

Minutes of Village meeting 28th January 2010

Notes of the Berwick St James Parish AGM held on 28th January 2010 No. 30

33 present plus councillor Ian West, Chairman Richard Brasher and Secretary Jacqui Webb.

Berwick St James Village website – Neighbourhood Policing Team

2/10/11 5:19 PM

1. Wiltshire Council Update

Ian West reported that refuse collection, car parking charges and planning applications are soon to be harmonised (the new local government buzzword). The Airman's Corner Stonehenge Visitors Centre has been approved. Stephen Bush asked individuals to send letters of support for a Traffic Regulation Order banning four wheel drive vehicles on certain local byways (for further details see village notice board). As a result of a unanimous vote, Chairman to write letter to support ban.

2. Apologies for Absence

Frank & Lou Whiting, Henry & Sophie Colthurst, Bill Hiscocks, Peter & Gabrielle Smith, Will & Sophie Simpson Gee, Jean Hibberd, David Street and Ann Hughes.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

The statement that Chris Lange will chair the 2010 Fete Committee was incorrect.

4. Precept for 2010 and current Bank Balance

Bank balance just over £608. Precept (portion of council tax rates paid directly to parish) of £750 has been requested (same as last year).

5. Planning Applications

- i) *Gryphon cottage* – plans not yet submitted but available to inspect at meeting
- ii) *The Black Barn outbuildings and decking* – Diana Gifford Mead and Michael Mertens objected to proposals on grounds of disturbance of natural habitats. Chris Lange has sought advice of English Nature, they reported that the proposed work should not upset the local eco-system.
- iii) *Caravan Park* -application to permit 25 extra caravans. Many objections voiced including the following:
 - Steven Bush asserted the site was an eyesore, spoiling the view from many vantage points.
 - Jane Rowe would like the number of tents to be limited
 - George Campbell-Johnson felt that the development flies in the face of Rural Stewardship Scheme of Practice.
 - Chris Lange expressed a counter argument that expansion would benefit local businesses.

William Grant, the applicant, stated that he had spent a considerable amount of money contouring the land and planting trees to hide the site. He also felt that caravan owners are responsible people who will not have a negative impact on the community. A vote was taken and passed proposing that the Chairman should write to the planning authorities objecting to the change of use of the land at the site.

6. Relocation of Playground

The Guinness family have turned down the request to donate land behind the Guide Centre for use as a playground on the grounds that road access is dangerous.

7. Adoption of Telephone Kiosk

The kiosk is listed so does not need to be adopted. A letter has been written to BT to request that the telephone be kept in working order.

8. Wylve Valley Association

Eight village chairmen, Ian West and Karen Linaker attended. Chairman reported that speeding through villages, the lack of police presence and planning applications were the main discussion topics.

9. 2010 Village Fete

All present wanted a fete. Sarah Humphreys agreed to take on the role of fete committee chair, providing more people joined the fete committee to share the burden. Janey Campbell-Johnston, Rosie Gairdner, Chris Lange, Ian Fisher, Tim Marchant, Ailsa Bush and Gill Brasher agreed to help out. **The fete will take place on 12th June 2010 and the Duck race on Sunday 13th June.** The Committee will put forward a proposal for distributing fete profits.

10. Any Other Business

There have been two recent incidences of heating fuel thefts. People should watch out for tankers which may be taking, not delivering fuel. There have been incidences in nearby villages of thieves posing as policemen.

11. Next Meeting Thursday 15th April 2010

River Till water level will be discussed with representatives from the Environment Agency and Wessex Water.