

Ford Parish Council

Chairman: Mr Stephen Jones, 1 Brook Cottages, Back Lane, Ford SY5 9LY.

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Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 10 May 2016 in Ford Parish Hall
(7.00 pm - 7.40 p.m.)

Present:

Parish Councillors: Cllr R D Blyth (Vice-Chairman), Cllr W Clyne, Cllr J O Griffiths, Cllr S W Jones (Chairman), Cllr A F Mortimer, Cllr R Pugh and Cllr J Southan

In attendance/speakers: Ms W Challinor, Youth Leader, Ms K Evans, Youth Club volunteer, Shropshire Councillor R Evans, Mrs E Hannah, Neighbourhood Watch, Mrs C Higgins, RFO, Mr J Rowe, Headteacher, Trinity CE Primary School, Mrs R Turner, Clerk and D E Wise Locum Clerk. Other Members of the public (Two)

1.	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>Steve Jones, Chairman of Ford Parish Council, welcomed attendees to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr A Briggs and Cllr D Blyth & PC J Summerfield, (West Mercia Police)</p>
2.	<p>Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer</p> <p>A particular welcome was extended to Mrs Rebecca Turner, who had been appointed to succeed Mrs Caroline Higgins as Clerk/RFO to Ford Parish Council.</p>
3.	<p>Minutes</p> <p><u>RESOLVED</u>: That the Minutes of the last Annual Parish meeting held on 21 April, 2015 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.</p>
4.	<p>Open Forum</p> <p>No issues were raised from the floor.</p>
5.	<p>Annual Parish Council Report</p> <p>The Chairman presented his report (copy attached to signed minutes) and highlighted some of the Parish Council's activities over the previous year.</p> <p>With regard to planning applications commented on by the parish council, there had been the proposed building of 25 properties on Back Lane and then two dwellings at the rear of Clifton Coach House, both of which after long delays had been turned down by the Planning inspectors. The Parish Council continued to wait for the final detailed plans in respect of 25 dwellings north of the A458, which to date had shown lack of regards of</p>

	<p>public open space and drainage requirements. They were also grateful that the Site Allocations and Management of Development (SAMDev) plan had finally been adopted by Shropshire Council.</p> <p>Dog fouling of pavements and roads being allowed by irresponsible owners continued to be a growing issue, and he was in discussion with the appropriate teams at Shropshire Council to see if a prosecution was possible in one case.</p> <p>One of the longest running issues on the agenda had been their concern about the empty property, Greenbanks. They had been dismayed that the property had been taken out of Council Tax banding and they would continue with Roger Evans to pursue this matter.</p> <p>He also wished to record the departure of Mrs Caroline Higgins as Clerk to Ford Parish Council after five years of outstanding service. She had now become the full-time clerk of Bayston Hill Parish Council and he wished to thank her for all the detailed work including financial reporting, which she had carried out on their behalf. They had been ably locum clerked by David Wise and Rebecca Turner was joining them as Clerk after the meeting.</p> <p>He also wished to thank everybody involved in the revival of the Ford Village Show in September 2015, which had not been held for 30 years, but still held fond memories for some people. There had been an amazing turnout in the village hall, which had been full of exhibits, and villagers commenting on how nice it was to see the show back. Cllr John Adams had won the cup for most points; Irene Clayton had won the handicraft cup and Samuel Davies the youth entry. It had been a lot of work by the organising committee and he was delighted to say that it would be repeated again in September.</p> <p>Finally he wished to thank PC Jon Summerfield and his Policing Team, Sarah Hannah and her Neighbourhood Watch Team, Roger Evans, for his continued support as local Shropshire Council member and to all his fellow councillors for their hard work and continued support, especially Cllr Ray Blyth, who had covered for his illness at the start of last year.</p>
6.	<p>Ford Parish Council Accounts 2015/16</p> <p>Mrs Caroline Higgins presented her detailed financial report (copy attached to signed minutes). She referred to the increased precept for 2015/16 in respect of the proposed purchase of the bowling green. As this had not been proceeded with the precept had been reduced in 2016/17. Reference was made to the partnership agreement with the Shropshire Youth Association to provide a professional youth worker, which was a significant financial commitment. The Council had received public subscriptions from local residents towards the cost of new football goals on the recreation ground. The revived Village Show had achieved a surplus which would be kept in reserve for the 2016 show. In 2015/16 total income was £18,077 and £512 had been paid in VAT, which had yet to be reclaimed. Total expenditure had been £13,604.</p>
7.	<p>Shropshire Council & LJC Report</p>
8.	<p>Reports from Parish Organisations</p>
	<p>8.1 Trinity CE Primary School</p> <p>Mr John Rowe, Headteacher, Trinity CE Primary School presented his report (copy attached to signed Minutes). The school had currently 151 pupils in five classes. Since his</p>

	<p>last report, the children had continued to perform well and they had exceeded national expectations in reading, writing and mathematics at the end of Key Stage 2. Rates of progress were at an all-time high and the proportion of absences was now at an all-time low. The school had been redecorated and re-wired including the installation of new energy efficient lighting. Ford Bowling Club had also donated their pavilion. The development plan for the current academic year had focused on working to continue to raise standards in reading, writing and mathematics. Children had responded positively to the Accelerated Reader programme. In addition, a revised maths scheme of work was enabling effective teaching to reflect the increased demands of the National Curriculum reflected in the changes to primary assessment.</p> <p>The school governing body played a proactive role in setting the strategic direction of the school and supporting the drive to continue to improve standards. Governors had monitored the progress of children, to ensure that they all received the support they needed. In addition, they had examined the wider curriculum to ensure that there was breadth and balance across a range of subjects, and that learning was engaging, challenging and enjoyable.</p> <p>He was delighted to report that Trinity continued to excel at PE and sport, and had been successful in achieving the Gold Sports Mark. The school had competed in competitions at national and local level enjoying great success, with the girls' football team crowned county champions the previous Saturday at the Greenhous Meadow.</p> <p>A number of events would be held early in the next academic year to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Trinity School in September 2016 and the input of the local community would be welcomed as part of these celebrations. More information would be found in due course on the school website at www.trinity.shropshire.sch.uk</p>
	<p>8.2 Ford Young Persons' Group</p> <p>Wendy Challinor, Youth Leader, stated that 17 young people attended regularly, and she was supported by two volunteers, Hazel Lewington and Karen Evans and two senior members, Rachel Evans and Ben Middleton. They were desperate for more volunteers, in any capacity, but all efforts had been unsuccessful. Some of their equipment was in need of repair or replacement, so any offers of unwanted equipment or donations would be gratefully received. The Group had visited the West Midlands Safari Park, in conjunction with the Hanwood Group in October 2015, and they were hoping a visit could be made to Blackpool in the summer. A football match was being arranged between the two groups on home turf. A local PCSO had given the Group a talk on the consequences of their actions. She also referred to the varied programme of activities undertaken by the Group.</p> <p>Cllr Joan Griffiths stated that she would talk to a couple of mothers about acting as volunteers and ask them to introduce themselves at a future meeting. Hopefully they would speak to other mums.</p>
	<p>8.3 Ford Parish Hall</p> <p>Cllr Ray Blyth, Chairman of the Parish Hall Committee, reported that the hall continued to be well used. The hairdresser, who left, had been replaced and the salon had been modified with a door added, so it was easier to get in from the outside. The Hall was stable financially, but they were grateful for the funding received from the Whist Club.</p>
	<p>8.4 Neighbourhood Watch</p> <p>Mrs Sarah Hannah reported that Ford Neighbourhood Watch had eight members. She would be standing down as Chairwoman in view of her other commitments with the Parish</p>

	Hall Committee. There had been some dangerous driving by young people on mopeds, which had been dealt with by the Police. Rubbish had also been left on the Leasowes Recreation Ground, some of which was next to the litter bin and she could not see the point of having another bin. Thankfully there had not been much crime in the village and everything was quite calm at the moment.
9.	Close The Chairman thanked all those attending and particularly those presenting reports.

Signed by ChairmanDate

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