

Minutes of the Curry Mallet Annual Parish Meeting held on 24th April 2017

In

Curry Mallet & Beercrocombe Village Hall

Starting at 19:30

Attendees:

County Councillor - Derek Yeomans

Parish Councillors - Richard Allard, Godfrey Townrow, Angie Clark, Dave Beck, Tim Fraser

Energy Trust – Kate Thomas

12 members of the public

Welcome and Introductions – Mr Allard welcomed members of the community and fellow parish councillors to the Annual Meeting in the village Hall.

Apologies

District Councillor Sue Steele,

Chairman of the Parish Council Mr Peter McKeown, - on holiday

Watch Commander Paul Chamberlain (Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue – injured on a training exercise that day)

PCC

Mike Ive updated the meeting on All Saints' Church and, in particular, the replacement roof that had been completed in the last 6 months. He talked about the grants and local support; noting that more than 50% of the parish's residents had contributed, as well as the quality of the workmanship. The protection of the bats also featured in the presentation!

Centre for Sustainable Energy

Kate Thomas from the Centre for Sustainable Energy talked about the ongoing roll out of Smart Meters for both gas and electricity consumers. She provided insight into the process, the advantages and the amount of information (or not) they can send back to the Energy provider. She also outlined how Smart Meters can work as consumers change energy providers. The trust can also offer help with keeping warm and insulation and can offer home visits where appropriate.

<https://www.cse.org.uk>

Tel: 0117 934 1400

Curry Mallet Village Website

Lisa Turner spoke on the work of the village website team. She explained a number of team changes over the past year and also highlighted how the Steering Group was helping shape the future direction of the site. Contributors were thanked for their continued support and a request made for more engaged people to come and join the Group. With additional training it was hoped more people will visit the site, and that the content will become even more engaging and relevant. She also noted how popular the Facebook page and twitter feed were.

Play Area Working Group

Selina JERVIS outlined the plans for the play area within the grounds of the village hall. She confirmed how the parish Council and Village Hall Committee were working to ensure that the S106 money would be available to part-finance the project. Plans were for creating an area that had maximum appeal to a wide range of ages and equipment colour would hopefully blend into the surroundings. Earth works would also form part of the scheme.

Village Hall Committee

Richard Allard updated the meeting on the activity of the Village Hall Committee over the past year. The Scalextric event, Family Fun Day, Halloween Disco, and School PFTA Christmas Fayre were among the highlights mentioned. It was noted that both regular and ad-hoc bookings had increased and the Committee had worked hard to maintain and improve the facilities. Both Curry Mallet and Beercrocombe Parish Council were thanked for their financial support. The lease was due for renewal on 27th September 2017 and engagement with the Duchy of Cornwall had already started.

Parish Council

Richard Allard (Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council) apprised the meeting of the work undertaken by the parish council over the past year. A wide range of improvements had been made around the village from highways to footpaths to removal of fly tipping. These had been achieved through close working relationships between parish councillors and the other authorities. Thanks to Somerset County and South Somerset District Councils were expressed; without their continuing support, the community would not have seen such a range of improvements. Parish Volunteers were also thanked; most recently, they had spread 4 tonnes of gravel along footpaths at Headwell. The parish council had also financed verge trimming and playing field fence repairs as well as supporting local groups. The Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations were also marked within the parish by a well-attended bonfire.

The financial position of the council was noted, - closing balances being down slightly over each of the 2 previous fiscal years.

2016/7 Net Balance	£3,274
2015/6	£3,725
2014/5	£4,396

Internet Safety

Shaun Dale gave a brief insight into Internet Safety and the offer of a longer, more detailed session, was made to the community.

Close

Mr Allard closed the meeting, thanking attendees for their time.

A photo montage was played at the start and end of the meeting and thanks to Mr Frazer and Mrs Clark for having provided the refreshments.

Shaun Dale
Clerk to Curry Mallet Parish Council