

Harby Parish Council Minutes

Annual Parish Meeting 17th March 2016 at Harby Village Hall

Start: 19:00	Finish: 19:30	Reference: 099/16
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Councillors Present: Caroline Nolan (CN), Stuart Parkin (SP), Diane Quibell (DQ) and Jayne Rose (JR).
Apologies: John Howard (JH) and Rachel Thursby (RT). Cllr Clarke (District Council):
Clerk: Lydia Smithson.

Item	Title and Decision
099/16/1	Minutes from last annual parish meeting. Noted.
099/16/2	<p>Annual report from the Vice-Chairman</p> <p><i>“The past year has seen many changes. Neville Holmes decided not to stand for re-election after 26 years service. His knowledge of the parish is a great loss to the Council, as is his wit and down to earth approach. Richard Croft resigned as Chairman and councillor after 18 years service. Richard led the Council for many years and his knowledge and leadership have been a tremendous asset to the Council, they will be hard footsteps to follow. I would like to thank them both on behalf of the Council.</i></p> <p><i>Cllr Maureen Dobson has continued to support the Parish Council as both a District and County Councillor. Thank you for the wisdom and guidance you bring to the Council.</i></p> <p><i>Once again the Council recognises the marvellous work of our Clerk Lydia Smithson, who continues to make improvements to Council governance, encouraging all policies and procedures to be adhered to. Thank you Lydia.</i></p> <p><i>The Parish money continues to be spent wisely and responsibly with the Council having a satisfactory amount in reserve.</i></p> <p><i>2015 saw the production of the Joint Community Led Plan. This has provided a good solid framework for the Council to work with, ensuring the wishes of the parishioners are a priority. Thank you to all those involved.”</i></p> <p><i>Caroline Nolan.</i></p>
099/16/3	<p>Annual report from County Councillor Dobson</p> <p>Cllr Dobson thanked residents for attending the meeting (8 parishioners).</p> <p>The strong desire for superfast broadband in the parish and surrounding areas, as set out in the Community Led Plan was recognised and confirmation was received that the petition from the Parish Council with local residents, and a letter from the Queen Eleanor primary school head teacher, had been presented to the County Council in February. We are now waiting for clarification from the County Council on where the parish are on the roll out for high speed broadband. It was also noted that the parish may be able to access satellite broadband in the shorter term.</p> <p>The ‘dip’ in the Wigsley/Thorney bridge is to be fixed at a cost of around £30,000 and this is set to be one of the first jobs to be completed by Highways in the new financial year. Again this was highlighted in the Community Led Plan.</p> <p>A meeting was held in Collingham which Richard Croft and John Howard attended regarding devolution where Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire authorities could be</p>

	combined (<i>for more information go to www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/devolution</i>)
099/16/4	<p>Annual report from District Councillors</p> <p>No update.</p>
099/16/5	<p>Collection of allotment and field rents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allotment rent: £65 (£5 outstanding - 1 plot vacant). • Station Road field: £389. • Jowett's Wood rent: £8.
099/16/6	<p>Parishioner time</p> <p>Concern was raised regarding the closure of the Whisby tip, it was noted that unfortunately due to local government budgets being cut the outcome of this would not be able to be altered.</p> <p>It was also noted that residents will soon need to register their vehicles online before using the recycling centres in Nottinghamshire at www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk.</p>
099/16/7	<p>Village hall report</p> <p>The village hall has lost the regular dog training income as the trainer has retired. The income for the year was £24,600, including the generous legacy of £20,000 from C.Withers.</p> <p>The expenditure for the year was £7,700 with £2,500 spent on sanding and restoring the floor.</p> <p>Feedback was given from the suggestions that came through the Joint Community Led Plan. Most people were satisfied with the facilities, with less than half wanting further development. Suggestions for a baby change, re-decoration and re-varnishing the floor have been completed. Wifi is being investigated for the hall. A better kitchen is not feasible – it is a catering kitchen with good facilities, more parking is not feasible but large events can normally use the playing field for parking. A new fitness class has also started, which contributes to requests for additional classes to be run at the hall.</p> <p><i>Village Hall Secretary Janet Medley</i></p>
099/16/8	<p>Queen Eleanor school report</p> <p><i>"It sounds a bit of a cliché but school really does go from strength to strength. Numbers are up and of course that helps in many ways; most importantly it has allowed us to stabilise staffing and maintain 3 classes in the mornings.</i></p> <p><i>The new curriculum has been a real challenge; deciding to force schools to get rid of assessment by levels, but not provide anything else, has created a huge amount of work for the staff but we are working really hard to create a system that works for us but more importantly the parents who have every right to know how their children are progressing! The other major challenge is the new testing regime which will be VERY challenging. The year 2 grammar curriculum for example has elements of the old Y6 test and the new maths tests for Y6 have (so we have been told by our maths consultant) questions in it that are very similar to GCSE! Needless to say the staff and children are working really hard, while still maintaining the breadth and balance of the more creative subjects!</i></p> <p><i>To keep the children stimulated and interested we really do try to do as many trips and activities as possible. Some of the highlights since the summer holidays have</i></p>

	<p><i>been a trip to the Space Centre in Leicester, a farm visit, panto at Newark and a super 2 day residential to Hathersage where the children visited the Blue John mine, and walked in the marvellous Peak District.</i></p> <p><i>School has strong partnerships with neighbouring schools who feed Tuxford Academy and we have attended a variety of sporting events. Our football club runs really well thanks to Mr Haywood; they even managed to see Manchester United play, at home in the UEFA cup knockouts! We also have film, gardening, art, drama and ICT clubs!</i></p> <p><i>This is a good opportunity to thank the Friends of Queen Eleanor for their part in providing a new trim trail that the children really love! The government PE money paid for some with the FoQE paying the rest. It really is fantastic. School was also left some money from the estate of Catherine Withers and the library is now significantly better stocked as we used the money to buy much needed new books. And finally the school staff would like to thank the parents, friends and villagers who have contributed so much to the school. Thank you.”</i></p> <p><i>Mr Bingham Head Teacher.</i></p>
099/16/9	<p>Playing field committee report.</p> <p>Harby Barby on the 11th June is being resurrected and will tie in with the Queen’s 90th birthday. The Field continues to get a lot of caravan rallies which provides a good income for the organisation. The Car Boots continue to run successfully.</p> <p><i>Diane Hogg, Secretary.</i></p>