | Apologies for absence
There were none. |
| 19/20-APM-03 | To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 26th April 2018
It was resolved that the minutes be accepted as a true record and they were then signed by the Chairman. |
| 19/20-APM-04 | Presentations from/by:
Rachel Manley, Head Teacher, Yattendon CofE Primary School
Reverend Wayne Lautenbach, Team Rector
David Slack, Managing Director, Yattendon Estates
Yattendon Cricket Club

Rachel Manley, Head teacher of Yattendon CofE Primary School.
This Rachel's fourth year at the school and the pupil numbers have grown from 73 to 86, with 93 expected in September. The vision of the school has been relaunched this term. She highlighted the importance of the links with the Estate and the community as a whole, and a school topic on Yattendon recently had been very successful. The school came top of all schools in West Berkshire last year and was in the top three the year before.

Reverend Wayne Lautenbach, Team Rector for the Hermitage Team of Churches.
Wayne highlighted that the Hermitage Team consists of seven parishes, all running in their own way, needed to be more cohesive. Therefore, the team council will meet to make decisions to feed back to the PCCs. This cohesion needs to be built, not just across the churches, but across the community as a whole, and Wayne intends to meet with all the Parish Councils to discuss this. There is also a need to make all the churches sustainable. A new team vicar will be joining in September. |

David Slack, Managing Director, Yattendon Estates

The taproom has been a popular business. There is an aim to improve the appearance of the area around it, with improvements to parking and planting. The work on The Royal Oak is almost complete, providing more facilities for private dining and conferences, with a new orangery and kitchen.

Various crops are planted throughout the Estate. The farming support system is gradually being removed, with no support at all in 7 years.

There is extensive woodland across the estate, and the aim is to achieve good woodland management through restocking and replanting, which is a long-term game over the next 100-150 years. 40,000 trees have been planted since this began. Roadside safety has been important, and the estate is ensuring trees are no longer replanted on the roadside.

Martin Betts, Yattendon Cricket Club

The cricket club was restarted two years ago and in that time they have been promoted from division 4 to 2. Home games are on Wednesday evenings. The pavilion needs some work to be able to hire it out for Sunday games. It costs between £2-3,000 per year to maintain the pitch and all the equipment. Everyone is welcome to attend the home games.

19/20-APM-05

Parish Council Reports:

- Reports from the Chairman and Parish Councillors
- Financial Report from the Clerk to the Council

The Chairman noted that there are currently issues with rubbish collections from the West Berkshire Council owned bin in The Square that the Parish council are attempting to address.

The Clerk gave the Finance Report which is at Attachment 1.

19/20-APM-06

Questions from members of the public

The phone box opposite the Village Hall has been adopted by the estate and ideas were sought for a use for it. A book exchange was suggested.

Meeting closed 8:56pm.

Chairman:

Date:

Yattendon Parish Council Annual Finance Report

Annual Parish Meeting 2018/19

The finance report for Yattendon Parish Council for the financial year 2018/19 is presented. Please note that all figures are provisional and will be subject to audit.

Income

The total income received from all sources of funding was £7,562. This consisted of:

- Precept £7,400;
- VAT refund for VAT spent during the 2017/18 financial year £162.

Expenditure

The total expenditure for the year was £17,443. Significant figures included in this total are:

- Replacement of damaged bench in The Square (it should be noted this was covered by an insurance claim, the funds for which were received during the previous financial year) £8,590;
- Total employment costs £2,938;
- Grant towards the costs of maintaining the burial ground £2,500;
- Emptying litter and dog waste bins £285;
- Insurance £291;
- Courtesy lights £138;

- Donation to the Watermill Theatre £100;
- VAT (reclaimable in the next financial year) £1,852.

Looking Forward to 2019/20

The precept will increase from £7,400 to £8,000. This is an increase of 8%. A Band D household will pay a total of £47.14 throughout the year. That is just 91p per week.

The Parish Council has this year committed to include the cost of emptying some dog waste bins within the Parish that were not previously emptied on a regular basis. This, along with the commitment to ensure Parish Council owned litter and dog waste bins are emptied on a weekly basis, has led to an additional £598 in the budget.

The Parish Council will continue to support the maintenance of the burial ground, with a grant of £2,500 being awarded. There will continue to be the usual expenses involved in running the Parish Council, such as providing the courtesy lights, insurance and employment costs. There will also be election costs, and these will vary depending on whether the Parish Council is charged for a contested or uncontested election.