



Draft Minutes of the 2017 Annual Parish Meeting

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Churchill Parish held in the Memorial Hall, Churchill on Monday 24th April 2017 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs J. Bush	Councillor Brenden Hill
Councillor Simon Glanfield	Councillor Sue List
Councillor Trudy Silverton	Councillor Alan Lovell

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

22 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 D Clutterbuck, G Fortune, S Hegarty, and PCSO Pen Gatenby, M McGregor - North Somerset Council Parish Liaison Officer,

3. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 25th April 2016 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 continued flow of substantial planning applications had caused major challenges for the village and the Parish Council. In order to deal effectively with the vastly increased workload, the Parish Council had formed a new committee to address all the large planning applications. The chair concluded by thanking all the councillors and staff and volunteers again for their work over the past year.

5. To receive the Parish Council's provisional accounts for the year ending 31st March 2017 The provisional accounts for the year ending March 2017 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 2017 meeting of the Parish Council for submission to the external auditor thereafter. There were no questions.

6. Keynote Speakers

(a) Tina Huckle-Mills: Village Agent.

Tina explained the role and purpose of her role to link people in rural areas and provide advice and support services for independent living. Such services include transport to medical appointments, financial concerns, benefit claims, mobility issues, carer support and advice on unwanted callers and scams. Tina explained that the service is free and totally confidential. Work was underway with several residents within the Parish who were receiving the benefits of the service, and all present at the meeting were urged to contact Tina if they themselves needed the service, or knew of someone who might benefit from it.

(b) Councillor Alan Lovell – The Planning Scene

Councillor Alan Lovell explained that he is a members of the Parish Council's Planning & Development Strategy Committee that had been formed in the past year. The committee deal with all the major planning issues and applications and are delegated to respond to North Somerset Council on all applications of 10 or more houses.

Alan ran through the many applications now being processed and was able to state that over 200 houses had already received outline approval in the Parish and it was highly likely that more would follow.

Councillor Lovell emphasised the need for all residents to take an active part in commenting on applications whenever they felt that had a worthy and appropriate contribution to make.

In addition to the individual large applications within the Parish, the committee are also devoting a great deal of time and effort in responding to the latest publication of the Joint West of England Spatial Plan & Transport Study. This document has been formulated by the planning authorities in the region, and currently indicates major development in Churchill – in excess of a further 2000 houses, and a new major road network running through the Parish. Again, Councillor Lovell urged all residents to take an interest in the future development of these proposals.

(c) Martin Dolton – Clerk of the Council : Communication With Residents

Martin delivered a presentation to the meeting in which he asked residents to consider the best and most appropriate methods of communication between the Parish Council and residents in future. A working group from the Council had already been established and this had led to a review of the frequency and circulation of 'The Tower' newsletter, improvements in the website and increased use of the Facebook account. The meeting was asked to bring forward any other ideas that would improve communication.

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 – Fran Yardell from the preschool updated those present on the activities and achievements during the past year, and informed the meeting of considerable funding issues that were now being experienced.

Memorial Hall – Ann, the current secretary of the Memorial Hall Committee informed the meeting of her impending relocation from the area and asked all present to consider whether they would feel able to take on the role.

Churchill Music – Jan Murray informed the meeting of a project now underway whereby the group had produced and distributed an eight minute film to schools which emphasised the benefits of music to children. After introducing it the film was shown to the meeting.

Chair Jackie Bush closed the meeting at 8.45pm inviting all present to remain at the hall and meet other residents and councillors 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
1st Churchill Guides
Cruse Bereavement
Good Companions
MS Therapy Centre

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

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Signed Chair of the Parish Council

Date