

ETCHINGHAM

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ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

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Minutes of the Etchingham Annual Parish

held on Thursday 19th April 2012

at 7.00pm in the Etchingham Village Hall

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Members Present: Cllr. Mrs. M. Varrall (Chairman); Cllrs. Mrs. Barnes, Mrs. Childs, Mr. P. Benn, and Mr. P. Gilbert.

Also present: R. Hodgson – Clerk to the Council; and eighteen members of the general public

01/12. Apologies for Absence:

Apologies for absence were received from Parish Councillors Mr. S. Barrow and Mr. C. Boylett; C. Cllr. Mr. J. Barnes; RD Cllr. Mr. R. Elliston and Mr. F. and Mrs. B. Smith.

02/12. Minutes of the previous meeting:

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21st April 2012 were agreed and signed as a correct record subject to the following amendment –

Minute 04/11 – line 4, delete ‘ou’ and insert ‘out’.

03/12. Matters arising:

There were no matters arising.

04/12. Chairman’s Annual Report 2012:

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Chairman's Report had been published in the Annual Report, copies of which were available at the meeting. The Chairman spoke explained about the system of Portfolio Holders recently adopted by Council and details of the Portfolio Holders would be published shortly. The Chairman also explained about the Temporary Traffic Order that had been agreed with ESCC and this would be introduced for a period of 6 months and then reviewed following local consultation.

Thanks were recorded to the Etchingham Improvements Committee for the planting of Jubilee Wood and the Parish Council had also planted a Jubilee Oak on the same site.

The Chairman also thanked the Etchingham County Councillor and District Councillors for their work and contributions to the parish.

05/12. Battle & Villages Lions Club:

The meeting received a presentation and slide show from Beccy Hurrell, President of the Battle and Villages Lions Club. Those present were informed of the work of the Lions organisations both in the UK and abroad. Further information about the work of the Lions Club was available from Beccy after the meeting. The Chairman thanked Beccy for an interesting and informative presentation.

06/12. Etchingham Annual Report 2012:

The Clerk thanked all those who had submitted contributions for the Annual Report and explained that individual contributions were available via e-mail or the E-Bulletin.

07/12. Report and/or Notices from the Parish Clerk:

The Chairman had received details about the ESCC project for improvement and access to high speed broadband and requested that residents sign up to the scheme through ESCC website as more support would assist in achieving the improvements needed to the service.

The Clerk reminded those present that the Parish Council AGM would be held in May.

08/12. Proposed New Community Facilities for Etchingham:

The ETSR had provided a comprehensive report for the Annual Report and had provided the latest information available on the proposed developments. When more detailed information was forthcoming there would be opportunity for full public discussion and consultation.

09/12. Etchingham Sound Archive:

Mr. Ken Thomas addressed the meeting and gave an explanation about the proposed Etchingham Sound Archive. Mr. Thomas had started the Archive in 2009 and was recording information, memories and stories about the village and its inhabitants. He had already interviewed Mr. Lionel

Dengate, the oldest villager and recorded many memories from him. Mr. Thomas congratulated Cllr. Boylett on his photographic record of local events etc., available via Flickr, and explained that the Sound Archive was complimentary to this record. It was suggested that the local Choir would be an excellent subject for recording of memories. The Chairman thanked Ken for his presentation and commended the Sound Archive to the meeting and village.

10/12. Etchingam Action Plan 2007:

It had been suggested that the Action Plan would probably benefit from a review. Following discussion Mr. I. Mitchell agreed to undertake an initial review and report further to a future meeting of the Parish Council.

11/12. Etchingam Community Stores:

Mr. Colin Phillips provided the meeting with an update on progress of the proposed new Community Stores. A great deal of progress had been made with the design aspects of the new shop, and decisions had been made about product groups. The CIC had received some assistance from the Mary Porter Design Group. The creative work had now been done and negotiations were currently underway with potential suppliers. The aim was to have the Shop open for the June village Fete.

12/12. Public Time:

Concern was expressed about the bus service; that the early morning bus did not enter the station and also that the bus stop on the southern side of High Street opposite the Church was considered dangerous. The next scheduled stop after High Street was not until the Village Hall. The co-ordination of bus and rail services still required examination although it was recognized that the two organisations seemed unable to work together.

In response to a question from Mrs. Mitchell it was confirmed that the raised kerb at the station bus stop had been removed to enable better access to the disabled parking bays at the Bistro.

A parking problem was identified at the top of Oxenbridge Lane and the Clerk agreed to refer the matter for attention by the Parish Council.