

EGGINTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD AT 7.00 PM ON 31st MARCH 2008 IN St WILFID'S CHURCH, EGGINTON

Present: Cllr Mrs Lisa Brown Chair of the Parish Council
14 members of the public

In Attendance: Mr P Woolrich Clerk to the Parish Council

1. APOLOGIES

Cllr Frank Hood - Derbyshire County Council
Arthur Hill - Neighbourhood Watch

2. MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH OF 19th March 2007

They were approved and signed by the Chairman.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

4. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair reported on the main activities of essentially a new Parish Council elected in May 2007, thanked the members for their full support during what has so far turned out to be a very busy year. The District and County Councils were in the process of preparing Local Development Frameworks, particularly in respect of minerals and waste developments and the consultation process on the Core Strategy of the District Council's LDF is about to commence. Part and parcel of this is the development of Parish Plans which are to reflect on a what the parish feels are important local features and needs. The PC is presently investigating what is required and further reports will be made locally in the near future. In so far as the County Council's LDF's are concerned - you may be aware of the Waste Tip from Hell scenario for the Common and major mineral sites in the Parish - the PC has been in the vanguard of making strenuous objections to their inclusion in the documents which at least has had one major mineral site adjacent to the village excluded. These plans/documents are to be finalised and submitted to the Secretary of State in October next year when a further opportunity to object will be available before going to a public inquiry.

Flooding remains a strong local concern but the local parishes, the MP, the EA and Barrie Whyman have had several meetings and, with the agreement of the Secretary of State, are in the process of securing funding for flood defence measures upstream of Foston to protect the lower reaches of the River Dove.

The PC is in full support of the extension to the Memorial Hall which, apart from the Church, is the only public meeting place in the village and therefore the centre of our community. A donation of £5000 has been made towards its completion.

The PC campaigned long and hard and harnessed your support to retain the Post Office without avail but is now investigating alternative shopping provision.

A programme of improvements to the CJPF continues and investigation of the removal of the former bonfire rubbish and repairs to the playing field are underway. Litter remains a constant problem and the need for a further litter bin is being assessed. Consultations on many planning applications has been undertaken not only within the village but farther afield as we having been keeping a watching brief on several developments outside the parish which may affect flooding or otherwise adversely

impact on the parish. Objections have been strenuously made on several of these including Burnaston Cross and the redevelopment of the Foundry in Willington. Perhaps the most important has been the proposal for a railhead, chp plant and distribution depot on the Egginton and Etwall Commons to which very strenuous objections have been made. A further application to extend and intensify the gypsy site off Highbridge Lane has also been the subject of strenuous objections.

REPORTS FROM VARIOUS GROUPS

4.1 The WI

Lady Every reported that the membership had grown to 30 with an average attendance of 24. The report expanded on the meetings, events, outings and visits that had occurred, together with fund raising events. These included a wartime cookery demonstration for the local schoolchildren, Tudor theme for the Christmas party and factory shop visits and walk in the National Forest. A £1,000 Lottery Grant provided disabled access to the Hall. Visitors and non members are always welcome.

4.2 The Horticultural Society.

Mrs Pat Riley reported on the activities of the society over the preceding year. Membership continues to flourish and there is almost 100% occupation of the allotments. Badgers and rabbits are causing problems as it is too expensive to erect a rabbit proof fence. A plant sale was held at the Willow festival and the association has successfully competed in the Etwall show. This year plans are afoot to hold a plant sale on the CJPF and the Harvest supper in October. This year the Association has been asked to judge the Hanging Basket completion which will take place in July.

4.3 The Memorial Hall

Mr Higgins reported on the Trusts' actions over the year, so very different from 12 months ago when things were so uncertain. The fact that the Annual Meeting is taking place in the church is testimony to that progress and the advanced nature of the project. Some £150,000 of external funding has been obtained which together with the legacy has made the project possible. He personally thanked John Powderly, John Rickard (architect) and the generosity of the villagers. John Flowers Construction had won the contract which is on target, the steelwork to be erected in the next few weeks. He hoped to have an open day on site shortly so the local population can view progress. He also thanked Mark and Angie Gadesby and the school for their support during the construction period. The Hall would be open in September.

4.4 PTA

Mrs Sarah Bird, Chair of the PTA, reported that the PTA aims to raise additional monies for the school; whilst at the same time organized enjoyable events for the children and friends of the school. There had been quite a few successful events including a fashion show, a Fun Day on the playing fields, the 150 year celebration of the founding of the school and a Pancake lunch in February. The village bonfire was organized and raised £1,600. The monies raised were used to provide equipment, a canopy, subsidising school trips, and computer equipment.

4.5 The Parent and Toddler Group

Mr David Davenport, Chair of the Group, advised that the group met every Friday, presently in the church and organised activities for the children. They presently had 16 children attending. They also held other activities such as tea and coffee mornings whilst the activities provided an excellent opportunity for parents and children to mix and develop.

4.6 Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr. Gerrard's reported on the actions of the local Neighbourhood Watch in the absence of Mr Hill and advised that most of the streets had a designated member. A couple of additional members were required to complete cover. Members attended the Safer Neighbourhood Area meetings.

4.7 Jubilee Club

Mrs Shirley Rogers, the Secretary, advised that the Club was in its 31st year and a birthday event was to be hosted in the church on the 9th April. It was a registered charity and received grants from the local funding bodies. Meetings were held in the Church Hall on the 2nd Wednesday in the month and coach outings organized for the 4th Wednesday. This year trips had been made to Wirksworth Museum, Severn Valley Railway, and Hull amongst other places. Etwall Members were also invited to the coach outings.

4.8 There were no reports from the Parochial Church Council or the Governors of the Primary School

The Chairman thanked all for attending and for their reports.

5. QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

No questions were raised.

As there was no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 7.40 pm.