



## **Draft Minutes of the 2016 Annual Parish Meeting**

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Churchill Parish held in the Memorial Hall, Churchill on Monday 25th April 2016 at 7.30 p.m.**

### **PRESENT**

Councillor Mrs J. Bush	Councillor Dev Clutterbuck
Councillor Simon Glanfield	Councillor Sue List
Councillor Bill Carruthers	Councillor Valerie Langley
Councillor Trudy Silverton	Councillor David Hurst
Councillor Graham Fortune	Councillor Alan Lovell

District Councillor Mrs E. Wells  
Clerk of the Parish Council : Martin Dolton  
Village Orderly ; Michele Miles

46 Parishioners

**1. Welcome** – The meeting was chaired by Councillor Jackie Bush, Chair of the Parish Council who extended a warm welcome to all present.

### **2. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors Simon Hegarty and Brenden Hill, PCSO Pen Gatenby, M McGregor - North Somerset Council Parish Liaison Officer,

**3. Minutes** of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 27th April 2015 were proposed and duly seconded as being an accurate record of that meeting. The minutes were signed by the Chair.

**4. Chair's Address** – The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. She highlighted that it had been another good year that was mainly due to the dedication of volunteers working within the Parish. The chair concluded by thanking all the councillors and staff and volunteers again for their work over the past year. As the Clerk of the Council Martin Dolton had only commenced his role in the past few days, she invited him to address the meeting to speak of his past experience and skills. Martin spoke of his past, both as a senior police officer and then many years working within local councils, and expressed his enthusiasm to serve the community at Churchill.

**5. To receive the Parish Council's provisional accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016** The provisional accounts for the year ending March 2016 were circulated at the meeting, all balances had been reconciled and the accounts were currently with the internal auditor. The annual return was to be signed at the May 2016 meeting of the Parish Council for submission to the external auditor thereafter. There were no questions.

## **6. Keynote Speakers**

**(a) Georgie Bigg : Chair of Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) Avonside.**

Georgie Bigg explained the role and aims of CPRE as being to promote a sustainable future for the English countryside by highlighting threats and promoting solutions. The Charity, now of some 90 years standing comprises of a National Head Office and 43 branches, Avonside being one such branch. Georgie spoke of the latest document published by the charity 'Set up to Fail' which suggests that current planning decisions and policies are based on incorrect data, and highlights that many developers are land-banking sites – only building on prime and profitable areas of land. CPRE has identified potential provision for one million homes on brownfield sites rather than the greenfield sites now receiving permissions, leading to an ever increasing erosion of the rural countryside. There are major challenges ahead within the new National Planning Policy and Housing Bill particularly with the new approach of 'consent in principle' and the requirement for Planning Authorities to publish a Sites Allocation Plan which is suggested to be a pre-determination of future development before application. CPRE are currently seeking to further the objectives of :- (i) Housing Targets to be based on realistic and correct data and assessments, (ii) Bring forward brownfield sites (iii) Ensure developers build out sites with outline permission granted within an agreed timescale and impose penalties to those that do not comply – thereby avoiding land-banking.

**(b) John Whitewood – Churchill & Langford Residents Action Group (CALRAG)**

John outlines the forming of the group that had taken place in December 2015. The group comprised of residents and had the support of the Parish Council which does not have the resources to effectively challenge the planning intentions within the Parish. It is the intention of the group that they add to the voice of the Parish Council and community in general by addressing local planning issues. The group intend to liaise with other similar groups in nearby villages who are forming an alliance to provide even more weight to the challenges that will be required in the months and years ahead. It is also hoped that members of the group will be able to assist and take forward the formulation of a Neighbourhood Plan in the future. All residents were

invited to contact John or any member of the group if they felt they could assist in any way.

The Chair then read out a letter from a resident who was unable to attend the meeting, in which he expressed the view that there was a need for further housing in the village and not all planning development should be met with opposition. He also suggested that low cost housing should be a part of all future provision.

## **7. Serving the Parish – The District Councillor, Parish Council employees.**

The District Councillor had no report to make but asked if there were any questions.

Parish Clerk Martin Dolton asked the meeting is anyone had any questions they would like to ask, none were forthcoming.

Parish Orderly Michele Miles was present, there were no issues raised by or for her.

## **8. Community Groups / Speakers**

**Churchill Preschool** – Sam from the preschool updated those present on the activities and achievements during the past year including:- development of the garden, training on literacy in children, and the inspection by OFSTED had resulted in a ‘good’ category. All practitioners within the team had now achieved a Level 3 qualification.

**Neighbourhood Watch** – Terry Wilson reported that there were now 13 co-ordinators in the Parish. The purpose of the scheme was emphasised as to liaise with others to create a safer environment , and not ‘nosey neighbours’.

**Anglican & Methodist Churches** – Rev. Kate Sax updated the meeting on the activities of both Churches which had included meeting with 6<sup>th</sup> form pupils from the academy, and it was hoped in the future to appoint a youth worker.

**Langford Evangelical Church** - Pastor George Beacham informed the meeting that the coffee mornings held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of every month were now going well with an increased attendance. He also asked those present to consider completing the short survey form available on the tables or go online to submit comments.

**Churchill Music** – Jan Murray informed the meeting of a project underway whereby the group were making an eight minute film to assist in the training of teachers. Funding had been achieved and filming will take place at a school in Bristol.

**The Village Fund** – Leslie Hegarty spoke about the purpose of the group as raising funds for organisations within the village. Events were organised every two months or so and had included a beetle drive, harvest home and a quiz night. The 11<sup>th</sup> of June 2016 would be the village BBQ at the recreation ground and all were encouraged to attend. Any local organisations seeking

funding were advised to make contact with the group.

Chair Jackie Bush closed the meeting inviting all present to remain at the hall and meet other residents in an informal atmosphere with light refreshment provided.

**Reports had been received from the following organisations and were available in the booklet tabled at the meeting:**

- Skittle and Social Club
- Cricket Club
- Mendip Vale Medical Practice
- Parish Orderly
- The Mini bus Society
- Churchill Music
- War Memorial Hall
- Langford Evangelical Church
- 1<sup>st</sup> Churchill Guides
- Cruse Bereavement
- Good Companions
- MS Therapy Centre

Copies of these reports can be obtained from the Parish Clerk.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

**Signed .....** **Chair of the Parish Council**

**Date .....**