

Minutes of the Puncknowle & Swyre Annual Parish Assembly held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 25th April 2017 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Mr G. Fry (Chairman) together with 16 local electors

IN ATTENDANCE: C Buckland (Parish Clerk) & County Councillor Ron Coatsworth.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor M. Buckland, Anna Lovell, Liz Slater, Sid & Madeline Marshall.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on Tuesday 26th April 2016 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3. PRESENTATION BY Rovarn Wickremasinghe from the BRIDPORT CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

He gave an informative talk on the work of the local Citizens Advice Bureau which had a team of 70 volunteers with a Recruitment Day being held on 30th May 2017. The fund from WDDC is £70,000 but last year the costs totalled £130,000 so they rely heavily on Donations. The enquiries range from benefits, debt relief, disability, pension advice, housing needs, food parcels, employment & Universal Credit which is means tested. They also help run the Dorset Advice Line (10 am to 4 pm Monday to Friday) with up to 3,000 calls a month.

4. REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Councillor Mr Fry gave his Chairman's Report for the last year including details of the increase in WDDC Community Charges which on Band D would be an increase of £8 per year. WDDC & DCC monies were capped and more services (& costs) would in future be passed onto Town & Parish Councils - see attached Report.

5. PRESENTATION AND REVIEWS BY VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

- a) **Allotments** - Debbie Legge.
- b) **Bride Valley Fledglings** – which is now run by Thorners School and the School Governors - Jill Neill
- c) **Footpaths** - Dave Bird
- d) **Puncknowle & Swyre Homewatch** - Dave Robbins
- e) **The Luncheon Club** – David Buckland
- f) **The Playing Field** - Derek Heaver
- g) **Puncknowle Church** – Geoff Fry
- h) **Swyre Church** – Tony Taylor
- i) **The Village Hall** – Jill Neill
- j) **The Book Club** – Debbie Legge
- k) **The Local Art Club** - Mrs Chris Molony
- l) **Table Tennis Group** – Derek Heaver
- m) **Youth Club** – Jill Neill
- n) **Local WI** – Debbie Legge

6. OPEN DISCUSSION ON ISSUES OF CONCERN TO LOCAL ELECTORS including:

- a. An Emergency Phone Line at West Bexington Beach Car Park was discussed.
- b. The future of the Public Telephone Kiosks – BT want to get rid of the Telephone Boxes in all 3 Villages & ideas were sought for their future use - suggestions included books/information centre & a defibrillator at Swyre. BT want £1 per kiosk but Additional Costs would include insurance, maintenance & also Planning Permission would be needed for “change of use”.

The meeting ended at 9.20 p.m.

Signed: (Chairman) Dated: