

## **Wootton Fitzpaine Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday, 19 April 2018**

### **At Wootton Fitzpaine Village Hall**

#### **MINUTES**

**Present:** John Bradbury (Chair), Debby Snook (Secretary), Sean Kitcher, Bill Taylor, Amy Ralph, Jenny Rodgers, Jackie Collis

**Apologies:** Received from Katie Millar, Marion Brooks, Sue Bradbury

**Election of Chairman:** John Bradbury to chair the meeting this year, but as of 2019, a member of Char Valley Parish Council to chair the meeting. Proposed Bill Taylor, seconded Jackie Collis.

**Minutes:** from the last meeting were circulated and agreed as a true record. Proposed by Bill Taylor, seconded by Sean Kitcher.

**Report on activities of Char Valley Parish Council:** Debby Snook, Chair of Char Valley Parish Council, gave the report for April 2017 to April 2018. The report is attached to these minutes, but a brief summary is as follows:- In May 2017, CVPC decided not to proceed with a Neighbourhood Development Plan. Fingerpost refurbishment is entering its last stage in Wootton and Monkton Wyld. CVPC is keeping a watching brief on any developments with the A35 bypass at Chideock. There are now 12 councillors for CVPC, the full complement. Richard Colby has joined us as the third Wootton councillor, who joins Clive Sage and Debby Snook. The Char Chat was delivered to households in December 2017. Wootton Playing field is due to have goal posts painted, nets replaced and the basketball post removed. An exhibition about the men from Whitchurch who fell in WW1 was held in March 2018, at Whitchurch Village Hall, to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of WW1. WDDC will be disappearing in April 2019, and will be replaced by the Dorset Council. Money is available through the Community Infrastructure Levy to be spent on new items in play areas, amenity spaces, and community venues. A decision about spending the money will be made in May. CVPC website contains information about parish council meetings, planning and some interesting articles about the environment. Parishioners can report on line issues relating to potholes, overhanging branches, drains, fly tipping etc. WDDC planning department continues to be very slow. There will be elections in May 2019 for the Parish Council

**Report of the Playing Field Committee Trustees:** Jon Snook did not attend the meeting, but John Bradbury indicated that the accounts were broadly the same as last year, the accounts standing at £462.92 and £1995.94. Debby Snook reported that the CVPC had agreed to the painting of the goal posts, the renewing of the football nets and the taking down of the basketball post. This is a result of last year's inspection of the playing field.

**Election of Playing field Trustees:** John Bradbury, Jon Snook and Nigel Chapman all agreed to stand again. Elected en bloc, proposed by Bill Taylor, seconded by Jacky Collis.

**Report of Best Kept Village Committee:** Marion Brooks had sent apologies, John Bradbury reported that Wootton had not entered for the Best Kept Village Competition this year because 2 seats in particular were badly in need of repair, but the intention was to enter next year. There is £683 in the Nationwide deposit account, and £56 in the current account. The bench commemorating Reg Woodman in the cemetery is to be replaced by the Fortescue family. The meeting agreed, at the request of Philippa Fortescue that the brass plaque from the old bench should be transferred to the new one. There will be no village clear up this year.

**Village Hall Committee:** Peter Sharp stood down as chairman of the village hall committee at the AGM in April after 9 years. Christopher Roper was elected as chairman. Unfortunately, neither was at the meeting, but at Peter Sharp's request, a copy of his report at the village hall AGM is attached to the minutes.

**Wootton 2000 Group:** John Bradbury reported that this group has effectively been dormant since Guy Bryan died. There are 51 Wootton Fitzpaine books left. £4421.28 is in the Lloyds bank account. The boards of the history of Wootton Fitzpaine are still in storage at the Manor.

**Friends of St Paul's Church Wootton Fitzpaine:** In the absence of Sue Bradbury, John Bradbury reported that in order to qualify for gift aid, a large donation to the Friend's fund needs to be reclassified as an endowment. It could then be invested and produce income which would help with the running of the church.

**White Gates:** Debby Snook explained that the White Gates at Portobello junction with the B3165 have been maintained in the past by the owners of Tempest House. This arrangement was informal and dictated by custom and practice over the years. The current owners do not wish to do this anymore and research is being carried out to try to find out who owns the white gates. Highways have given details for applying for a grant, we have had 2 informal estimates as to the cost of refurbishing and repairing them, CVPC is not sure how involved they want to be, several people have offered to donate towards the cost, amounts unspecified. Amy Ralph reported that she could contact Dorchester Men's Shed to see if they could give an estimate as to cost of repair. The general consensus of the meeting was that the White Gates are unique and lend distinction to our parish. They should be treated like fingerposts, no longer maintained by DCC, and further discussions should take place with CVPC as to what involvement they wished to have.

**Extreme weather emergency plans:** This was on the agenda because of the 2 recent falls of snow. It had been established that a gritting route through the parish starts at Artwave West, goes down Gassons Lane, along Becklands Lane to Wootton and then on to

Charmouth. Grit bins are full, and many residents now have 4 wheel drives. The snow plough system where some farms have snow ploughs to fit onto tractors has had problems with insurance and seems not to be working any more. The general consensus was that we can manage adequately and that we do not have snow that often.

**Residents' Discussion:** Bill Taylor informed the meeting that Ray Dyer was setting up a website for Wootton Fitzpaine. There will be separate pages for the church, social club and village hall and events. The website is called Wootton-Fitzpaine.co.uk. Katie Millar is hoping to get a Facebook page up and running in 2 weeks time, and requested photos to be sent to her. There was some discussion about whether Ray would manage the website having set it up. Debby Snook said the CVPC had money held for it by WDDC from the community infrastructure charge which could be spent on areas such as play areas, amenity space natural green space and community venues. The money could not be spent on maintenance or replacement of articles. A possible suggestion was a bike rack at the village hall, but it was agreed there was no room for this. Another suggestion was a PA system for the village hall, and the planting of trees and bulbs. Heather Kitcher informed the meeting that the social club was having a Dog Show on May 28 (Bank Holiday) and wanted to know if the village hall could organise cream teas. There was some discussion regarding planning enforcement, Brigs Farm and Little Oak farm were mentioned. There was concern that there were several families living in the vicinity of Partway Cottage, mostly at Brigs Farm, and the legality of this was questioned.

The meeting ended at 8.35 pm

Signed ..... Dated .....