

**MINUTES OF CHILMARK PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL ASSEMBLY HELD ON 15 MAY
2013 AT 7PM IN THE READING ROOM**

Present: Chairman: Cllr P Boyles, Cllr M Lennard, Cllr E Pelham, Cllr E Jack, Cllr L Taylor, Wilts Cllr B Wayman
Public Present: 2

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Patrick Boyles welcomed everyone to the meeting and accepted apologies from: Cllr Sir R Packer.

2. Appointment of Chairman

Patrick Boyles was proposed by Cllr LT and seconded by Cllr ML.

3. The Minutes of the Annual Assembly held on 10 May 2012 were proposed by Cllr ML and seconded by Cllr LJ, agreed and signed.

4. ANNUAL REPORTS

The Chairman

Welcome to our Annual Parish Assembly for 2013.

Following the recent local elections I can report that six members of Chilmark Parish Council were returned unopposed, which I hope indicates that, far from being disinterested in our work, the community is happy with our efforts over the last few years.

I regret to report that Neil Hayward decided to step down from the Parish Council this year due to increased work commitments, and I should like to place on record my thanks to Neil for his support and valuable input on village matters.

My congratulations to our member of Wiltshire Council, Bridget Wayman, on her re-election which is well deserved recognition for the excellent work that she does representing the Nadder Valley constituency.

Chilmark's celebration of the Queen's Jubilee was a great catalyst in bringing the community together during the summer:

From The Big Lunch held in the School Playing Field, the Hog Roast and Ceilidh in the grounds of the Black Dog, the Evensong and display of memorabilia in the Church, the CADs productions in the Reading Room and the lighting of the Jubilee Beacon and Fireworks Display at Cleeves Farm. Financial support from our Area Board plus very generous donations from members of our community helped minimise the cost to the precept and enabled the purchase of commemorative jubilee mugs for the children of the village. My thanks to everyone involved for their hard work and efforts in putting on such an enjoyable and memorable range of events.

Your Parish Councillors continued to work with Wiltshire Council during the year to improve aspects of road safety within the village, clear some of the overgrown footpaths and bridleways with the help of the Youth Leisure Scheme and represent Chilmark at various community events including the Tisbury Community Safety Partnership, the Community Area Transport Group and Wiltshire Councils flood forum in Warminster.

Despite exceptional amounts of rainfall in the summer and autumn, the excellent clearance work and maintenance of the Winterbourne by the riparian owners reduced the prospect of flooding within the village. There is no doubt in my mind that such work on a regular basis each year will keep safe all the properties that otherwise might be regarded as being at risk.

We have been pleased to again support The Chilmark Reading Room Management Committee and the Claybush Playground Management Committee with grants from the precept. These organisations make a very valuable contribution to the wellbeing of our

community and I very much hope that they will continue to request grant support from both from Chilmark Parish Council and the Area Board where appropriate.

To conclude my report I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Parish Clerk, Jenny MacDougall, for her management of Parish Council matters and preparation of our accounts and to Mr Jeremy Oswell for kindly acting as our internal auditor.

The Reading Room Report

The Reading Room committee has had a few changes this year. There was a crisis meeting in October, which resulted in 8 new members joining the committee, Mike Lennard took over as Chairman and I, Mary Boyles, am now the Secretary, although fortunately Chrissie Eden and Emily Wilkins have stayed on the committee and we are very grateful for their help and experience.

There have been some new lettings for the Reading Room including a Slimmer's Support Group and the Parish Council drop-in mornings as well as our regulars, the PCC, Art Group and Social Stitchers. We had a talk from Father Miller in April, which was very well received and we hope to have something similar later in the year. There's a wine tasting evening and a 'Bring your own feast' in the planning stages and I understand Bridge lessons are due to start in late summer. Sarah and Glenn Miller have developed a website for us which will hopefully get us even more lettings so you can see there are lots of ideas and enthusiasm. We held our always popular and very successful Quiz Night in March and have Bingo on 23rd – if any of you want to come please just turn up ready for eyes down at 7.30.

As always we want to thank the Parish Council for their continued support, not only for their generous grant which helps to cover our insurance but for their continuing use of the Reading Room. Thank You.

The Playground Committee Report

The members of the Chilmark Playground Management Committee believe that the play area at the Claybush playing field is an important resource for the parents and grandparents of young children in the village. It provides a variety of play experiences for young children and a gathering point for older children who can then go on to more extensive play on the field.

Our aim is to maintain the playground as a safe and adventurous place to play. We carry out the routine maintenance ourselves where possible and fundraise to cover our costs. Our fundraising also enables us to attract grants for new or replacement equipment.

In May of last year, we hosted a Community Art Project. This was not strictly a fundraiser, but the members of the committee felt that it would provide an interesting activity for village children. It was run over three afternoons and the children learnt silk screen printing with a tutor. All the participants designed and made their own flag on the theme of the Diamond Jubilee.

Although the duck race was cancelled in the spring of 2012 due to exceptionally dry weather, our Pimms stall at the Flower Show was a sellout, partly due to a lovely day, and raised £227.

For some time, we have recognised a need for a seat in the playground for parents to be able to sit and watch their children. We heard that there was a new scheme in the South Wiltshire Community Area to award small grants for projects costing less than £360. We found a simple bench with a price including installation that fell within the grant parameter. We were lucky to have an award made, and the bench was installed in January.

In April, there was still enough water in the winterbourne for us to hold the ever popular duck race. It was well supported and greatly helped by being one of the first nice spring afternoons of the year.

We have had several changes to the committee over the last year due to losing some long standing members, but we've been very pleased welcome three new members at our last meeting so we look forward to them bringing new ideas and enthusiasm to our group. We will be holding our Pimms stall at the Flower Show as usual and after that we will be planning our next project.

As always, we are very grateful for the support of Chilmark Parish Council and for the grant they make to us, and also the Parochial Church Council for funding from the George Young Charity. We also received two other donations last year, which left us in a strong financial position at our year end.

Wilts County Cllr's Report

Concern was expressed about the speed of traffic along the road from Tisbury and through Chilmark village. Is it possible to introduce a 20mph speed limit? However near Rock Cottage there is insufficient housing to warrant a limit and in the village, traffic is slowed by parked cars outside the School. This is an issue that could be taken to CATG and Wilts Cllr will take it up with the Highways Dept. There was a suggestion to have "Gates" at the end or signage at the entrance to the village. Concern was also expressed about rocks left to protect grass verges. These must be set back 1 meter from the highway. The potholes still need repairing along Frickers Lane and at Ridge. It is too difficult for the PS. Wilts Cllr Wayman will speak with Simon Fowler re: Ridge.

4. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 2012/13

The Clerk explained in detail the breakdown of the accounts for the FY 2012-13 as per attached summary. As at 31 March 2013 the total expenditure was £9,551.32 and the total receipts £18,126.20. After the final Bank Reconciliation this leaves a balance of £8,574.88

Of note, last year was the Diamond Jubilee. The PC received a grant from Wilts Council for £1,000. We also received a number of generous donations from a few parishioners. These plus the income from the sale of the Jubilee mugs amounted to £547.00. The Grant Total income was £1,547 and the total expenses from the Jubilee Celebrations amounted to £2,821.06. The shortfall of £1,274.06 was made up by the PC.

Also of note was a grant from Wilts Council for the Cricket Club Juniors of £975 and R2 funds for upgrading Fricker's Paddock play equipment of £1323.60
Funds ring fenced for Forbes Field: £2,468.00 and for the Millennium Cross: £1,400.24
The Clerk proposed the accounts for adoption. These were seconded by the Chmn and agreed.

The PC has no R2 funds to spend on outdoor play equipment. May be other villages could supply some. Clerk to enquire.

5. AOB

The date of the next Annual Assembly will be Wednesday 14 May 2014 at 7pm in the Reading Room.

Date:

Chairman_