

WRINGTON PARISH MEETING

Held on 4 May 2016 in the Memorial Hall, Silver Street, Wrington, BS40 5QE

The Parish Council Chairman, Cllr David Glynn, opened the meeting at 7.00pm. Approximately 45 residents and Parish Council members were in attendance.

1. Welcome

Cllr Glynn welcomed residents to the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Lankester, Cllr Woolf, PC Paul Morris, PCSO Kate Turner and Mrs Sue Simpson.

3. Minutes of the Parish Meeting held 29 April 2015

The Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 29 April 2015 were signed as a true record by Cllr Glynn.

4. Chairman's address and financial statement for the year 2015/16 (available in the meeting)

Cllr Glynn thanked staff and fellow Councillors for their help and support both throughout the year and in arranging the meeting, as well as the Parish Orderly, the Handyman and the Memorial Hall Caretaker, all of who help to maintain and improve how the parish looks. He reported on the Council's recent activities including:-

- The refurbishment of the Broad Street public toilets.
- External decoration and a new kitchen in the Memorial Hall.
- Refurbishment of the 'Cyber Room' which will provide a facility for residents who do not have a computer at home or internet access.
- Also work has been undertaken in the Glebe Field as well as improvements to the Play Areas and to the John Locke Building and house.

Cllr Glynn explained the work of the Planning Committee and thanked Cllr Taylor for chairing the Committee.

He reported the Council were disappointed to hear of changes to the A2 bus service particularly after the Council had been assured by the operator (First Bus) that the service is viable and no changes to the service were anticipated.

Cllr Glynn drew the meeting's attention to the Finance Report noting:-

- The Council's part of the council tax has remained at the same level for four years. However, the Council has still managed to maintain a refurbishment programme for the Council's property, which will continue.
- Grant funding has/will fund various projects such as highway schemes and proposed movable speed warning signs.

Finally, Cllr Glynn suggested that if there were any further questions on the matters referred to above or any other of the Council's activities, residents should contact the parish office, with details available on the Council's website.

Cllr Taylor thanked Cllr Glynn for all the work he did for the Council.

5. Presentations:

- **'The Wrington flood relief scheme'**

Doug Barker, NSC Flood Risk Manager

Katherine Diver, NSC Flood Risk Management Team

Mr Barker outlined the history of flooding in Wrington and explained how NSC had developed the flood relief scheme which comprised two components – a large new culvert which links The Glebe with the stream at Garstons Orchard and a surface water retention pond to the east of Rickyard Road. He said the works to the culvert were now complete and NSC would continue to monitor the situation over the next few years to check its effectiveness.

Ms Diver thanked the Clements family for allowing the retention pond to be located on their land. She explained how the pond would be constructed. The design work was nearly complete so a contractor would be appointed in the autumn and it was anticipated work should start in April 2017. (The slide presentation is available in the Minute Book).

Mr Barker invited questions from the floor:-

A resident asked if an increase in surface water on the road at Cox's Green was due to recent drainage work on the Recreation Field. Cllr Glynn explained the nature of the work undertaken and that it should not lead to run off onto the road.

Residents discussed recent flooding in gardens, whether the flooding in 2012 had been a 'one in fifty year event' and whether the design of Garstons Close bypass culvert screen could be improved to make it safer for residents to unblock the entrance. Mr Barker replied and advised that these issues would be addressed where possible. Finally, how Community Resilience could help with flooding was discussed. Cllr Glynn agreed that this should be considered.

Cllr Glynn thanked Mr Barker and Ms Diver for attending the meeting.

- **'Rural Development; concerns and objectives related to development pressures' – The Wrington Village Alliance (residents group)**

Mr Shail Patel addressed the meeting on behalf of Wrington Village Alliance (a copy of the slide presentation is available in the Minute Book). He invited questions from the floor on the proposed Cox's Green development and issues. Residents discussed the history of flooding in the area, road safety issues raised by the development, land ownership questions relating to the proposed pedestrian footway and whether the development fitted with current planning policy.

- **‘A proposed highways scheme for School Rd/High St/Silver St’**
Cllr Glynn outlined the proposed scheme, details of which were available in the meeting. Information about the scheme would be published on the notice board and Council website and any comments should be submitted to the Council by 10 June. Cllr Glynn invited questions from the floor and residents discussed the height of the proposed kerb, possible loss of parking spaces and land ownership.

6. Reports from North Somerset Council

- **Cllr Deborah Yamanaka – District Councillor’s review**
Cllr Yamanaka delivered her report, copies of which were available in the meeting. In addition, Cllr Yamanaka reported that Wrington C of E Primary School was soon to have two new replacement ‘portacabin’ classrooms and staff car parking facilities would be increased (although the latter might require a planning application). She outlined the changes to the A2 bus route and concessionary bus fares but said she was not optimistic that the changes would secure the future of the bus. Finally Cllr Yamanaka explained that North Somerset Council would vote, 7 June, on the Government’s proposal to introduce a ‘Metro Mayor’ for the West of England.

Cllr Yamanaka invited questions from the floor and residents discussed the implications for Wrington C of E Primary School if the proposed development at Cox’s Green were to be approved. Cllr Glynn then thanked Cllr Yamanaka for her report.

- **Jeff Shipway – NSC Area Officer (road maintenance, drains, litter, etc.)**
Cllr Glynn introduced Mr Shipway and explained that residents could meet him in the Council office on the first Tuesday of the month. Mr Shipway explained that he could assist with problems relating to potholes, blocked gullies, loose manhole covers, road markings and signs as well as vegetation at road junctions and waste collections. He explained that a new contractor had recently taken over the highways maintenance contract with North Somerset Council which had led to a delay in getting some work done. Residents raised various issues affecting the roads in and around the village which Mr Shipway either gave an update on or said he would investigate.
Cllr Glynn thanked Mr Shipway for attending the meeting.

7. Reports from local organisations

- **Wrington Parish Charities – Richard Thorn**
Copies of the report were available in the meeting. Cllr Glynn thanked Mr Thorn for his report.
- **Legge’s Charity – Gabrielle Wilson**
Copies of the report were available in the meeting. Cllr Glynn thanked Mrs Wilson for her report. A resident enquired whether the charity had sold a piece of land recently but Mrs Wilson confirmed this was not the case.
- **Twinning Association**
Cllr Simpson outlined the range of activities run by the Association and urged anyone who was interested in joining to get in touch.

8. Open Forum

Mrs Judith Gallop explained that the Village Journal was looking for a new editor and anyone interested in the role should contact the present editor for more information.

Cllr Glynn thanked those present for attending the meeting and with there being no other business the meeting was closed at 9.00pm.

David Glynn
Chairman

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