

**Minutes of the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF ALL SAINTS PARISH COUNCIL  
Held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 at All Saints Village Hall, ALL SAINTS**

Meeting convened at 7.30pm, and the Chairman, Cllr. Alistair Forbes, welcomed all in attendance and pointed out fire exits and outlined fire evacuation procedure.

Present:

Cllr. Alistair Forbes (Chairman), Cllr. Peter Barrett, Cllr. Jacqui Hubbard & Cllr. Andrew Lightfoot  
Clerk to Council, Paul Hayward (also representing EDDC as ward member for Yarty)  
Cllr. Ian Hall, Devon County Council (Axminster Division)  
Hon. Tree Warden, Michael Davis  
Hon. Footpath (p3) Warden, Tim Pedder  
School Representative / Neighbourhood Watch Co-Ordinator, Libby Dibble.  
25 members of the public in attendance.

**Chair outlined fire precautions and highlighted fire exits in building.**

- 1) Apologies; Cllr. Robert Speed, PCSO Chris Bolsover, Dave Wicken (webmaster).
- 2) To receive minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019

These had been previously circulated to members.

Proposed by Cllr. Lightfoot, and seconded by Cllr. Hubbard.

Approved unanimously and signed as a true record by Chair.

Matters arising from these minutes. **None.**

- 3) Report from the Chairman of Council, Cllr. Alistair Forbes

Chair presented his report verbally to Council. No questions.

- 4) Report from Devon County Councillor, Cllr. Ian Hall (Axminster Division)

Cllr. Hall presented his verbal report.

Questions from residents regarding: Slow broadband speeds, Socks Hill highway repairs

Health issues in Axminster. Police response to victims of crime in the rural area.

***Cllr. Hall gave his apologies and left the meeting at this point.***

- 5) Report from East Devon District Councillor, Cllr. Paul Hayward (Yarty Ward)

Written report provided by Cllr. Hayward and a verbal summary provided. No questions.

- 6) Report from All Saints Village Hall representative, Cllr. Andrew Lightfoot

Update provided on last 12 months activity.

Thanked Council for grant assistance for chair purchase.

Next project will be the bar refurbishment and some film nights planned.

- 7) Report from Police Representatives

No police representative available, but January 2020 crime / incident figures were circulated.

- 8) Report from Neighbourhood Watch Co-Ordinators, Libby Dibble & Michael Shaw

Nothing significant to report other than scams are on the increase by a variety of different methods and Michael Shaw urged all residents to be alert and to report anything suspicious via 111. Perennial problems with white vans scouring the lanes looking for scrap metal etc.

9) a) Report on P3 (Parish Paths Partnership) from Hon. Footpath Warden, Tim Pedder.

Written report by Tim Pedder. Our long-serving contractor, Mr Hunt, has stepped down and so Tim was looking for a replacement to assist with day-to-day footpath / bridleway maintenance. Cllr. Lightfoot raised a concern over steps leading from footpath at Churchill Farm.

9) b) Tree and ecology report from Hon. Tree Warden, Michael Davis.

Mr. Davis had prepared a written report which covered an array of topics including hedge flailing concerns and representations from parishioners about tree works undertaken recently at Catmoor which appeared to have damaged the tree. Mr. Davis confirmed he was in contact with the EDDC Tree Officer. A member of the public suggested that contact should be made with the owner of the property involved.

10) Report from Webmaster, Dave Wicken.

*Verbal report given by Clerk as Mr. Wicken was unable to attend.*

11) Open Forum for Parishioners / Discussion on subject of Climate Change action and awareness.

Representations from the parish farming community about slow payments from central government for hedge and tree stewardship. Rebuttals to earlier criticism of hedge flailing and explanations regarding equipment costs and labour element of less intensive hedge maintenance.

Representations regarding over development of greenfield sites in Axminster which speaker felt contributed far more to climate change and emissions than farming ever did.

Hon. Tree Warden read a short report on the subject of climate change.

Heated debate regarding what can be done and what needs to be done. Members of the farming community in parish felt that they were being unfairly targeted as the culprits and stressed that they were simply trying to earn a living like everyone else!

Consensus (although not unanimous) was that Climate Change was an urgent threat to the planet and that everyone needed to work together to find solutions that were achievable, realistic and not financially ruinous. Education and awareness of the issues was critical.

It was also agreed that small parishes alone can not make a tangible difference unless higher authorities and national / world governments get actively engaged too.

Chair thanked Mr. Davis for making his presentation and for all members of the community for attending and taking part in the debate, of which there would undoubtedly be more in the future.

Further public representations regarding waste and recycling, tree preservation and disease control (e.g. Ash Dieback), costs involved to replace such trees but environmental costs of their loss.

It was suggested that a member of the Parish Council take on the responsibility for environmental protection and engagement. Chair suggested this matter be discussed at a future meeting of the Parish Council.

***Continued overleaf***

Date of next Parish meeting:

***2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 Tuesday. 7.30pm, venue to be agreed nearer the time.***

*With no further business to attend to, the parish meeting closed at 9.15pm.*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Chair of the Parish Council

Date: \_\_\_\_\_