

Huish Episcopi Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Huish Sixth Auditorium, Huish Episcopi Academy at 7.00 pm on Monday 20 March 2017

Present:

Cllr S Nicholas Chairman

Cllr G Lock

Cllr J Wood

Cllr F Pope

Cllr B Horsgood

Cllr J Seaton

Cllr C Palmer

Cllr G Tucker District Councillor

Cllr D Yeomans County Councillor

Parishioners Mr R Saunders, Mr V Derham, Mr R Manning and Mrs J Rule

Others Mr A Davies (Academy Principal), Mrs A Eastwood (Academy Business Manager), Ms A Shillabeer
Mr A Lee (Leveller)

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2016-2017

1. Chairman's welcome to parishioners

2. Council Proceedings. Chairman Shirley Nicholas gave an account of the Council's proceedings in the year April 2016 to March 2017 and its aspirations for the future:

a. Major area grants 2016 – 2017:

Memorial Field (rising to £7,500 from 17/18)	£6,000
Langport Information Centre	£4,000
Langport and Huish Episcopi Youth Centre	£6,000
Christmas Lights for Langport town centre	£1,000
Payments for the upkeep of St Mary's Churchyard	£1,500
Primary School (grant mainly for swimming sessions)	£1,000
Langport Festival £500 per year (this is the final year)	£500
Swimming Pool cover project	£1,000

b. Land:

Allotments 36 @ £30 pa (increasing to £36 from February 2018)	£1,080
Over £9,500 has been spent on the Allotments between 2011 -2016 and approximately £4,000 recouped from rents	
Farm Business Tenancies at Common Moor and Pibsbury	£3,100

c. Parish Development and improvements:

Huish Episcopi Parish Council's car park opposite St Mary's Church - wall damage leading to widening the entrance yet again	£250
Trimming back trees at The Avenue as no longer carried out by SSDC	£850
Dropped kerb at St Mary's Church Corner	£1,120
Five new Village Signs	£2,700
Less major building over the last year but still plenty more in the future	

d. Maintenance:

Lengthsman salary and materials – cost (per year)	£2,400
Other Parish maintenance	£1,000

e. Future Aspirations: The possibility of a Community Hall remained an aspiration held by the Council.

3. Local Reports:

a. Youth Club – Cllr Barry Horsgood spoke about the Youth Club's continuing success and Annie Shillabeer provided a written report (see below).

b. Pibsbury Allotments – Cllr Frank Pope reminded parishioners that the allotments now numbered 36 and, although there had been a couple of incidents involving the gas and sewage mains, it had been a very good year for the allotmenters. There were two vacant plots available, with the rent increasing to £36 from February 2018.

c. Academy - Amanda Eastwood Huish Episcopi Academy Business Manager spoke about the project to cover the swimming pool which had been unavoidably delayed. The pool would now close after the Tour of Wessex Cyclo sportive in May and reopen in September as an all year round facility.

4. Any other Parishioners' Questions. None.

The Youth Club - What have we been up to in the last year; a brief overview:

Stuff we have provided that contributes to youth development

- ❖ We started the monthly Super Saturday, targeting age 8 to 11 year olds. We are reaching the end of our first year and it is steadily growing, thank you to everyone who has supported us in our new exciting venture, especially;

- ❖ *The Somerset Community Foundation - we received a Comic Relief Grant to purchase circus equipment*
- ❖ *The Langport & District Friendly Society*
- ❖ *ABP Meats*
- ❖ *Drayton Street Fair*
- ❖ *South Somerset District Council*
- ❖ *The Quakers*
- ❖ *All of these mentioned enabled us to proceed this new venture, which is now entering its second year. And of course this has been made possible by your ongoing support.*

- ❖ We are now members of the foodbank scheme and are voucher holders, enabling us to support young people and their families who are in need.

- ❖ We are now members of FareShare Food Cloud which is a national scheme set up and working with our local Tesco's, we receive food aid, food that would otherwise be thrown away. We use this food to feed our children, help their cooking skills and other weird and wonderful ways.

- ❖ Targeted financial workshops working with Citizens Advice held on a pilot scheme, these were aimed at 16 – 20 year olds. It was very good and I would like to see us offer more of these valuable workshops this coming year.

- ❖ Training for staff and volunteers included: Safeguarding training x 3, A two day course in First Aid in Mental Health x 1, Community Food x 2, Training, Level One Youth Training x 1, C Card x 2, Face painting x 6 (ABP donated towards the cost of this training as we give our time at their staff parties twice a year).

- ❖ We have a new PSCO, Fiona, who is working well with the group and is supporting us with our work by coming in to visit and chat with members.

- ❖ We had a two year university placement with us came to an end last October, a student from the Department of Psychology in the University of Hertfordshire. That was a good help for us and hopefully for her as well.

- ❖ We also take work experience and currently have a local boy completing his with us.

- ❖ We now have charity boxes at 3 locations locally, we are hopeful this will prove to be a steady flow of extra income. A Thank you to; Fosters, The Black Swan and The Pound Inn for their support.

- ❖ We successfully applied for and got a grant from Carriers for Causes, via our local One Stop, this has enabled the group to invest in computer equipment. They have all been set up ready to use, courtesy of Clive who gave his time to do this for us.

- ❖ We continue to receive Grow Wild seeds which is a lottery funded scheme encouraging children to take an interest in nature.

- ❖ Workshops have included flag workshops (funded by Huish Episcopi Parish Council) Go Girls sessions, Health Education sessions and Lean to Cook sessions.

To Mention:

- ❖ ABP continue to support us as one of their chosen local charities.

- ❖ We continue to design and paint the flags that can be seen hanging in Langport town centre every year from May to the end of August. Every year we involve more people and

community groups and schools, so there is a community involvement to the whole project.

- ❖ We took part in the Christmas Fair on a much larger scale last year and this was deemed a success by all. On the day itself we had a team of 11 volunteers and 9 young people. Hard Work, but fun.

Where did we go in the last year?

- ❖ Two residentials to London
- ❖ Yeovilton Air Day
- ❖ Drayton Street Fair
- ❖ Wilder Woods trip
- ❖ Two Bristol Airhop trips
- ❖ Lyme Regis fossilling trip
- ❖ Metal Detecting Trip in Low Ham

We also run the weekly youth group club session and the monthly Warhammer Club in addition to the above.

Who have we worked with or were supported by:

ABP Meats Langport, Carrier Bags for Causes, Comic Relief, Crimebeat, Florin (who generously sell our home made items for us), Grow Wild, Huish Episcopi Parish Council, Langport Town Council, Parents, Police, Churches Conservation Trust, Somerset Community Foundation, The Tuesday Lunch Club and volunteers and committee members

Plus many others who have supplied raffle prizes (we were amazed at the response we put out for raffle prizes, everyone was so kind) , donations or time, anyone missed out is not intentional.

Thank you for your support.

Annie & everyone at the club

Meeting ended 7.20pm