

ST LEONARDS & ST IVES PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly
22nd May 2019 7.00pm
In the Main Hall at The Village Hall, Braeside Road, St Leonards
 Present: Chairman of the meeting Cllr B Goringe

Cllr R Bryan	Cllr K Gawler	Cllr Mrs K Neale	Cllr Mrs A Warman
Cllr A Davies	Cllr Mrs B Goringe	Cllr J B Parker	
Cllr M Dyer	Cllr Mrs S Marshall	Cllr J W Parker	

In attendance: Clerk Mrs A Jacobs; and 23 Members of the public.

1. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Annual Parish Assembly of St Leonards and St Ives. The agenda, minutes of the previous meeting and accounts summary for the year had been circulated to those present.

2. Apologies were given by Cllr Mrs U Lucas and Cllr N Hindmarch. Apologies were also received from Mrs J Jones, Mr J Hawkins.

3. The Minutes of the Parish Assembly held on 18th April 2018 were agreed unanimously as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Cllr A Warman and seconded by Cllr M Dyer.

4. Matters arising - none

5. Chairman's Report:

At the recent elections we were fortunate to attract 11 candidates who all were duly elected onto the Parish Council. We have also subsequently co-opted two further Members onto the Council. Our new Councillors are Cllr John William Parker, Cllr Mrs Margaret Goringe and Cllr Mrs Ulrike Lucas. Sadly we said goodbye to two others, Cllr Rod Adkins and Cllr Bob Warman both of whom will be missed for their significant contribution that they have made to this Parish, our thanks to them both. This brings us to a full complement of 13 Councillors. Due to the Local Government Reform the term of office for the Parish is 5 years.

Local Government Reform is now complete and we are most fortunate to have two of our Parish Councillors filling the two seats for this Ward as Dorset Council Members. This is a huge advantage in communication and information gathering to say the least. Although it will mean that on occasions meetings or other commitments may clash. This has been the biggest upheaval ever seen in local Government in this area and as with all things new we are currently in a settling down period.

We took advantage of the new Community Infrastructure Levy Charge for the first time this year. Basically this is a charge against additional housing in the area and each new dwelling incurs what is basically a further cost most of which goes to the Dorset Council, 85%, towards supporting improvements and maintenance of infrastructure. The Parish Council now gets the remaining 15%. There are strict rules in the way in which this money may be spent and each sum has to be spent within 5 years. This year we received £10,912.27. We plan on using it on improving the play area.

I would like to take this opportunity tonight to thank the volunteers within our community for their hard work and efforts. These are volunteers from various areas, not just the Council Members but the wider community and they help make our Parish what it is today.

Particular mention should be made of :-

- Graham Willetts who is a Member of the East Dorset Environment Partnership
- Peter Walker who is our Rights of Way Liaison Officer and also updates and maintains the Parish Website.
- Mr Hancock and Mr Crow who act as a volunteer Flood Wardens at Oaktree Park.
- The Youth Club volunteers
- My fellow Members of the Parish Council

In addition of course there are many other unsung volunteers who play their part in the Clubs and organisations using the facilities here. Particular mention should be made of :

- Village Hall Management Committee – who run and maintain these Quality rated rooms and premises which then in turn allow other Clubs and organisations to be so successful this is a major asset to our community
- The Bowls and Tennis Clubs; the Scouts and of course Age Concern

I am sure many of you will be aware of others who probably also deserve a mention so my apologies if I have missed one.

6. Annual Summary of the Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2019 – Copies had been circulated with the agenda. There were no matters raised.

The Chairman reported:

The Councils accounts show a healthy balance which should stand us in good stead to meet the challenges of the future.

The Council continues to support groups by way of annual grants this year these were to:

- Village Hall
- CAB
- Greyfriars Minibus
- Age Concern
- Youth Club

No questions were raised on the annual summary. Cllr Mrs Warman thanked Cllr Goringe for allocating his District Councillors grant to the Village Hall.

7. Long Service award for Cllr Mrs Ann Warman – The Chairman reported:

On 3rd May 1979 Ann Warman was elected to the Parish Council, some 40 years ago.

Ann came on to the Council, as many do with a mission, in her case it was to ensure that the tatty old scout hut would be replaced. After significant fund raising and a very significant contribution from a resident and local businessman she was successful in the hut being replaced with the one we see today. However, she had now bitten the “cherry” and one mission led to another.

In her time on the Parish Council she has also been one of the main instigators who managed to get the swimming pool for the school. She has fought to prevent development of the Grange area, ensured the protection of Lions Hill so that all of us can continue to have free access, been instrumental in fighting to save the 38 bus and last but by no means least she has been the driving force to ensure that this building is kept in such good order for the public for many years. She has served as District and County Councillor and been Chairman of both. Her dedication to the Parish has been exemplary and I am sure when she joined she did not realise that she would still be here 40 years later.

Our grateful thanks for your service Ann and for all you have done for the residents in that time. We have a presentation of a certificate and gift for you to mark your 40 years.

Cllr Mrs Warman thanked those present for the gift and certificate.

8. General Forum –

- A resident of Bushmead Drive thanked the Councillors who attended the recent hearings on the MWDP and Minerals Hearing. The modifications in the MWDP still include AS27 if all of this goes ahead the Parish can look forward to an additional 100 lorries a day passing through the Parish.
- The Chairman responded that the Council will be responding to the modifications.
- The same resident questioned how the new Dorset Council was going to function and assist the Parish when it was 30 miles away in Dorchester.
- The Chairman responded that the Area Planning Committee will be in Wareham with occasional meetings in Wimborne.
- Cllr Bryan asked that the Council thanks to Cllr Bob Warman were minuted. He has been a great mentor and the Council had a very safe pair of hands whilst he was a Member and he has our appreciation for all he has done.
- Revd Ian Whitham introduced Chris Newman, our Families Minister now living in Victory Oak.

The meeting closed at 8.05pm

Chairman

The Chairman then introduced Kathy Mc Nally who gave a most interesting talk on Edward VIII and Mrs Simpson.