

# HAZELBURY BRYAN PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2016 at 7.30 pm IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present            **Chairman:-**     Steve Murcer  
                         **Minutes:-**       Malcolm Wilson                            **Members of the Public:-** 9

### **Apologies**

David Maughan, DCC/NDDC Cllr Pauline Batstone, Jean Cluett

### 1/16 **Welcome**

The Chairman thanked those present for making the effort to attend the Annual Parish Meeting.

### 2/16 **Minutes**

The minutes of the last Parish Meeting held on Tues 15<sup>th</sup> May 2015 were confirmed as being an accurate record of the proceedings and were signed by the Chairman.

### 3/16 **Chairman's Report**

The Chairman reported as follows:

Governance: 5 councillors elected at the elections in May 2015 - Murcer, Maughan, Huggins, Richards and Read - 2 more were co-opted in June - Grayson and Dimmock. He noted, with regret, that the council had lost its gender diversity. In the year the parish council formally took responsibility for the Recreation Ground Committee as a sub-committee of the parish council. He thanked those who had worked so hard on the Committee over the years

Planning: The council considered 19 applications and 4 for tree work in the Conservation Area; NDDC planning officers attended October's parish council to explain the role of the parish council in the planning process and the merits of Neighbourhood Plans. He felt the establishment of a Committee to develop a Plan was a great chance to engage with the community across a wide range of issues beyond mere planning policy. The rather sparse attendance by the general public at meetings was disappointing – does it mean people aren't interested, or are they happy with their lot and content to let the council to get on with things until and when they have a particular problem?

Cemetery: A generous donation was received of £10k from the Wonston Club Trustees towards an extension – now we just have to find the land; we planted new native fruit trees on the verge opposite the cemetery entrance, but these have been subject to roving bovine damage and some repairs are needed

Community: The new fingerpost for Kingston is on order; others have been repaired; Antelope path - discussions continue with Hall & Woodhouse, DCC Highways and Rights of Way officers; defibrillator - to be moved to new location outside village hall which will make it available 24 x 7.

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## 4/16 **Payment and Receipts Account 2015/16**

The accounts were summarised, and will be published on the web site. The insurance income relates to the premium reclaim from the village hall committee for its share of the overall premium. The parish council has very healthy reserves but there will be increased pressure on finances as County and District cease providing services; the new pavilion will almost certainly require some funding support.

## 5/16 **Reports**

The following reports were presented to the meeting. Copies, where available, will be published on the Council's website – [hazelburybryan.com](http://hazelburybryan.com).

### (i) **Reports given verbally**

- Village Hall – Alison Maughan – see below
- Vale Ladies Group – from Susie Potter, read by Malcolm Wilson – see below
- Art Club – from Christine Parker, read by Malcolm Wilson – see below
- Playing Field – Alun Read – Recreation ground improvements were highlighted include a new fence for the play area; new 5-a-side goals and 2 new "springer" rides for young children. The focus on building the new pavilion is taking a more professional route with consultant help (so far at no cost) and grant funding will be pursued as much as possible. A donation of £5k had been received from the Wonston Club Trustees to provide some play equipment for the older children – this might need a top-up from the parish council to buy anything worthwhile. It was noted that dogs are becoming more of a problem on the Recreation ground.

## 06/16 **Open Forum**

There were no questions

07/16 The chairman thanked everyone for attending. There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15 pm

### **Village hall report:**

The Village Hall has continued to go from strength to strength, with an ongoing program of activities, maintenance and user groups, supported by a small but active Committee.

The monthly film nights, run by the Village Hall Committee, with a bar and raffle, are well supported and will continue throughout the year, with the exception of August. In the October half term there was an Arts Reach performance for children and in February we held a "Kids Film Morning", attracting an audience of over 40, some with children, some without. It is intended to make this an annual event.

The "Open Session" in October had representatives from all the user groups and some of the other village organisations and it was pleasing to see so many parishioners, particularly those new to HB coming to the Hall to see what was on offer. Again, we hope to repeat this event in the future.

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Following a suggestion from one of the visitors to the Open Session, members of the Committee set up a twice monthly coffee morning, "Hazelbucks", attracting those that wish to meet others socially for a coffee and chat. This has been well supported in its first few months and Carol Lewis and her helpers are to be thanked for their efforts in getting this off the ground.

The proposed Quiz in the autumn was cancelled due to lack of support but the one held in last month was a great success, with the Hall packed, much laughter and wracking of brains, and raising a pleasing sum to go towards the Village Hall funds. Our thanks go to Matthew Mills who put a great deal of effort into organising and running such super evening, and to other members of the Committee, but especially to Julie and Jeffery Bennett who provided a delicious ploughman's supper for all the teams.

Through the year we have gained, and lost, user groups. The main change is that the Cerne Abbas Doctors surgery now only comes once a week and sadly the monthly Lunch Club has had to close. However, the Hall is being used considerably by "one-off" hirers for parties and other events.

Improvements have been made to the Hall over the year, including the new curtains, to soften the appearance of the room and thanks must go to Alma, Sarah and their team for making these.

Jeffery Bennett and David Maughan have continued to fix all those small maintenance jobs that crop up and we must thank them for their input.

I would like to formally thank the members of the Village Hall committee who give of their time and expertise to ensure the smooth running of the Hall, putting on events and making sure that the Hall is kept in the condition that users would like it to be. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month and we will be holding our AGM next Tuesday. We are always looking for new members to join our Committee, with new ideas and offers of help, or to lend an extra pair of hands at an event either regularly or just occasionally, so please do get in touch with me or anyone else on Committee – we look forward to welcoming you!

Alison Maughan, Chairman, Hazelbury Bryan Village Hall Committee

## **Art Group report:**

We began in March with a visit by Artist, Chris Wilmshurst who gave us a demonstration of a townscape using acrylics in complimentary colours, which was a very interesting afternoon.

In May, Biddy Wingfield-Digby very kindly let us use her bungalow in Eype for our annual outdoor painting day, for which we give our thanks. Again as in previous years we were lucky with the weather and a lovely time was had by all the members attending.

Also in May we held an Art Exhibition at The Exchange, in Sturminster Newton for three weeks. The paintings looked very good even though we had some problems with the hanging wires.

We welcomed back artist, Alison Board in September and this time we had an enjoyable demonstration/part workshop, with Alison showing us a painting done with mixed media – which consisted of using tissue paper, coloured powders and inks.

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Our last visiting artist of the year was Jo Hamilton. Again we had a part demonstration/part workshop and Jo showed us how to paint a picture just by using palette knives. This was not as easy as it looked but we all had a go with some good results.

The Halsey Arms was the venue for our Post Christmas Lunch which was very enjoyable.

We now have 21 members in the Art Group but still have room for anyone wishing to join.

### **Vale Ladies:**

Vale Ladies was started in 2002, after the closure of the local WI. Our membership remains about the same, with some new members replacing those who have moved away. Vale Ladies was mainly formed as a means whereby the ladies of Hazelbury Bryan and the surrounding villages could get to know each other, enjoy periodic speakers and visits, and fund-raise for charity.

We continue to meet on the first Tuesday of the month for a coffee morning in the Village Hall, or at the homes of members. In October 2015 Di Pestell from Julia's House came to give us a talk on the wonderful work they do, and we raised £83 for them at our coffee morning. We had a coach outing to Bournemouth in the summer. We also have a Christmas Lunch which all members try to attend, which is always a very happy occasion.

We held our annual fund-raising event – our Cream Tea - on Sunday 10th May - when we raised £500 for the Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance. We are most grateful to everyone who attended and gave so generously. Our Cream Tea for this year is this Sunday – 8th May – so please come and support us.

Vale Ladies warmly welcomes new members.