

**MINUTES OF CHILMARK PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL ASSEMBLY HELD ON
19 MAY 2011 AT 7PM IN THE READING ROOM**

Present: Chairman: Cllr P Boyles, Cllr E Jack, Cllr L Taylor, Cllr Sir R Packer, Wilts Cllr Wayman.

Public Present: 4

1. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and accepted apologies from: Cllr E Pelham
2. The Minutes of the Annual Assembly held on 13 May 2010 were proposed by the Chmn agreed and signed.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

Cllr EJ nominated Cllr P Boyles as Chairman. This was seconded by Cllr LT and agreed. Cllr Boyles nominated Cllr EP as Vice Chairman. This was seconded by Cllr Sir RP and agreed.

4. ANNUAL REPORTS

The Chairman

Good Evening everyone,

To start my report, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the late Mike Fowler, a member of Chilmark Parish Council, who sadly passed away in January. Michael contributed to life within our village in so many ways: as our Parish Clerk - when he was heavily involved with bringing the Fricker's Paddock development to fruition, as a District Councillor for many years and as a much valued Parish Councillor here in Chilmark since May 2005. His wide experience of local government and wise council will be sorely missed.

Your Parish Council has met on six occasions during the year, with the actions we have taken being fully reported within the minutes displayed on the village notice boards. Whilst our Parish Council meetings are not public meetings as such, members of the public are welcome to attend and observe the proceedings. In addition we always allow for a short period of time prior to the start of our meetings for any matters of concern to be brought to the attention of the Parish Council.

The harsh winter weather this year caused significant problems with snow and ice making road and footpath conditions very hazardous. Despite early requests to Wiltshire Council for the grit bins to be topped up before the onset of winter, we did not have sufficient grit to cope. We have pushed hard for extra grit bins to be supplied, existing bins to be refilled in plenty of time, and a stock of loose grit to be available for self help this year. We will continue to address these matters as well as pushing for our bus route through the village to be included within the highway gritting programme.

The closure of the Wiltshire and Swindon Safety Camera Partnership has meant that we no longer benefit from the presence of a Camera Van to help reduce the incidence of speeding along the B3089 through the village. Your Parish Council will continue to press for the use of a Speed Indicator Device to be implemented along this road as well as close liaison with the Police Service for regular enforcement action.

We are also mindful of the need to monitor the flood risk within the village, especially along the course of the Chilmark Winterbourne as well as the risk from groundwater flooding and run off from the surrounding hills. To this end we are still seeking the appointment of a Flood Warden for the village.

The voluntary organisations within the village continue to make significant contributions to the quality of life within our community and the Parish Council will always give full consideration to requests for financial assistance within the resources available to us.

To conclude my report I would like to express my thanks all members of Chilmark Parish Council for their support and to Jenny, our Parish Clerk for all the work she puts in as our executive officer.

The Chairman took questions from the floor:

Paul Wilkins asked for any maps outlining rights of way in the area for the local walking group. The Chmn mentioned Wilts Council hold records, Nick Cowan is the Rights of Way Officer and the Ordnance Survey Maps as sources of information. He also has a CD which he will hand over.

When asked about the quotes for grass cutting at Fricker's Paddock the Chmn explained that the PC tenders regularly and the quote that was most acceptable was lower and the PC is able to claim back the VAT. The Clerk quickly dealt with the problems which arose in the play area and the bin emptying and the grass cutting has been sorted out with the Manager. The Chmn explained that under the Section 106 agreement the PC had a responsible to maintain the communal grass areas. Wilts Cllr B Wayman suggested that the parish could join the community speed watch and the Chmn said he attends the Tisbury Community Partnership Meetings and they are collaborating on speeding issues.

The Reading Room Report.

In the absence of Chrissie Eden, the Chairman reported that the Reading Room is well looked after and is a very valuable resource for the village.

The Playground Management Committee Report

Sally Butcher presented the following report:

2010 was a good year for the Playground committee. We held two fundraising events, a family treasure hunt which was a great success with village families, and a Pimms stall at the Flower show, which raised over £100 despite disappointing weather on the day of the show. We received donations from the George Young Charity and Chilfest and grants from Chilmark Parish Council and from the Wiltshire Council Community Fund. We also hold tidy up days at the playground when parents are asked to come and help with the regular maintenance of the play area.

The Community Area Grant was primarily to refurbish the safety surface of the playground, and a load of bark was purchased and delivered in August. Thanks to many willing helpers on the day of delivery, and particularly the loan of a small loader by Mr Pelham, the bark was offloaded from the delivery truck and spread on the play area in just over two hours.

The grant from Chilmark Parish Council covered the cost of the insurance and inspection, which are our regular expenses.

The grant from Wiltshire Council also covered the cost of new toddler swing seats, which had been highlighted in the inspection report as deteriorating and in need of replacement, and these were purchased and installed in the spring of 2011. Members of the committee are very grateful to all the supporters of our fundraising events, every person or organisation that makes donations to our funds and to Chilmark Parish Council and Wiltshire Council for the grants that they made to the committee without which it would not be possible to continue to have a community play area on the playing field.

The Youth Club Representative

In the absence of Chrissie Eden, the Chmn mentioned that the Youth Club had got off to a slow start but was progressing steadily and was likely to continue.

5. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 2010/11

The Clerk explained in detail the breakdown of the accounts for the FY 2010-11 as per attached summary. The sum brought forward from the previous year was £9221.15 and the income for the year was £6,192.02 making the total receipts: £15,413.17. The total expenditure for the year was £7,929.43. There was one unrepresented cheque of £60. Thus making a balance as at 31 March 2011 of £7,543.74.

This year, the precept was set at £6,000 and we received £192.00 in rent for Forbes Field. This rent is added to the grant for Forbes Field making a total of £2,384

The grant for the Millennium Cross is also ring fenced: £250 was spent on cleaning and membership of the War Memorial Trust making a total of £1178.24

Of note under the expenditure is the cost of the Cornhill Insurance premium of £622.89. Next year further quotes will be sought. The Clerk's salary is frozen this year but there was a shortfall to add spanning several years. Three quotes had been obtained for the grass cutting at Fricker's Paddock and £1090.00 including vat which could be reclaimed. Other expenses incurred for Fricker's Paddock included the ROSPA report at £74.03, the signs at £86.70 and the Land registry fee of £226.27.

The Chmn recommended the accounts for adoption, Cllr Sir RP seconded and all agreed.

6. AOB

None

The date of the next Annual Assembly tbc.

Date:

Chairman