

## *AGM Berwick St. James Parish Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2012 No. 39*

### **Apologies**

Gabriel Smith, Nigel Rodgers, Mary McDermott, Ann Crabtree, Sophie Colthurst.

### **Wiltshire Council Update**

Ian West told us the Parliamentary Boundaries for 2013 were being discussed and the first and second stages were completed. The revised edition will be published later this year.

He said the Queen's visit on 1<sup>st</sup> May was very well supported by the local population. There was a lot of entertainment including military bands and the Salisbury Military Wives Choir.

He asked Sarah Humphreys if the council had sent £500.00 for the Jubilee celebration. Apparently not yet, it is usually slow in coming but will arrive in due course.

### **Notes of last meeting and Matters arising**

Repairs to the kissing gate on the footpath to Winterbourne Stoke are being investigated. Stephen Bush will let us know the results of his enquiries at the next meeting.

Chris Lange has no results for the first aid course from the survey for the community plan.

### **Election Of Officers 2012/13**

Richard Brasher and Tina Woodford are standing down; Sarah Humphreys is remaining as Vice Chair. Neil MacDougall has volunteered to be Chairman and was proposed by Henry Colthurst and seconded by Michael Weismuller. Emma Smith agreed to become Clerk and Henry Colthurst Treasurer. These appointments were proposed by Charles Street and seconded by Jane Campbell-Johnson. All appointments carried unanimously.

### **Accounts**

Tina Woodford has prepared the accounts for Mazars, the auditors. Our balance for the coming year is £294.66 with an added £1250.00 from the precept which should now be in the bank account but a statement has not arrived yet.

### **Community Fund**

Henry Colthurst gave us the financial history of the church and proposed a motion that £1,200.00 be paid to the church as there will be a shortfall in income and expenditure this year as there is no fete. He emphasised that the church should be maintained as it is a great asset to the village and attracts many visitors.

Richard Brasher read out two letters of objection from people who donated to the fun runs expecting the money raised to be used for other projects and not the church.

Charles Street and Michael Weismuller objected to the content of the letters as the monies raised belong to the community and not the sponsors or donors.

Chris Lange said the money to the church will not be from the fun runs.

Stephen Bush said that because of the lead that was stolen, which is now replaced by stainless steel, the church is offering free security alarms and he has asked for one to be installed. The insurance for the roof will now pay out £10,000.00 instead of the £5,000.00 we received before. He emphasised that the PCC do not spend money unnecessarily.

Mary Gatling stated that – by law – fundraising leaflets must make it clear where the donations are to go and it is our duty to do this.

After all this discussion the motion was put by Henry Colthurst "That the Community Fund gives £1,200.00 to the church". The vote was 36 for, 1 against and 2 abstentions.

The new post and smaller galvanised gate for the cricket field have been put in



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at a cost of £35.50. Ken Woodford has a quote for the large galvanised gates of £220.00 but it will be more as he needs hinges, chain and padlock. Charles Street will give a padlock and Michael Weismuller will give a motorbike chain so there will only be hinges and an overlock to purchase. This will also come from the Community Fund if voted in. The vote was carried unanimously. Tony Gatling said there was some confusion identifying the village fund and community fund. The village fund is the precept and the precept cannot donate to the church but can donate to the Reading Room.

### Village Survey Update

More than 85% of people in the village have completed the survey which is a good result as most villages only achieve 65%. An especially big thank you to the committee members who have given a very large amount of time to this project. The results will represent an accurate reflection of what people think. There was a form for the younger members of the village which will form a separate part of the report.

There is a lot of data to process and it will take a few more weeks to complete. The report will have the following headings:

1. The Facts
2. The opinions – some statistical and some qualitative.
3. Ideas for the future – see what might be possible to do.

Some of the ideas include film nights, a Welcome Pack and a list of recommended Trades people.

Concerns are crime and speeding.

Chris Lange will present a full report at a special meeting later in the Summer.

### Jubilee Fishing Trip

Alistair Smith informed us that the Jubilee meeting is next Thursday. Please read the details in the village magazine.

The fishing trip from Lyme Regis, in a chartered boat, will be on the Saturday before the party and the catch will be barbequed at the party. Asked if there was a contingency plan Al said there was a fish shop on the way home!

### Any Other Business

Neil MacDougall stated that the village web site is part of Chris Lange's web site and if we paid Chris the cost for it we would own it. Chris told us that the site was set up 4 years ago The domain – Berwick St James Village – costs £6.00 per year. It definitely has generated more interest and more visitors to the fete and village as we use Twitter and Facebook. Concern was raised about this and Chris explained that both sites can be for information only without outsiders having access to make comments. Neil asked for £24.00 from the Village Fund to pay Chris for the website and this was carried unanimously. Neil then asked for £200.00 from the Community Fund for wine after meetings. This was agreed with only 1 vote against.

Nicky Street reported on the renovations to the inside of the Reading Room. This is a second skin inside the cob wall to keep the room free from damp. She expressed her thanks to all who helped with the painting and decorations and the roman blinds. A grant of £7,500.00 was received.

Charles Street has dug out the ditch which goes past the farm shop and that has helped very much in stopping any flooding. He hopes that everyone will help to keep it clear.